

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 14, 2010

Civil Air Patrol Trains for Emergencies

NEW ORLEANS, La. – On June 12, over sixty members of Louisiana Wing's Group III, Civil Air Patrol (CAP), with 4 aircraft and 5 ground vehicles, gathered to participate in a search and rescue exercise (SAREX) at the New Orleans Lakefront Airport. Group III consists of squadrons from Baton Rouge, Gonzales, Hammond, Metairie and New Orleans.

The day-long exercise provided an opportunity for training in the following tasks: aerial damage assessment photo missions, aircrew and ground team searches for missing aircraft, and communication drills.

Louisiana Wing Emergency Services Officer, Lt. Col. Mickey Marchand – who served as the Incident Commander for the event – said, "I'm very pleased with the large number of CAP members who were able to complete training tasks."

Cadets from ages 12-20 took a vital part in the training, as they assisted with directing CAP aircraft during ground operations, maintaining communications, and executing ground team searches.

Other members served as mission base staff, supporting the event in administrative tasks, air and ground communications, aircrew and ground team briefing, chaplain, finance, logistics, planning, public information functions, and transportation.

Louisiana Wing has over 500 members, representing 14 squadrons that are located in Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Bossier City, Gonzales, Hammond, Jennings, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Monroe, New Orleans, Patterson and Shreveport.

Civil Air Patrol, the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force, is a nonprofit organization with 58,000 members nationwide. CAP, in its Air Force auxiliary role, performs 90 percent of continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and was credited by the AFRCC with saving 72 lives in fiscal year 2009. Its volunteers also perform homeland security, disaster relief and counter-drug missions at the request of federal, state and local agencies. The members play a leading role in aerospace education and serve as mentors to more than 23,000 young people currently participating in CAP cadet programs. CAP has been performing missions for America for 68 years.

For more information about CAP, please visit www.gocivilairpatrol.com

- 30 -

Contact Information:

Michael James, Major, CAP
Director of Public Affairs
Louisiana Wing

Cell (318) 451-2520
Fax (318) 641-0299
m.james.cap@gmail.com