

Ref: 03-1360-OF

On August 29, 2003 at approximately 9:00am, I spoke with John D. Falvey who told me he witnessed the takeoff of the Colgan Airplane involved in this incident. He told me he is a certified flight instructor who is involved in fish spotting. He was operating N11667.

He told me he had taxied to the hold short line from the east ramp at the Bravo intersection of Runway 24. He told me he observed the Colgan airplane rotate shortly after it passed the intersection. He noticed the takeoff was abnormal. He described the wheels of the plane "jumped up" from the runway. The result was a nose high attitude which required the nose to be lowered. He referred to a common mistake of student pilots when they might pitch up too much during rotation followed by the required corrective action of lowering the nose. He stated the action was subtle but noticeable. He stated he heard the pilot declare an emergency.

After the airport re-opened approximately five minutes later, he flew directly to the crash sight and photographed the debris field in the water.

Mr. Falvey wishes to cooperate with the investigation by providing a detailed statement and photographs.

He may best be reached by his cellular telephone @ [REDACTED].

Respectfully submitted,

  
[REDACTED]  
Paul J. Rooney  
Lieutenant