

Subject: EMS Aircraft Services
Classifications and Definitions

Associated Policies:

- I. Authority and Reference (incorporated herein by references)
 - A. Division 2.5 of Health and Safety Code
 - B. California code of Regulations, Title 22
 - C. North Coast EMS Policies and Procedures
 - D. County Ambulance Ordinances

- II. Purpose
 - A. To maintain a consistent understanding of policy and procedure related to aircraft services in the North Coast EMS Region.

 - B. This policy is intended to apply to any company, lessee, agency, provider, owner, or operator who provides for or makes available prehospital EMS aircraft services for medical emergencies, unless specifically exempted by law. Adherence to this policy does not exempt prehospital EMS aircraft services from compliance with Federal, State, and local statutes, ordinances, policies and procedures related to EMS, prehospital EMS aircraft operations and radio communications.

- III. Definitions
 - A. "Emergency Medical Services Aircraft" or "EMS Aircraft" is defined as any aircraft utilized for the purpose of prehospital emergency patient response and transport. This includes air ambulances and all categories of rescue aircraft.

 - B. "Air Ambulance" is defined as any aircraft specifically constructed, modified or equipped and used for the primary purpose of responding to emergency medical calls and transporting critically ill or injured patients whose medical flight crew has a minimum two attendants certified or licensed in advanced life support. Those providers can be either a MICP or MICN.

 - C. "Rescue Aircraft" is defined as an aircraft whose usual function is not prehospital emergency patient transport, but which may be utilized in compliance with local EMS policy, for prehospital emergency patient transport when use of air or ground ambulance is inappropriate or unavailable. Rescue aircraft may include:
 1. BLS rescue- minimum of one EMT-1
 2. ALS rescue- minimum of one EMT-P
 3. Auxiliary- no medical crew

- IV. Designated Dispatch Centers for Air medical Rotor services:
 - A. Del Norte County- Del Norte Sheriff's Department Communications Center when than contacts Cal Fire Communications Fortuna.
 - B. Humboldt County- Cal Fire Communications Fortuna.
 - C. Lake County- Cal Fire Communications Napa.

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Approved:  Date: 9-30-19

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