



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**REACH Air Medical Services Partners with
the California Highway Patrol to Improve Air Safety**

(SANTA ROSA, CA – June 25, 2009) — REACH Air Medical Services (REACH) and the California Highway Patrol (CHP) entered into a first of its kind interagency memorandum of understanding (MOU) to improve air safety during medical and emergency transports. This agreement was reached following a situation when both CHP and REACH responded to an emergency situation and the helicopters were in close proximity of each other and the pilots lacked the ability to communicate directly.

“This memorandum of understanding between REACH and the California Highway Patrol will serve in the best interest of the flight crew and the public by providing an additional safety net for air medical transportation,” said Jim Adams, Chief Executive Officer of REACH Air Medical Services. “During an emergency situation it’s not uncommon to find several air ambulance companies and CHP helicopter operations all providing service at the same time. That’s why CHP initiated the REACH partnership to ensure that every precaution is taken to improve safety while in the air. The ultimate goal of this MOU is the establishment of a statewide agreement between CHP and all air ambulance emergency providers.”

The MOU between REACH and the CHP contains the following elements:

- The establishment of a primary two way radio communication to better coordinate flight operations when CHP and REACH are operating in the same area.
- The establishment of a secondary radio frequency that can be used should the need arise.
- The establishment of flight guidelines related to altitude and direction of flight when both the CHP and REACH respond to a call.

“We commend REACH in this proactive response with the CHP and believe this interagency agreement is just the starting point for improved safety for Emergency Medical Services responders and the public in California. We look forward to working with other air medical providers and public safety agencies to make similar agreements a statewide practice,” said Keith Dittimus, Commander, CHP Office of Air Operations.

About REACH Air Medical Services

REACH Air Medical Services, headquartered in Santa Rosa, California, supports operations in Concord, El Centro, Lakeport, Lancaster, Lodi, Marysville, Redding, Sacramento, Santa Rosa, and Thermal, California as well as Corvallis, Oregon. REACH provides air medical transport services utilizing rotor- (helicopter) and fixed-wing (airplane) aircraft regionally and nationally and has performed more than 40,000 air ambulance missions since its inception in 1987. REACH offers a membership program, REACH for Life; a primary benefit of membership being the guarantee of no out-of-pocket expenses when members are transported by REACH or a REACH service partner within the areas served. REACH has been accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Services (CAMTS) since 1998. For more information, visit www.REACHair.com.