



STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE

ISLAND AIR AMBULANCE

SAN JUAN COUNTY PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT NO.1

PATIENT AND EMS SAFETY DURING LOADING AND UNLOADING

SOG #
126-10

APPROVED: Chief E. James Cole

ISSUED
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PURPOSE: To provide safety guidance in Island Air Ambulance operations on the ground when loading and unloading a patient.

GUIDELINE: Whenever prudent and possible, the following guidelines will be observed when interfacing with EMS agencies in the loading and unloading of patients.

1. The pilot will adhere to all Part 135 rules and regulations regarding aero medical transport.
2. The pilot is responsible for all safety and movement of the aircraft and operations of the aircraft at all times. They will use reasonable and prudent judgment.
3. Before the loading and/or unloading of a patient, all blades will have stopped spinning and engine shut down procedures completed as necessary.
4. No one is to approach the aircraft until directed to do so by the pilot.
5. The aircraft will be reasonably secured to prevent movement with the use of available wheel brakes, chocks, and tie downs when prudent and necessary.
6. Only when aircraft has been secured, will the pilot motion for the EMS crews to advance to the aircraft.
7. If available, the receiving ambulance will use available scene lighting to illuminate the aircraft as directed by the pilot.
8. If extreme weather conditions are present, EMS personnel will be briefed on any potential safety hazards before approaching the aircraft.
9. The pilot and EMT in attendance of the patient will operate any doors or devices necessary to move the patient.
10. EMS crews will be directed by the pilot in the necessary procedures for safely loading and unloading as necessary.
11. EMS personnel shall not lean against, move or operate any part of the aircraft unless directed to do so by the pilot.
12. If malfunction, injury or damage occurs to any people, equipment, or aircraft, it must immediately be reported to the pilot.