

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY/
STATE POLICE DIVISION**

AND

**COMMANDER
AIR FORCE RESCUE COORDINATION CENTER
TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE FLORIDA**

1. **PURPOSE:** To further delineate the operational procedures pursuant to the Search and Rescue (SAR) Agreement dated 27 AUG 2012, between the State of **New Mexico** and the Inland SAR Mission Coordinator. The procedures outlined below are intended for use within the geographical boundaries of the State of **New Mexico**. On incidents or missions involving overdue General Aviation (GA) interstate flights, DoD aircraft, commercial aircraft or missions of national concern, (e.g. National Special Security Events and Special Events Homeland Security), the general procedures outlined in the basic SAR agreement will apply.

2. **DEFINITIONS:** To ensure both parties understand a common terminology, the following definitions are provided:

- a. **INCIDENT** - Notification by any source of a possible distress situation.
- b. **FEDERAL MISSION** - Incidents that require the activation of federal air or ground assets and the expenditure of federal funds.
- c. **MISSING AIRCRAFT MISSION** - Searches for missing intrastate GA aircraft believed to be in distress.
- d. **MISSING PERSONS MISSION** - Searches for persons believed to be in a distress situation not involving an aircraft.
- e. **RESCUE / MEDEVAC / MERCY MISSION** – Recovering; medical evacuation; moving donor organs blood, or SAR dogs to assist in the time critical saving of life or limb.
- f. **RESPONSIBLE AGENCY** - The federal or state agency with overall responsibility to coordinate the search effort regardless of assets being used.
- g. **COORDINATION** - Mutual agreement between two or more agencies as to the actions taken.

- h. ADVISE / NOTIFY - Communication of actions which have been or will be taken regardless of concurrence.
- i. FEDERAL ASSETS - SAR capable resources belonging to the federal government.
- j. CIVIL AIR PATROL (CAP) AUTHORIZATION - When mission participation is authorized by the AFRCC, CAP in its role as an auxiliary of the Air Force becomes a federal asset. Notification to CAP must be made by the AFRCC.
- k. EMERGENCY LOCATOR TRANSMITTER (ELT) - Emergency beacons that most U.S. civil aircraft are required to carry that send signals to satellites (Cospas-Sarsat system) on a 406 MHz frequency; these beacons also have a low-power "homing" signal on 121.5 MHz. Legacy 121.5 MHz beacons, as of 1 Feb 2009, are only reported through airborne and/or ground reports.
- l. EMERGENCY POSITION INDICATING RADIO BEACON (EPIRB) – Use in maritime applications. EPIRBs transmit a digital identification code to satellites (Cospas-Sarsat system) on 406 MHz and a low-power "homing" signal on 121.5 MHz.
- m. PERSONAL LOCATOR BEACON (PLB) - Portable units that operate much the same as EPIRBs or ELTs. PLBs are designed to be carried by an individual person instead of on a boat or aircraft. They can be activated manually for the sole purpose of transmitting a digital identification code to satellites (Cospas-Sarsat system) on 406 MHz and a low-power "homing" signal on 121.5 MHz.
- n. ALERT NOTICES (ALNOT) - A request originated by a flight service station (FSS) or an air route traffic control center (ARTCC) for an extensive communication search for overdue, unreported or missing aircraft.
- o. NATIONAL ALERT WARNING SYSTEM (NAWAS) – The NAWAS network consists of two warning circuits: a national warning circuit and a state warning circuit. Warning information will be provided to the State by the National Warning Center (NWC) through the NAWAS Warning System via the national warning circuit. The NWC disseminates warning information to the Primary State NAWAS Warning Point located in a State EOC.
- p. THE COSPAS-SARSAT SYSTEM - A satellite system using satellites in low-earth and geostationary orbits to detect and locate aviators, mariners and land-based users in distress. The satellites relay distress signals from emergency beacons to a network of ground stations and ultimately to the U.S. Mission Control Center (USMCC) in Suitland, Maryland. The USMCC processes the data and alerts the appropriate search and rescue authorities. SARSAT is the United States representation in the international COSPAS-SARSAT Program.

3. PROCEDURES:

TYPE MISSION/INCIDENT	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY	PROCEDURES
Missing Aircraft Mission	NEWMEXICO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY/ STATE POLICE (NMDPS/SP)	The AFRCC will coordinate all federal asset requests (including CAP) through NMDPS/SP. <i>NOTE: The AFRCC will be the Responsible Agency for all incidents or missions involving overdue General Aviation (GA) interstate flights, DoD aircraft, commercial aircraft or missions of national concern.</i>
Missing Person Mission	NEWMEXICO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY/ STATE POLICE (NMDPS/SP)	The AFRCC will coordinate all federal asset requests (including CAP) through the NMDPS/SP as the lead agency.
Alert Notices (ALNOT) Incident	AFRCC	The AFRCC will accomplish the required extensive communications checks on all alert notices and will coordinate with the NMDPS/SP prior to mission opening.
Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) / Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB)	NEWMEXICO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY/ STATE POLICE (NMDPS/SP)	The AFRCC will notify the NMDPS/SP of any ELT activity, and then in coordination with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), accomplish a communication check. The NMDP/SSP will contact the AFRCC to request federal assistance, including CAP, to locate ELT's.
Personal Locator Beacon (PLB)	NEWMEXICO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY/ STATE POLICE (NMDPS/SP)	The AFRCC will notify the NMDPS/SP of any PLB activity. The NMDPS/SP will contact the AFRCC to request federal assistance, including CAP, to locate PLB's.

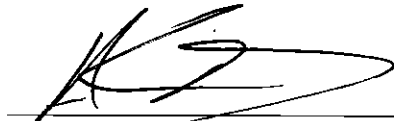
Rescue/Medevac/Mercy	AFRCC	The AFRCC will receive the mission request from an appropriate agency, advise appropriate agency, locate and request appropriate resource and accomplish mission. <i>NOTE: Mission will be conducted only if local, state or civilian resource is not available. Financial constraints will not be an acceptable reason to not use civilian resources.</i>
National Alert Warning System (NAWAS)		Norestrictions within the State of New Mexico.

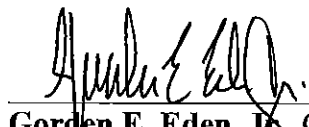
4. POINTS OF CONTACT:


STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY	DSN (Defense Switch Network)	COMMERCIAL
NM STATE POLICE DISPATCHER / DPS	N/A	1-505-827-9126 1-505-827-9300
Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC)	523 5955	1-850-283-5955 1-800-851-3051
AFRCC Administration	523 5683 523 5129	1-850-283-5683 1-850-283-5129

5. This MOU is implemented as of the date of the last signature and remains valid only by mutual agreement of all parties. Changes may be made by telephone, but must be followed up immediately by written correspondence.

6. SIGNATURES:


Robert L. Russell, IV, Lt Col, USAF
 Commander, AFRCC
27 Nov 12
 DATE


Gordon E. Eden, Jr., Cabinet Secretary
 New Mexico Department of Public Safety
06/21/2012
 DATE


Rosemary P. McCourt, Deputy Chief Counsel
 New Mexico Department of Public Safety
6/20/2012
 DATE