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## NAAMTA Announces Medical Transport Accreditation for Valley Med Flight

**Grand Forks, North Dakota – 1 February 2016** – Subsequent to an independent, external evaluation of administrative documentation, medical practices, and facilities, <u>Valley Med Flight</u> is being awarded accreditation for their fixed- and rotor-wing programs by the National Accreditation Alliance of Medical Transport Applications (<u>NAAMTA</u>).

NAAMTA's Accreditation program is built on standards that focus on quality patient care and the safety of the transports for all involved. The accreditation process is founded upon providing service-based consultative and educational processes, and presenting best practices in order to help an organization improve its care and services. This accreditation is recognized as a symbol of quality by industry peers, third-party payers, medical organizations, liability insurance companies, state and federal agencies and the public.

Through the accreditation process, Valley Med Flight demonstrated compliance in each of the defined standards, excelled in identifying best practice procedures, and instilled these values in each employee. NAAMTA verified their compliance through employee interviews, on-site evaluations, and process reviews, all of which were conducted using ISO 9001:2008 auditing guidelines.

In addition to the accreditation award, Valley Med Flight joins the NAAMTA Alliance. This alliance unifies accredited organizations in the vanguard of continuous improvement through the sharing of education, experiences, and the skills of each member working to improve patient care and cultivating an environment of safety.

Jeremy Salveson, Valley Med Flight Program Director commented, "I felt that our overall experience with the auditing process was positive. NAAMTA was able to offer insight on ways for us to ensure that our patients are getting the best possible care, all while continuing to keep the safety of our crews is paramount. We engaged Amy and Griff in a few conversations throughout the process. They were more than willing to listen to and offer recommendations on our methods. It was very valuable to have someone from the outside come in and offer insight on what they saw. From their findings, we were able to come up with ways to better ourselves and our operation."

NAAMTA Accreditation Standards identify criteria in all aspects of medical transport, including business policies, licensure, education, skills maintenance, communication, vehicle maintenance, etc. Roylen Griffin, NAAMTA Executive Director states, "Valley Med Flight's determination for this professional achievement points to the same driving force their employees have get to the patient, use their skills and expertise to treat the patient, and deliver them to their destination using the safest possible means."

## **About NAAMTA**

NAAMTA is an accreditation standard-bearer for the medical transport industry, offering procedures that include guidelines for developing a system focusing on transport safety, patient care, quality management, and continuous improvement.

NAAMTA is globally recognized for its <u>ISO 9001:2008</u> QMS certification and implementation of quality practices in their accreditation program. NAAMTA's certified quality management system is audited annually by <u>PRI Registrar</u> which is an <u>ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board</u>-approved Registrar accredited to certify organizations to a variety of management systems including ISO 9001.

NAAMTA has successfully made great strides in identifying key best practices to improve the standard of performance among EMS providers at the national and global levels. Through a dynamic approach to auditing and a vast array of web-based reporting and learning tools for members, NAAMTA distinguishes itself as an accreditation source interested in providing services to their members and works toward the improvement of medical transportation practices.

## **About Valley Med Flight**

Valley Med Flight began in North Dakota serving the Red River Valley and the surrounding areas as a Critical Care Air Ambulance Provider. Quickly, their services branched into other states including, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

It is the mission of Valley Med Flight to safely and efficiently transport patients, with the utmost care and respect, to a facility equipped to handle their medical needs. Their patients receive the highest level of care using the most advanced equipment and protocols available.

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