



MEMORANDUM OF RECORD

Shawn Etcher
Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region Aviation

June 7, 2013

Subject: Various Eyewitness Reports given to Kentucky State Police
Person Providing the Information: Trooper Riley U/677

Trooper Riley Reported the following information to the Investigative Team.

Several witnesses provided information to the Kentucky State Police (KSP) about what they saw and/or heard leading up to the accident, during the accident sequence, and following the accident.

Several of the witnesses reported that they could see the helicopter from their residence and it was "flying lower than normal" and one reported seeing it "spinning" prior to impact. One of those witnesses also reported hearing the engine running but thought they heard the engine "sputter" but could not be certain. They further reported to the KSP that they heard the engine noise cease; however, that occurred sometime after they observed the helicopter enter into a "level attitude."

Several other witness reported that while driving down the road, that was between the accident site and the intended landing location, the helicopter was observed in a nose down attitude and then the helicopter was immediately engulfed in flames, only one of those witnesses reported seeing it impact the ground.

The witnesses all provided various accounts in regards to visibility. The witnesses that were at their residence which were located behind the school (towards the east) about 1/2 mile from the accident location reported clear skies and they did not see any fog in the area. One of those witnesses reported that following the accident, he drove from his residence to the accident location and arrived at the accident location from the south. The witnesses that were located on the road between the accident location and the intended landing zone (towards the west and the north) reported that visibility was about 1/4 mile due to "dense fog." Trooper Riley further added that after he received the call he was near London, Kentucky and he immediately went Code 3 towards Manchester; however, he stated that the fog was dense and it took him longer than normal in his response time; however, he further reported that the fog was not consistent throughout and in some areas visibility was fine.

Trooper Riley further provided the addresses or the locations for the eye and auditory witnesses so the investigation team could utilize it for a reference if it was needed.

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