

Santa Barbara County Air Support Unit



Update to the Board of Supervisors
July 10, 2012

Mission of the Air Support Unit

The mission of the AIR SUPPORT UNIT is to provide air resources to regional and local governments and on State, Federal and local lands and in related waters; in support of law and fire operations, emergency medical services, and search and rescue operations.

We strive to accomplish this mission within the confines of fiscal responsibility and a strong emphasis on safety management.

Personnel Status

- Personnel: (per BOS Staffing Plan)
 - Lt. Bob Mott – Unit Manager
 - Sgt. Gregg Weitzman Sheriff's Pilot/Crew Chief
 - Fire Captain/Crew Chief Al Queoff
 - Sheriff's Pilot Chris Spangenberg
 - Sheriff's Pilot Blake Burris
 - Sheriff's Pilot/Crew Chief Mike Arend
 - Sheriff's Crew Chief Jon Simon
 - Mechanic Mel Mobley
 - Mechanic (vacant - in process of hiring)

Air Asset Status

■ Air Assets and Status

- Copter 1 OH-58: Out of Service for routine 300 hour maintenance. Due back July 9, 2012
- Copter 2 OH-58: In service
- Copter 3 UH-1H: To be received in late July for flight testing
- Copter 4 HH-1N: Out of Service for painting and carding requirements. Due back July 9, 2012
- Fire 308 UH-1H: In service
- Fire 309 UH-1H: Out of Service for fuel control issue. Due back unknown
- Air 50 Cessna 206: In Service

Administrative Status

- MOU - Signed
- Policies and Procedure Manual – In Progress
- Scheduling of Personnel
 - Seven day a week coverage 0800-2200
 - Fire and Law airships available each day

Challenges

- Airship Availability
- Training
 - Mechanic availability
 - Crew Chief Training for collateral assignments
 - Pilot Training to remain current
 - Cross Training and transitioning pilots into Copter 3 & 4 in Law and Fire Operations
- Budget
 - Start up training requirements for personnel
 - Unanticipated expenses for helicopter inspection and maintenance

Accomplishments

- Established Chain of Command
- Established Lines of Communication
- Operations manual integration
- Transitioned Fire Pilots to Sheriff's Office
- Merger of Personnel complete
- Work Schedules posted
- Aviation Offices combined
- Financial Protocol established between departments
- Design of Air Support Unit Logo



"Simul Nos Sucedunt"