

## Air Support

### 418.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The use of air support can be invaluable in certain situations. This policy specifies situations where the use of air support may be requested and the responsibilities for making a request.

### 418.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety to prioritize requests for air support to enhance law enforcement objectives and provide additional safety to public safety officers and the community.

### 418.3 REQUEST FOR AIR SUPPORT

If a supervisor or public safety officer in charge of an incident determines that the use of air support would be beneficial, a request to obtain air support may be made.

#### 418.3.1 CIRCUMSTANCES FOR REQUESTS

Law enforcement air support may be requested under conditions that include, but are not limited to:

- (a) When the safety of public safety officers or the community is in jeopardy and the presence of air support may reduce such hazard.
- (b) When the use of air support will aid in the capture of a suspected fleeing felon whose continued freedom represents an ongoing threat to public safety officers or the community.
- (c) When air support is needed to locate a person who is lost and whose continued absence constitutes a serious health or safety hazard.
- (d) Vehicle pursuits.
- (e) Pre-planned events or actions that require air support.
- (f) Due to a request under an existing mutual aid agreement.
- (g) When the Shift Commander or equivalent authority determines a reasonable need exists.

#### 418.3.2 ALLIED AGENCY REQUEST

After consideration and approval of the request for air support, the Shift Commander or the authorized designee will call the closest agency having available air support and will apprise that agency of the specific details of the incident prompting the request.

- (a) The Michigan State Police will be the provider of air support in most cases.
- (b) When authorized by the governor, state military resources may also be made available (MCL 32.559; MCL 32.579).