


COUNTY OF VENTURA HEALTH CARE AGENCY		EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	
Policy Title: EMS Aircraft Classification		Policy Number 1204	
APPROVED: Administration:	 Steven L. Carroll, EMT-P	Date: 12/01/07	
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I. PURPOSE:

To determine the types of aircraft available to provide emergency air transport for a patient in Ventura County.

II. POLICY:

All EMS Aircraft shall be classified as an Air Ambulance, a Rescue Aircraft or an Auxiliary Rescue Aircraft.

III. PROCEDURE:

A. EMS aircraft classifications shall be limited to the following categories:

1. Air Ambulance. An air ambulance is an aircraft specially constructed, modified or equipped, and used for the primary purposes of responding to emergency calls and transporting critically ill or injured patients whose medical flight crew has at a minimum two (2) attendants certified or licensed in advanced life support.
2. Rescue Aircraft. A rescue aircraft is 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 an air or ground ambulance is inappropriate or unavailable. Rescue aircraft includes ALS rescue aircraft, BLS rescue aircraft and Auxiliary rescue aircraft.
  - a. Advanced Life Support Rescue Aircraft. An Advanced Life Support (ALS) rescue aircraft is a rescue aircraft whose medical flight crew has at a minimum one attendant certified or licensed in advanced life support.
  - b. Basic Life Support Rescue Aircraft. A Basic life Support Rescue aircraft is a rescue aircraft whose medical flight crew has at a minimum one attendant certified as an EMT-I, or an EMT-I with at least eight (8) hours of hospital clinical training and whose field/clinical experience specified in Section

100074 (c) of Title 22, California Code of Regulations, is in the aeromedical transport of patients.

3. Auxiliary Rescue Aircraft. Auxiliary rescue aircraft is a rescue aircraft which does not have a medical flight crew.
- B. EMS Aircraft classification shall be reviewed at 2 year intervals. Reclassification shall occur if there is a transfer of ownership or a change in the aircraft's category. A request from a designated dispatch center shall be deemed as authorization of aircraft operated by the California Highway Patrol, Department of Forestry, National Guard or the Federal Government