



March 20, 2020

The Honorable Steve Dickson
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Administrator Dickson:

On behalf of the Air Medical Operators Association (AMOA), I am writing to urge the FAA to act now to provide all reasonable relief from regulatory time restrictions for air medical operators, their pilots and mechanics during the COVID-19 pandemic.

AMOA members operate more than 90 percent of the air medical transports in the United States utilizing over 1100 air medical aircraft. Transporting sick patients to a higher level of care is what we do. As the COVID-19 virus moves through our nation, we are called to continue providing lifesaving missions for those in need whether stricken by the virus or other health emergencies.

However, the implementation of COVID-19 mitigations throughout the country and within the federal government will impact our operations. We are especially concerned about air medical pilots' ability to complete recurrent training and proficiency checks in a timely manner due to the unavailability of FAA inspectors or authorized check pilots. Additionally, the timely renewal of pilot medical certificates is threatened due to the unavailability of authorized air medical examiners. Similarly, renewal of authorizations for mechanics could be jeopardized.

AMOA plans to submit a petition of exemption for these and other time-constrained regulatory requirements to assist in this effort. We believe good cause exists for granting the exemption. Without the ability to extend these due dates, certificate holders may be unable to exercise the privileges of their FAA certificates. This in turn may hinder air medical response capabilities during the current national health emergency.

AMOA urges the FAA to act as quickly as possible to ensure that pilots and aircraft remain available allowing operators to fulfill our mission of providing life-saving transportation during this crisis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sally Veith".

Sally Veith
Executive Director