



**NTSB** National Transportation Safety Board

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*Office of Aviation Safety*

**Newberry, South Carolina  
July 13, 2004**



# Flight History

- Departed Spartanburg, SC at 0502
- Arrived on-scene at 0523
- Departed scene at 0532
- Part 135 EMS flight

# Weather Conditions

- Night visual meteorological condition
- Fog and mist
- No temperature/dew point spread
- Heavy ground fog reported 1 hour after accident

# Pilot Information

- Commercial helicopter pilot
- Instrument rated
- 2,133 total hours
  - 104 hours in Bell 407
  - 48 hours simulated instruments
  - 0.9 hours simulated instruments in Bell 407
- No record of actual instrument flight

# Newberry County 911: 1st Call

- Careforce of Columbia, South Carolina, notified of accident at 0429
- Launched at 0443
- Aborted mission due to fog at 0445

# Newberry County 911: 2nd Call

- Med-Trans One in Greenville, South Carolina, notified at 0448
- Med-Trans One in “Red” status
- Out of service due to fog conditions in area

# Newberry County 911: 3rd Call

- Life Reach 1 in Columbia, South Carolina, notified at 0449
- Initially accepted mission
- Pilot declined mission when he learned CareForce had aborted mission due to fog



# Newberry County 911: 4th Call

- Spartanburg 911
  - Contacted at 0450
  - Breakdown in communications about previous attempts
- Regional 1 pilot
  - Performed weather check and accepted mission at 0455
  - Not informed of aborted or declined missions

# Other Issues

- No risk evaluation program
- No Terrain Awareness and Warning System



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