



RECORD OF INTERVIEW

Daniel P. Boggs
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National Transportation Safety Board
Office of Aviation Safety - Eastern Region

Date: 5/26/2021 @ 1030 EDT
Person Interviewed- Carrie Simmons, employee witnesses
NTSB Case Number: ERA21FA233

Narrative:

Mr. Carrie Simmons was interviewed in person.

According to the Vice President of Human resources, she stated that she walked out to watch the helicopter perform some test flights with the new water tank and snorkel system installed on one of their helicopters. She stated she missed the first pass but watched the remaining 6 passes. She noticed the first 5 passes had very dirty water coming from the tank. On the last pass, while the helicopter was coming in and slowing down, she noticed the snorkel swing in a large circle and at one point, the snorkel end came very close to the main rotor blades. She immediately started waving her arms at the pilot to try and get his attention, but he did not see her. As the pilot was transitioning to forward flight, she ran beside the helicopter and continued to wave her arms, but the pilot never did look her way. Shortly after the helicopter climbed and gained airspeed, she heard a loud bang and saw multiple main rotor blades fail and hit the tail section of the helicopter. She then saw the tail section fall to the ground the helicopter entered a flat spin.

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