FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE
HELICOPTER DIVISION

The Fairfax County Police Helicopter Division provides tactical police aviation support, aeromedical evacuation, search and rescue, and other specialized air support as needed within Fairfax County and the National Capital Region to enhance public safety and welfare.

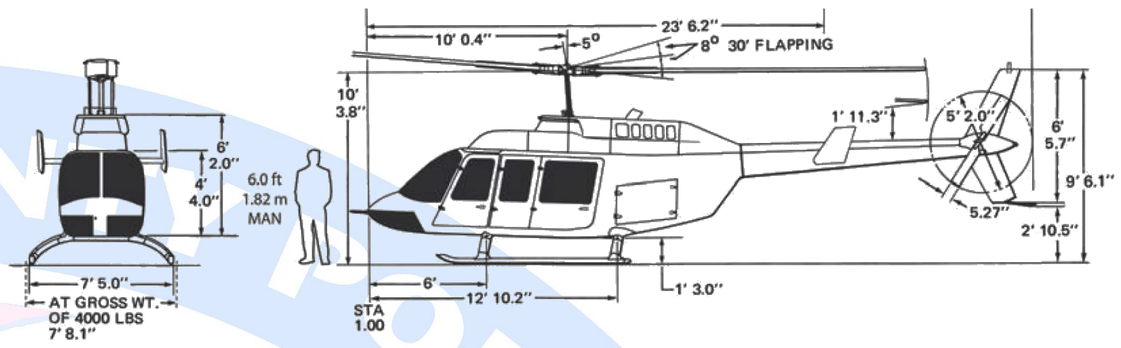
The Helicopter Division was initially formed in 1972 with the donation of an Enstrom F-28 helicopter by a local businessman. It suspended operation in 1975.

In 1983, the Division was reformed as a part-time operation with two Bell 206 Jet Rangers. Based out of Dulles Airport, it provided aeromedical transportation, traffic reporting and airborne law enforcement capabilities to the growing metropolitan area. As operations increased, round the clock staffing ramped up with crew consisting of a Pilot, Police Officer/Paramedic and a Flight Nurse from INOVA Fairfax Hospital.

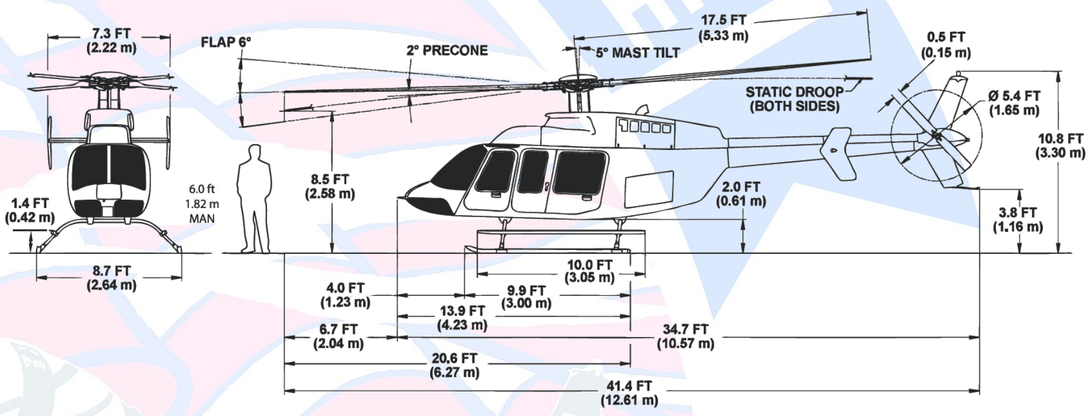
In 1991, INOVA Fairfax separated from the Helicopter Division at which time the Flight Nurse was replaced with a second Police Officer/Paramedic. This is the crew configuration with which the Helicopter Division still flies today.

In 1997, the Division grew to a more capable and robust helicopter, the Bell 407.

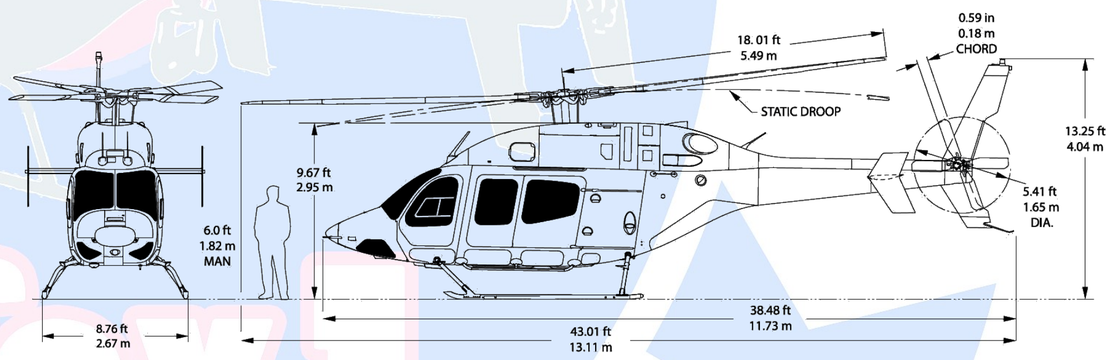
In 2011, the Division purchased its first Bell 429. The purchase of the Bell 429 made the Division the first multi-mission operator in the world to utilize this new airframe. Modern design characteristics of the Bell 429 allow adaptation to future missions needs, reduced/simplified maintenance, as well as improved longevity/service lifetime. Some of the highlights of the Bell 429 are twin engine redundancy, military-grade sensors, night vision goggle technology and a lower noise signature which allow for safe and neighborly helicopter operations.



Bell 206 in service from 1983 to 1997
Powered by a single 420 HP Allison Engine
Max Speed: 110 Knots



Bell 407 in service from 1997 to 2011
Powered by a single 813 HP Rolls Royce Engine
Max Speed: 120 Knots



Bell 429 in service from 2011 to Present
Powered by dual 550 HP Pratt & Whitney Engines
Max Speed: 150 Knots

Mission Stats From 2000 to 2013

Missions: 35,000 Medevacs: 2800

Total Flight Hours: 17,000

The Fairfax County Police Helicopter Division is comprised of 10 Flight Officers, 6 Pilots, 2 Mechanics, and 2 Police Supervisors.

Flight Officers
- Fairfax County Police Officers
- Nationally Registered Paramedics
- Virginia State Paramedics

Pilots
- FAA Commercial/IFR Rated Pilots
- Average of 4000+ Flight Hours per Pilot

Mechanics
- FAA Certified Airframe & Powerplant

Police Supervisors
- Commander—FCPD Captain
- Chief Flight Officer—FCPD 2nd Lt.