



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

VAI Mourns Victims of Hudson River Helicopter Crash

Association Extends Condolences, Recognizes First Responders, and Supports Ongoing Investigation

Alexandria, Virginia (Apr. 11, 2025) -- Vertical Aviation International (VAI) chief operating officer Michael Hertzendorf issues the following statement:

“On behalf of the vertical aviation industry, we are mourning the helicopter crash in New York City’s Hudson River that today claimed the lives of six individuals, including three children. We extend our deepest condolences to the families and loved ones affected by this tragedy.

In this moment of profound sorrow, we stand with those who mourn. We are deeply grateful to the first responders and medical teams who acted with urgency, care, and compassion. Our thoughts are also with those in the broader community who grieve alongside those directly impacted.”

In keeping with established aviation protocols, VAI will make no further statement on the accident until the National Transportation Safety Board has completed its investigation.

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Vertical Aviation International (VAI), formerly Helicopter Association International (HAI), is the world’s leading membership association dedicated to the vertical aviation industry, which encompasses all aircraft capable of vertical or short takeoff and landing. Throughout its 76 years of fueling industry growth through connection, advocacy, safety, education, and support for its members’ success, VAI has leveraged the power of vertical flight to strengthen communities worldwide. The association welcomes all facets of the vertical aviation industry, including manufacturers, operators, suppliers and vendors, pilots and maintenance technicians, and other aviation professionals. For more information about VAI, please visit: <https://verticalavi.org>.

Vertical Aviation International

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