Casandra Davis

From: Casandra Davis
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2014 6:28 PM
To: 'Ron Haines'; Bruce V. Pelly
Cc: BCC-All Commissioners
Subject: RE: Helicopter training over neighbors of Lantana Airport, N479AT, N771MM, and N44XL

Good Evening Mr. Haines,

Thank you for your comments

I have pulled the flight track information (which will be forwarded under two additional separate e-mails, due to the size of the files) and spoken to the Manager of PB helicopters.

The Manager stands by his decision not to provide pilots name due to reasons of security and has stated that while helicopters were using RWY 15/33 (which would cause departing traffic making a right turn to be south of the airport) he was not aware of continuous rotations being made over the area.

The time you provided was from 4:30PM - 5:00PM. The illustrations of flight tracks are from 3:00PM – 7:00PM on November 8, 2014. There are 7 flights over the area doing this time period. The flights flew over the community at elevations above 900feet.

From: Ron Haines [mailto:ronaldhaines@bellsouth.net]
Sent: Saturday, November 08, 2014 9:48 PM
To: Bruce V. Pelly; Casandra Davis
Cc: BCC-All Commissioners
Subject: Helicopter training over neighbors of Lantana Airport, N479AT, N771MM, and N44XL

November 8, 2014

To: Palm Beach County Department of Airports and the Palm Beach County Board of Commissioners

Hello Everyone:

This is a comment about three helicopters, N479AT, N771MM, and N44XL, operating from Lantana Airport Saturday afternoon. Photos are attached.

I’ve been away from the state for several months, so you all haven’t heard from me lately about helicopter pilot training at Lantana Airport.

Lo and behold, here I am, my first Saturday home, with THREE, COUNT THEM, THREE, helicopters doing training rotations over my head. All of the attached photos were taken between 4:30 pm and 5 pm Saturday, November 8, 2014.

What an unpleasant welcome home!

It looks from where I live that there has been absolutely no progress in reining in helicopter pilots who choose not to adhere to the County’s voluntary helicopter guidelines, which forbid helicopter training rotations over the County-designated, noise-sensitive neighborhoods around the airport.

I say ‘choose not to’ deliberately. The guidelines are there, and after nearly two decades of hearing from neighbors, all the helicopter interests at the airport are aware of them. But some are choosing to defy the wishes of the County and the neighbors of the airport. It’s that simple.
If the county has the courage, I would like it to find out about these three aircraft. Who was piloting them and why did those pilots CHOOSE to not follow the guidelines and instead circle over my house and neighborhood again and again and again. The county, to my knowledge, has NEVER had the courage to press for a reason. Nothing that I could see, the wind, the fixed wing traffic or anything else, required these helicopter pilots to take off from the airport, come south to my neighborhood, do a wide right U-turn and go back to the airport, ALL OF IT OVER MY NEIGHBORHOOD. They can take off from the airport and go do training ANYWHERE! THEY CHOSE TO DO IT OVER MY NEIGHBORHOOD! WHY?

I would like an answer to my question please. Who are the pilots and why did they do what they did?

Regards,

Ron Haines