

From: [Ramirez, Richard \(FAA\)](#)
To: [Cornejo Tealeye](#)
Subject: FW: Helicopter Accident
Date: Thursday, August 6, 2020 8:41:18 AM

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From: Daniel Wyatt <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2020 9:37 PM
To: Ramirez, Richard (FAA) <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Helicopter Accident

I Daniel Wyatt am writing this statement to be true to the best of my knowledge.

On July 29th 2020 we were scheduled for helicopter pick for cell tower located on 37.8944351451, -114.578921263 (Cell tower). At approximately 8:00am SAC wireless CM Joseph Payton instructed me to pick up the helicopter pilot and the fuel person down the mountain about 15min driving distance. I then drove the work truck down, at around 15~20min driving I saw a male and a female standing on the side of the road with cooler and bags. Located on 37.9144953622, -114.576872878 (Helicopter landing area) I stopped and asked if he was the helicopter pilot and he replied yes I am. I told him that I was to give them a lift up top to cell site. He replied by saying he was doing a flyby of the site and to see if he could land the chopper by the site, but was not sure if he could or not so that he had landed just up the hill where they wait. He also said the fuel driver is on his way up to fuel his chopper because he was low on fuel. As he was explaining this we could hear the fuel truck having difficulty just down below, shortly after pilot called the fuel person. Pilot told me that the truck was not able to make it to the chopper and that he will have to fly to a flat area down the mountain after our meeting on top. I help load their gear and started the drive to top. While driving up he introduced him and his wife to me and that he flew from Utah area and was doing a site survey and has been trying to find a suitable landing area, and that's why he was a bit low on fuel. So he had called for fuel delivery to his chopper. Since that's not possible he will have to fly down to an area where he can land. While talking about other general things we got to the top and had our meeting. We discussed who was going to be the signal person on top of the tower and ground person. After everyone understood their role the meeting was over and his wife gifted everyone with their t-shirts and stickers. Pilot made plans to land the chopper on site after he had a close look on ground level. He told us that after he drops off his wife and fuels the chopper he will return and land on site. After which I volunteered to drive them down since I knew where. At approximately 9:15 am I drove them back and parked close to the chopper and began helping them load their gear back to chopper. While loading their gear I noticed the hoisting cable laid out on the ground in front of the chopper. I said wow, that's a lot of cable and he replied by saying that it was 70 feet long. They thanked me and said that they had difficult time carrying the stuff down in the morning but with my help it was easy and gifted me with another t-shirt. I thank them and said see you back at the top sir, and departed. While driving up to site received a call from Jon K. he asked if I was okay I replied yes and that I was nearly back to top. Jon stated that he sees smoke and I replied that I am creating dust driving up, but he insisted that what he sees is smoke and not dust so I stopped and

looked and saw the smoke so I got out of the truck and looked carefully, I told Jon K. that the smoke is in the direction of where the chopper was but the smoke faded away fairly quickly. I reached the top and Joseph asked me if I had heard the sound. I replied no, he said it had a popping sound and saw the smoke. He tried making contact by calling him but pilot did not answer. He decided to drive down to check, shortly after we saw a helicopter in the distance. My CM Steve Acevedo told me to call Joseph back that he sees the chopper so I called Joseph back. Joseph came back up and continued calling but no answer decided again to drive down. We later received a call from Joseph that the chopper went down, shortly after me and Steve A. drove down to 37.9243915964, -114.542960327 (Crash area) and gave a statement to the police. All crew members were advised to give a statement on their way down. I also showed Joseph a satellite image of the area where chopper was parked. And I left the area at approximately 1:00pm

Best Regards,

Daniel Wyatt



M: [REDACTED]

O: [REDACTED]

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From: Ramirez, Richard (FAA) [[mailto:\[REDACTED\]](mailto:[REDACTED])]
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 2:28 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Helicopter Accident

Thank you for your help.



Rich Ramirez

Aviation Safety Inspector

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