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TRAINING
SERVICE CENTER
PARTS

Gary Schuster
Aviation Safety Inspector
Kansas City Flight Standards
901 Locust St. Room 403
Kansas City, MO 64106

April 18, 2016

Dear Mr. Schuster,
Reference you questions on John Read and the accident of his helicopter March 25th 2016

Gary,

You asked about the background on John Read at the Branson West Airport. John is a well-known area surveyor and very well liked in the community. John as had his share of incidents in the past I am told. One that I witnessed and our line folks had to remove from the grass at the airport was few years ago. He had purchased this aircraft and was leaning to fly it when he ground looped it and took the wood prop off and damaged the tail as you can see in the pictures attached. It has been setting in his enclosed T Hanger for several years now. From my picture dates it looks to be May 2012. This aircraft is being worked on by John in his T hanger at BW. To what progress - I can't say, but we could look at it when you come back down to look at the Helicopter. Again as in many in the area, registering an aircraft owned is not likely! N622BC pictures attached.

We believe the timing of the sale to John was the summer of 2015 the helicopter came on a trailer to the airport by what we think was the owner selling it to John. John asked my AP mechanic if we would work on it since it was running very poorly. John was told by my AP that I wanted nothing to do with it and I didn't want Wells Repair Station entries in the log books, not even for an oil change. Craig was very supportive that we should not even be part of it with John's history. They messed around with it over the next 24 hours and got it to fly after the blades were attached. The delivery guy gave John some hover lessons and the next day it was gone and the only activity we have noticed is afterhours fuel sales to John, the last being 2/13/2016.

I don't care what the good old boy network say, John is not a safe pilot in my eyes and reports are he has had the helicopter around different places on a trailer to have paint and body work completed. I assume he has done all the work including blade removals and installs. I can only assume he as been doing other service work on that engine as well.

Sincerely,

Don D. Rogers
President
Wells Aircraft Inc (KHUT AND KFWB)