# 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.

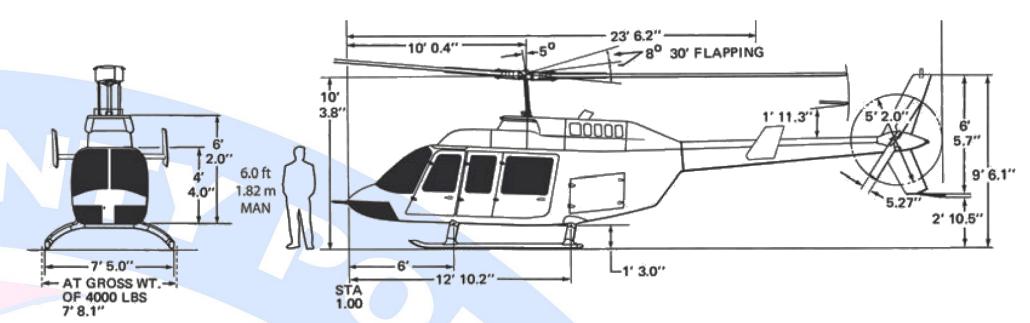
In 2011, the Division purchased its first Bell 429. The purchase of the Bell 429 made the Division the first multi-mission operator in the world to utilize this new airframe. Modern design characteristics of the Bell 429 allow adaptation to future missions needs, reduced/simplified maintenance, as well 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.



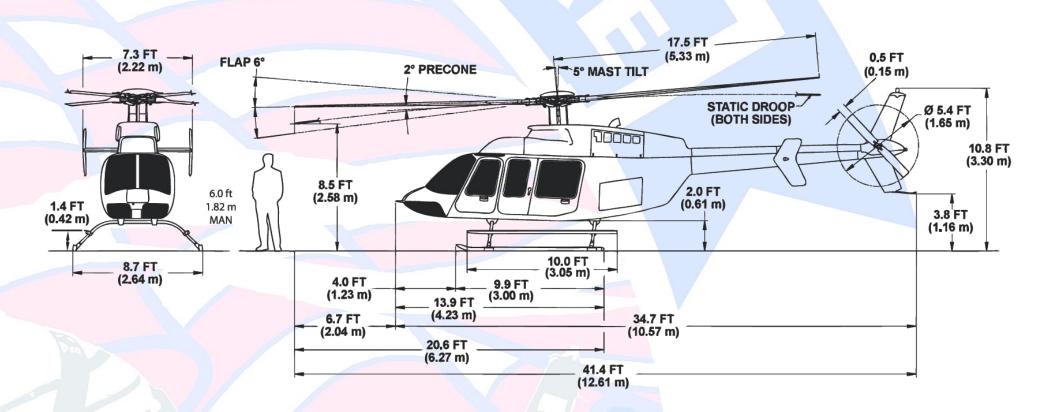
Mission Stats From 2000 to 2018

Missions: 45,660 Medevacs: 3,331

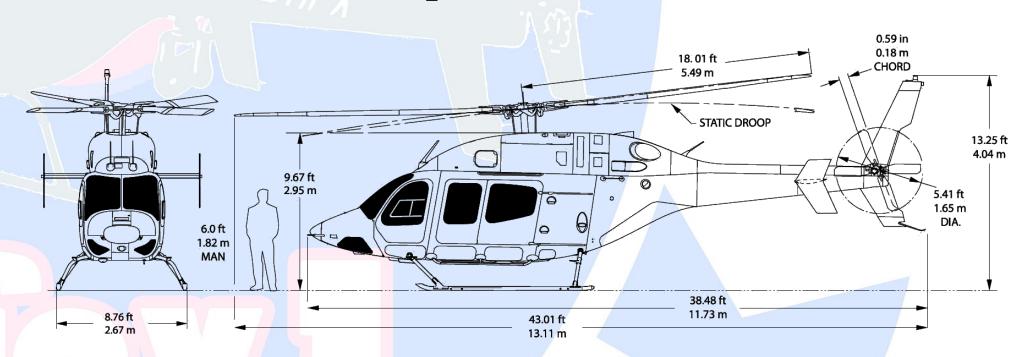
Total Flight Hours: 22,887



Bell 206 in service from 1983 to 1997 Powered by a single 420 HP Allison Engine Max Speed: 120 Knots



Bell 407 in service from 1997 to 2011 Powered by a single 813 HP Rolls Royce Engine Max Speed: 140 Knots



Bell 429 in service from 2011 to Present Powered by dual 550 HP Pratt & Whitney Engines Max Speed: 155 Knots

The Fairfax County Police Helicopter Division is comprised of 11 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
- FAA Approved Inspection Authorization

# Police Supervisors

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