



Report of Investigation

Report Header	
Case Number: 18-001	Date Completed: Jan 6, 2018
Disposition: Identified as Light Pillar https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Light_pillar	Field Investigator: Marsha Barnhart
Assessment: AN	Date/Time of Incident: Jan 4, 2018 @ 20:15
Class: 1	Location: Pearland, TX
Rating:	GPS Coordinates: 29.533276 -95.289880
Probability: 2	Strangeness: 1
Witness: REDACTED	Education: Not Reported
Email: REDACTED	Occupation: Not Reported

Case Synopsis
<p>At 20:14 CT Thursday, January 4th, 2018 the Witness was situated across the street from the Pearland Natatorium, Pearland, TX., and saw a glowing red light, seemingly hanging in the center of the sky. It then illuminated into what looked like a glowing line, what the Witness said resembled a light saber in the sky. The Witnesses' wife later remarked that she saw it from their home nearby in Pasadena, TX and commented that it "looked like a crack in the sky." The light anomaly lasted as an illuminated line for several minutes but faded to what appeared as a single dot of light. Then at about 21:00 CT the source of light went away completely. The Witness was unsure of the actual color, but it looked red, and noted that clouds and sky seemed illuminated with a reddish color. The anomalous light was very distinguishable from clouds or stars. The Witness did not think this anomaly was a drone or aircraft, as he is familiar with drones and military craft, having seen a drone in his neighborhood during Hurricane Harvey.</p>

Investigative Results
<p>After Investigator emailed acknowledgment and requested further information, Witness replied that they had self-identified the light source as the atmospheric light phenomenon called Light Pillar. Jan 5, 2018, Case closed as Identified. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Light_pillar</p>

Sighting Details	Weather (https://www.wunderground.com/history/)
Duration of Event: Approximately 45 minutes	Clouds: Clear Skies
Terrain Description: Urban	Winds: Calm Winds
Local Airport:	Temperature: 43 degrees F
Nearest Military Base:	Precipitation: N/A
Nearest Space Launch:	Visibility: 10 miles
Nearest Defense Contractor:	Pressure: 30 inches
Sunrise: 07:16 CST	Sunset: 17:35 CST

Astronomical Data	
Moon Rise: 08:48 CST	Moonset: 21:27 CST
Lunar Illumination: Waning Gibbous	Location in Sky:
Any Astronomical Phenomena (Meteor Shower, etc.) Yes https://www.wunderground.com/history/airport/KLVJ/2018/1/4/DailyHistory.html?req_city=Pearland&req_state=TX&req_statename=Texas&reqdb.zip=77581&reqdb.magic=1&reqdb.wmo=99999	

Object Description	
Direction of Travel: N/A	Shape of Object: Round shaft of light
Size from Witness Location: About the size of a round moon light shaft	Actual Size if Known: Unknown
Did Object Land? No	Speed if Known: No
Did Object Change Shape? Light streak	Pilot or Entity? No
Color of Object: reddish white	Azimuth: Unknown
Windows or Portholes? No	Electronic Disturbances? None reported
Unusual Maneuvers? No	Markings? No
Heat from Object? No	Noise? No
Any Lights? Yes, a single shaft of round light	Type of Lights: Unknown
Aircraft in Area? None reported	Other:

Investigative Checks (Yes or No)	
Witness Interview: No	Field Site Visit: No
Photo/Video Forensics: Yes	Radiation Test: No
EMF Test: No	Metal Detector Test: No
Meteor Activity (www.amsmeteors.org) No	Space Launch Checks (www.spaceflightnow.com) No
Local Law Enforcement: No	State or Federal Police: No

Radar Analysis: No	Spacecraft Checks (www.space.com) No
Indices Checks on MUFON: Yes	Indices Checks on NUFORC (www.ufocenter.com) Yes
Indices Checks on API: Yes	Aircraft Crash Reports (www.planecrashinfo.com) Yes
Astrophysical Checks (www.earthsky.org) Yes	Google Earth Analysis: Yes
Sky Vector Checks (www.skyvector.com) No	Other (FAA, etc.): No

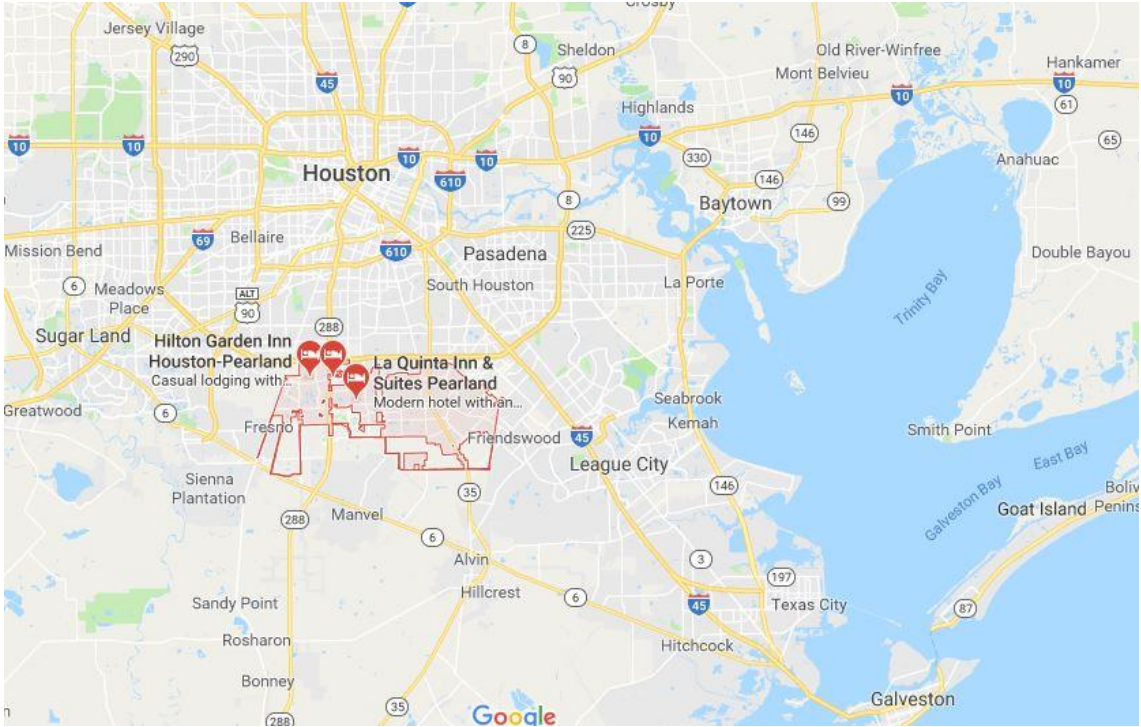
Evidence Collection (Yes or No)	
Sketch: No	Photos: yes 2
Video: No	Physical: No
Sound: No	Medical: No
Other: No	Misc: No

Investigative Activity (include Date Complete per Activity)
<p>JAN 4, 2018: Witness email report was received</p> <p>JAN 5, 2018: Witness report was acknowledged by COI and additional information was requested. Witness quickly emailed API back and explained they had self-identified the light source as the atmospheric optical phenomenon known as Light Pillars.</p>

Primary Witness Photos or Sketches



Google Earth Map



Other

