

**NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING
HELICOPTER EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
(HEMS)**

WITNESS LIST

All witnesses will be asked to state their full name and title and to briefly describe their technical background after they are sworn in.

WITNESS #1: **Ira Blumen, MD, Director**
UCAN
University of Chicago Hospitals
Chicago, IL

Presentation – Historical risk and associated factors

Exhibits: 3A, 3B, 4D
Questioned by: Bob Dodd

WITNESS #2: **Matthew Zuccaro, President**
Helicopter Association International
Alexandria, VA

Presentation: Current and future safety initiatives

Exhibits: 3D, 4C
Questioned by: Bob Dodd

WITNESS #3: **Sylvain Seguin**
VP Safety & Quality, Canadian Helicopters
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Presentation: Canadian EMS safety experience, practices and SMS

Exhibits: 3C
Questioned by: Bob Dodd

WITNESSES #4, #5, #6, #7, #8, #9: **Panel on Current EMS Models and**
Reimbursement Structures

Christine Zalar, Partner
Fitch & Associates
Platte City, MO

Kevin Hutton, MD, FACEP
CEO/Chairman
Golden Hour Data Systems, Inc.
San Diego, CA

Thomas P. Judge, CCTP
Executive Director
LifeFlight of Maine
Bangor, ME

Robert Bass, MD, FACEP
Executive Director
Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical
Services Systems
Baltimore, MD

Marc Hartstein
Deputy Director of the Hospital and Ambulatory
Policy Group
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Baltimore MD

Suzanne Wedel, MD
Chief Executive Officer
Boston MedFlight
Hanscom Air Force Base
Bedford, MA

Issues:

- *Impact of the current EMS operational models on safety*
- *The relationship between EMS models, cost, and reimbursement*
- *Policy and procedures for reimbursement*
- *Policy and procedures for conducting post-flight quality assurance*

Exhibits: 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D

Questioned by: Bob Dodd and Bruce Coury

WITNESSES #10, #11, #12:

Panel on State Oversight and Competition

Dan Manz, Director of EMS for VT
National Association of State EMS Officials
Burlington, VT

Bryan Bledsoe, DO
Emergency Physician

Midlothian, TX

**David P. Thomson, MD
AAMS
Manlius, NY**

Issues:

- *Certificate of need (CON)*
- *Airline deregulation act and state's rights*
- *Medical Necessity*
- *Federal EMS management*
- *Helicopter shopping*
- *Air taxi model vs patient transport*

Exhibits: 5A – 5X

Questioned by: Bob Dodd

WITNESSES #13, #14, #15:

Panel on Patient Transport Request Processes

**Chief Carlton G. Burkhammer
Battalion Chief of Emergency Medical Services
Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department
Fairfax, VA**

**Daniel G. Hankins, MD
Co-Medical Director of Mayo One Helicopter
Mayo Clinic Medical Transport
Rochester, MN**

**Jack B. Davidoff, MD
President, AMPA
Salt Lake City, UT**

Issues:

- *Procedures for patient triage*
- *Flight requests*
- *Inter-facility transports*
- *Medical necessity*
- *Scene LZ setup procedures*
- *Early activation, auto-launch*
- *Training*
- *Communication*

Exhibits: 5D, 5E, 6A – 6O

Questioned by: Loren Groff

WITNESSES #16, #17, #18:

Panel on Flight Dispatch Procedures

Garet Hickman
CAMTS Representative, NAACS
Denver, CO

Dennis McCall
Aviation Compliance Mgr
Air Methods Corporation
Denver, CO

Raymond Dauphinais
Vice President Flight Operations, CareFlite
Grand Prairie, TX

Issues:

- *Air medical dispatch and flight following*
- *Role of communicators*
- *Communication center functions and technology*
- *Dispatch center functions*
- *Flight risk assessment*
- *Dispatch safety function*
- *Training*

Exhibits: 2A, 7A – 7L, 7N
Questioned by: Aaron Sauer

WITNESSES #19, #20, #21, #22, #23: Panel on Safety Equipment and Flight Recorders

TK Kallenbach
Vice President of Marketing, Honeywell
Phoenix, AZ

Scott Baxter
Assistant Chief Flight Instructor, Bell Helicopter
Training Academy
Fort Worth, TX

Dave Downey
VP of Flight Safety, Bell Helicopter
Fort Worth, TX

Dave Batcheller
Director of Quality, Process and Program Mgt
Appareo
Fargo, ND

Tim Shaver
Avionics Branch Manager, FAA
Washington, DC

Issues:

