



RECORD OF PHONE CONVERSATION

**Scott Johnson
Air Safety Investigator
Western Pacific Region**

**Date: 07/28/2022
Person Contacted: Edward Huerta
NTSB Accident Number: WPR22LA267**

Narrative:

The following is a synopsis of the information provided by the helicopter certified flight instructor in a telephone conversation.

The helicopter flight instructor stated that on July 25, 2022, about 0730 am, he headed to the "West Practice Area" near Hall Rd in Cedar City, Utah with Connor Dobbins to practice straight-in auto rotation with power recovery. They had multiple AHRS (Attitude and Heading Reference System) screen faults enroute. The AHRS's faults did eventually reset and the AHRS remained operative. The instructor asked if the student was comfortable continuing with all systems operating. The student agreed to continue the training event.

On the third autorotation, the student started the maneuver at 700 AGL with main rotor RPM at 100%. The student soon developed 70 kts airspeed and 90% on the main rotor. The instructor intervened when the student's rotor RPM diminished to 90% and an airspeed of 60kts. The instructor tried to remediate the situation with aft and forward motion on the cyclic. At 100 ft, with rotor energy diminishing, the instructor prepared for a roll-on landing. The nose dug forward and veered to the left side of the road. The main rotor severed the tail boom while it slid. The left skid contacted softer dirt and the helicopter spun 180 degrees, tipping on its side.

The instructor added that for his instructor rating training, the SOP guidance required CFI applicants to have 20 auto rotations, which he had.

According to the flight instructor, there were no preimpact mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airframe or engine that would have precluded normal operation.

From: [Edward Huerta](#)
To: [Johnson Scott](#)
Subject: Re: Our phone conversation NTSB case # WPR22LA267 N497SU
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2022 6:29:05 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[To ED Huerta.docx](#)

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Good afternoon Scott,

I am doing well. Hope all is well on your end.
Everything with the conversation seems good. The only part I noticed was the “905??” I meant 95%. Other than that, it is pretty close to what I said.
Of course, Connor Dobbins number is [REDACTED]

Thanks,
Edward Huerta

On Aug 11, 2022, at 3:08 PM, Johnson Scott <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Ed,

Hope you are doing well.

I just wanted to see if you agree with my notes on our phone conversation 7/28/2022?
If not, please feel free to correct me and send me an email with your corrections.

Also, can you give me a phone number and/or email of your student Connor Dobbins.

Respectfully,

Scott



Scott B. Johnson
Air Safety Investigator

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