



# NEWS RELEASE

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## News from MD Helicopters

### MD Helicopters Delivers another MD 500E® to St. Louis Metro Air Support

**Mesa, Arizona, February 21, 2010...** MD Helicopters, Inc. delivered a new MD 500E® to the St. Louis Metro Air Support Unit in January. This new helicopter will be utilized to perform search and rescue missions, increase patrols of the region's critical infrastructure and provide support to first responders.

The Metro Air Support Unit is a consolidated flight Unit initiated in 2004 by merging operations with the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, the St. Charles County Sheriff's Department and the St. Louis County Police Department. The Unit is equipped with five helicopters that use the latest advanced surveillance technology; they also operate one fixed wing aircraft.

Chief of Police Timothy Fitch stated, "I am pleased to announce that the Metro Air Support Unit is now in possession of a new helicopter to the fleet. The new addition has been painted and marked with the appropriate decals, and has passed all test flights. This project began several years ago working with surrounding law enforcement agencies and the East/West Gateway-STARRS (St. Louis Area Regional Response System), in a joint effort to support our request to receive U.S. Department of Homeland Security funds for the new helicopter. I am confident that the addition of this new helicopter will be a tremendous regional asset to all our departments."

Lynn Tilton, Chief Executive Officer of MD Helicopters, Inc. added, "We are honored that the St. Louis County Police Department has once again chosen the MD 500E as its aircraft of choice and we look forward to a continued future of partnership together. With speed, agility, reliability and low cost operating advantages, MD Helicopters, Inc. remains a preferred option among law enforcement agencies around the world."

A formal presentation and dedication of the helicopter was held on January 26, 2010 at the Metro Air Support Helicopter Hanger located at the Spirit of St. Louis Airport, Chesterfield, Missouri.

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#### About MD Helicopters, Inc.

MD Helicopters, Inc., is a leading manufacturer of commercial and military helicopters. The MDHI family of rotorcraft is world renowned for its value, versatility and performance. The MD Helicopters family includes the twin-engine MD Explorer®, and single engine versions of the MD 600N®, MD 520N®, MD 500E® and MD 530F®. The NOTAR® system for anti-torque control is used exclusively by MD Helicopters. The Company is based in Mesa, Ariz. For more information about MDHI visit <http://www.mdhelicopters.com>.



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## **About Patriarch Partners LLC**

The Patriarch platform is a vertically integrated private equity firm with robust in-house operational turnaround expertise. Patriarch Partners, LLC ("Patriarch"), founded in 2000, was built upon a proprietary patented financial model designed to manage and monetize the distressed portfolios of financial institutions. Patriarch has since evolved into a global investment firm that concentrates on direct investments in distressed businesses, with a focus to rebuild, managing funds with over \$7 billion of equity and secured loan assets with equity investments in more than 70 companies, and controlling interests in approximately two-thirds of these. For more information, please visit [www.patriarchpartners.com](http://www.patriarchpartners.com).

Contact: Art Fiacco 480 346 6566