- *Helicopter FDR/CVR*
- *Cockpit video recorders*
- *FOQA programs*
- *Future technology*
- *Status of helicopter safety equipment and its use*
- *Effectiveness of safety equipment*
- *Cost of safety equipment*

Exhibits: 2A – 2G, 8A – 8R
Questioned by: Tom Jacky and Jim Cash

WITNESSES #24, #25, #26, #27, #28, #29, #30: Panel on Flight Operations Procedures and Training

Neil Weink
Chief Pilot Safety Operations Base Manager,
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, MN

Kevin High, Flight Nurse
President, Air/Surface Transport Nurses
Association (ASTNA)
Nashville, TN

Bruce A. Webb
Chief Flight Instructor, Eurocopter
Grand Prairie, TX

Terry Palmer
Manager, Rotorcraft Programs
FlightSafety International
Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX

Tony Bonham
Chief Pilot, Air Evac EMS, Inc
West Plains, MO

Larry Buehler
Aviation Safety Inspector, FAA
Air Transportation Division's Commuter, On-
Demand, and Training Center Branch

**Flight Standards Service
Washington, DC**

**James P. Riley
President IAFP
Snellville, GA**

Issues:

- *Flight planning*
- *Weather minimums*
- *Weather reporting*
- *Preflight risk assessment*
- *Night flight*
- *Medical crew functions, responsibilities, and training*
- *FAA regulations and advisory guidance*
- *Pilot training*
- *Simulator use*
- *Crew resource management (CRM)*

Exhibits: 2A – 2H, 8P, 9A, 9C, 9D, 9F- 9P

Questioned by: Ron Price

WITNESSES #31, #32, #33:

Panel on Corporate Oversight

**Christopher Bassett
Chief Pilot, Air Methods
Englewood, CO**

**Thomas P. Judge, CCTP
Executive Director
LifeFlight of Maine
Bangor, ME**

**Eileen Frazier
Executive Director, CAMTS
Anderson, SC**

Issues:

- *Oversight*
- *Safety and reporting systems*
- *Communication procedures*
- *Site inspection process*
- *Hospital oversight*
- *External and internal audits*
- *Certification*

Exhibits: 10A - 10L
Questioned by: Leah Yeager

WITNESSES #34, #35, #36: Panel on Safety Management Systems (SMS)

Don Arendt, Ph.D.
Manager, Flight Standards SMS Program
Office, FAA
Ashburn, VA

Keith Johnson
Safety Program Manager, Airborne Law
Enforcement Association (ALEA) & Lead for the
IHST SMS Working Group
Los Angeles, CA

Ed Stockhausen
Director of Safety, Air Methods Corporation
Englewood, CO

Issues:

- *Overview of SMS*
- *FAA and Industry SMS Activities*
- *Reporting systems (FOQA, ASAP, HOMP)*
- *Implementation strategy for HEMS*

Exhibits: 11A, 11B
Questioned by: Evan Byrne

WITNESSES #37 and #38: Panel on Principal Inspector Functions

Jon Prater
POI Air Methods, FAA
Denver, CO

Kent Gibbons
POI CareFlite, FAA
Ft. Worth (AFW), TX

Issues:

- *POI responsibilities*

Exhibits: 12A – 12Q
Questioned by: Tom Latson

WITNESSES #39 and #40:

Panel on Flight Standards National Policy and Regional Implementation

**Dennis Pratte
Manager Part 135 Air Carrier Operations
Branch, FAA
Washington, DC**

**Brad D. Pearson
Manager Flight Standards Division, Northwest
Mountain Region, FAA
Washington, DC**

Issues:

- *FAA Oversight*
- *Part 135 vs part 91*
- *Single Pilot vs 2 pilot*
- *Pilot and Medical crew fatigue*
- *Duty time limits for medical crew*
- *Weather minimums*
- *Operational Control*

Exhibits: 2 A – 2H, 12A – 12Q
Questioned by: Jeff Guzzetti

WITNESS #41:

Aviation Safety Policy

**John Allen
Director of FAA Flight Standards Service
FAA
Washington, DC**

Issues:

- *FAA Efforts on HEMS Safety*
- *Rule Making Process*
- *Future plans*
- *Policy Related to Public Aircraft Use*

Exhibits: 2A – 2H, 12A – 12Q
Questioned by: Jeff Guzzetti