



JAMES A. DI GIOVANNA

James (Jim) Di Giovanna is the current Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Immediate Past President of the **Public Safety Aviation Accreditation Commission**. As a charter member of the Commission, Jim participated in developing operational standards for law enforcement air units which have been adopted by the Airborne Law Enforcement Association (ALEA) and recognized by the National Transportation and Safety Board (NTSB) as best practices for all law enforcement air units. He was directly responsible for the creation of an Accreditation Program wherein law enforcement air units could apply for accreditation through a process designed to objectively evaluate and certify a unit's overall compliance with the standards.

Mr. Di Giovanna is recognized as an expert in aviation law enforcement by the Airborne Law Enforcement Association and the National Transportation and Safety Board. As the owner and sole proprietor of **Law Enforcement Aviation Consultants**, Jim is consulted by agencies in the U.S. and abroad to assess aviation safety, unit management and training, and conducting loss control safety audits and internal investigations on request.

In 2012, Jim stepped down as the Education Program Manager for the Airborne Law Enforcement Association (ALEA) where he was responsible for developing education and training for all ALEA conferences and safety seminars. He held this position from January 2002 through July 2012. He has also been invited to speak on the topic of Airborne Law Enforcement at several international civil and police aviation conferences in Europe, Asia and Canada.

Previously, Jim's law enforcement career spanned 35 years, retiring in March 2006 from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department as Captain and commanding officer of Aero Bureau having been assigned to the aviation unit from January 1989 until his retirement. His career in law enforcement included assignments as a patrol deputy, patrol and operations sergeant and patrol lieutenant watch commander. He also enjoyed successful assignments at the Sheriff's Information Bureau, Field Operations Headquarters and Custody Division.

As unit commander of the Aero Bureau, he was responsible for managing aviation operations for the largest Sheriff's Department in the United States. While supervising 72 sworn and civilian Sheriff's Department personnel, Captain Di Giovanna had responsibility for directing the use and overseeing the operation and maintenance of the Department's 15 rotary-wing and three fixed-wing aircraft.

Jim is a commercial pilot, helicopter and instrument rated, with over 5700 flight hours. He also served in the military, retiring in 2001 as a Colonel and Master Army Aviator from the United States Army and California Army National Guard after 35 years of service. His most noteworthy military assignments included Director of Army Aviation and Safety for the State of California and Commander, Aviation Brigade, 40th Infantry Division. He is a graduate of the Army Aviation Accident Prevention and Safety Course, and University of Southern California School of Aviation Safety and Systems Management. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration and Criminal Justice.

In 2012 Jim was honored to receive the Award for Excellence in Police Aviation from the International Association of Chiefs of Police. In 2004, Jim was the recipient of the Airborne Law Enforcement Award presented by the Helicopter Association International for outstanding achievement in Aviation Law Enforcement. Jim is also Past President of the California Professional Helicopter Pilots Association and has served on a variety of national, state and local aviation committees.