

RESPONSE OF THE AIR CARE ALLIANCE

RECOMMENDATIONS TO VPO'S

RE: NATIONAL SAFETY BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS A-10-102 through A-10-104

TO: All Volunteer Pilot Organizations.

From: The Air Care Alliance

The Air Care Alliance ("ACA") issues the following in response to the letter dated June 9, 2010 from the National Transportation Safety Board, containing Safety Recommendations A-10-102 through A-10-104 ("Recommendations") directed to ACA.

1. In response to NTSB Recommendation A-10-102:

The Air Care Alliance ("ACA") recommends and urges that every Volunteer Pilot Organization ("VPO") institute procedures to (1) reinforce requirements for pilot currency under Federal Aviation Regulation 61.57 and (2) verify pilot currency by, at a minimum, requiring written or electronic self-certification of currency by the pilot in command before every flight.

2. In response to NTSB Recommendation A-10-103:

ACA recommends and urges that every VPO disclose to passengers at the time of inquiry or early during the intake process that the flights are operated by volunteer pilot and are not commercial flights (airline or charter) and that the pilots, aircraft, and flights are not required to meet the same standards as commercial flights. ACA will also make available to all VPO's examples of language that may be used to so inform passengers.

3. In response to NTSB Recommendation A-10-104:

(1) ACA has embarked on a project with the AOPA Foundation's Air Safety Institute to develop and disseminate appropriate written safety guidance, best practices, and training materials for volunteer pilots operating charitable transport flights as

recommended by NTSB. ACA recommends and urges that each VPO utilize these materials and other materials appropriate for their operations so as to achieve an enhanced culture of safety among its pilots. At a minimum the information will address aeronautical decision-making; proper preflight planning; pilot qualification, training, and currency; and self induced pressure.

ACA will also coordinate with FAA to assure that completion of this program will entitle the pilot to credit under the FAA's WINGS pilot proficiency program.

- (2) ACA recommends and urges that every VPO require each pilot to obtain recurrent training annually, which may include flight training, attendance at seminars, or use of web-based training materials.***
- (3) ACA recommends and urges that every VPO coordinate and cooperate with the Federal Aviation Administration, and specifically the "FAAST" teams at their local Flight Standards District Offices, to sponsor, participate in, and encourage attendance at seminars which highlight the areas of concern listed in the recommendation, i.e. aeronautical decision-making; proper preflight planning; pilot qualification, training, and currency; and self-induced pressure.***

Dated: September 7, 2010

The full text of ACA's Response to NTSB will be posted on the Air Care Alliance website at <http://www.aircareall.org/ntsb.htm>