

Air Support

418.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Best Practice

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

Best Practice

It is the policy of the Syracuse Police Department to prioritize requests for air support to enhance law enforcement objectives and provide additional safety to officers and the community.

418.3 REQUEST FOR AIR SUPPORT

Best Practice NYSLEAP- 8.7 - 58.1

If a supervisor or 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

Best Practice

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

- (a) When the safety of 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 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 Watch Commander or equivalent authority determines a reasonable need exists.

418.3.2 ALLIED AGENCY REQUEST

Best Practice NYSLEAP- 8.7 - 58.1

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