

**STATEMENT OF CHARGES AGAINST
JIM ENGLIN
A MEMBER OF THE MINNESOTA STATE PATROL**

Lt. Colonel Rochelle Schrofer, as Assistant Chief of the Minnesota State Patrol, files with the Commissioner of Public Safety, State of Minnesota, the following Statement of Charges against CWO Jim Englin (badge number 37), a member of the Minnesota State Patrol, who she believes is guilty of:

Violations of General Orders:

- 20-10-009 Flight Section and Pilot Selection
 - II.A.1.State Patrol pilots will conduct all flight activities in accordance with the Federal Aviation Administration Rules and Regulations (FARS), Aircraft Operations Manuals, and State Patrol policies and procedures.

Circumstances related to the above allegations are as follows:

On February 6, 2021, CWO Jim Englin notified Lt. Craig Benz of a torque exceedance on the engine of Trooper 9 (N119SP Bell 407 helicopter) as the Flight crew was responding to a call to assist from a local agency. The Flight crew consisted of CWO Jim Englin as pilot in command and CWO Ben Olson as tactical flight officer.

By his own admission, CWO Englin did not visually confirm the position of the throttle prior to initiating the start as called for on the operating checklist in the Bell 407 Pilot Operating Handbook (POH). The POH designates correct operating procedures provided by the manufacturer of the aircraft to ensure safe operations. It further advises that failure to follow these procedures may result in, at a minimum, damage to the equipment and place employees at significant risk.

Upon reflection CWO Englin stated, "I can only conclude that I did not roll the throttle back to full idle after the throttle check portion of the checklist or I rolled the throttle with the left arm as I was picking up the checklist that I dropped off my leg, not likely but I just don't know."

The investigation supports a finding that Trooper 9's torque exceedance was the result of CWO Englin's failure to follow the normal operating checklist while he was in command of its operation. Due to this event, Trooper 9 required a special maintenance inspection and was placed out of service from February 9 until April 13, 2021 (approximately 10 weeks) while removal, inspection, repair and reinstallation of certain components was made.

CWO Englin's conduct was in violation of policy and did not reflect the core values of the State Patrol.

Dated: June 21, 2021


Lt. Colonel Rochelle A. Schrofer
Assistant Chief

DATE: June 21, 2021

TO: CWO Jim Englin
Flight Section

FROM: Lt. Colonel Rochelle Schrofer *RS*
Assistant Chief

PHONE: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: **NOTICE OF INTENT TO TAKE DISCIPLINARY ACTION
FORMAL COMPLAINT FILED 03/10/2021**

District supervisors have completed their investigation into the allegations contained in the attached Statement of Charges and the allegations have been *sustained*. It is my intent to take disciplinary action against you in this matter.

You are entitled to an informal meeting for the purpose of allowing you to review the charges against you, review the evidence, and present any additional information on your behalf. Be advised that an Association representative may be in attendance as directed by the trooper's labor agreement.

I have scheduled the meeting at 1500 hours on July 12 at the Flight Section in St. Paul.

Attachment

cc: Major Erickson
Lt. Benz
Sgt. LeDoux
Lynn Mueller
Annie Porbeni
Megan Yang

DATE: July 12, 2021

TO: CWO Jim Englin
Flight Section

FROM: Lt. Colonel Rochelle Schrofer *RS*
Assistant Chief

PHONE: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: **DISCIPLINARY ACTION – NOTICE OF SUSPENSION
FORMAL COMPLAINT FILED 03/10/2021**

This is to inform you of my decision to take disciplinary action against you in the form of a two day (16 hours) unpaid suspension for violations of General Orders as outlined in the Statement of Charges dated June 21, 2021.

The dates of the suspension will be August 18 and August 26, 2021.

This action may be appealed pursuant to the grievance procedures set forth in Article 16 of the labor agreement between the Minnesota Law Enforcement Association and the State of Minnesota.

cc: Major Erickson
Lt. Benz
Sgt. LeDoux
Lynn Mueller
Annie Porbeni
Megan Yang
Bill Ziegler