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**UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN SURVIVAL FLIGHT JET TO STOP AT SAWYER
General Public, Regional Health Care and EMS Officials Invited to Visit**

MARQUETTE, MI – Marquette County and Airport officials are very pleased to announce that officials from the University of Michigan’s Survival Flight air medical transport service will make a stop at Sawyer International Airport.

Set for Saturday, April 24, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., the general public, regional health care and EMS officials are encouraged to come see the aircraft on display at Boreal Aviation, 401 F. Avenue (approximately 1-mile south of the airline passenger terminal).

Officials from U-M’s Survival Flight will be available to meet with local health officials and EMS personnel, as well as the general public, and display the newest addition to the University of Michigan’s fleet of air ambulatory aircraft.

“The University of Michigan is pleased to have the opportunity to showcase our new air ambulance to the people of the Central Upper Peninsula region,” says Brad Uren, M.D., clinical instructor with the Department of Emergency Medicine at the U-M Medical School.

“This special visit gives us another opportunity to showcase the importance of regional airports to the general public,” offers Keith Kaspari, Airport Manager at Sawyer International Airport. “The U of M’s air ambulance can easily and quickly transport seriously ill or injured patients from any point in the Upper Peninsula to one of the finest trauma centers in the United States.”



U-M Survival Flight provides services to the 48 continental states plus Canada and Mexico, to transport critically ill or injured patients. In addition, Survival Flight supports the University of Michigan Transplant Center’s organ procurement team in its efforts to provide over 400 lifesaving transplants each year. Survival Flight flies over 160,000 miles each year and has flown over 4 million miles in the past 26 years. Its fleet includes three Bell 430 helicopters and a Cessna Citation Encore CE-560, as well as ground services provided by Huron Valley Ambulance.

The Survival Flight team includes 20 full-time RNs and nine communication specialists. Pentastar Aviation Charter, based in Oakland County, provides aviation services and operational control. There are 10 helicopter and eight fixed-wing pilots dedicated to the U-M team, as well as eight full-time mechanics.

For more information about the U-M’s Survival Flight, visit the Web site (http://www.med.umich.edu/survival_flight/)

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Sawyer is the Upper Peninsula’s premiere commercial service airport, and the airport of choice for both business and leisure travelers providing 100% jet service to major hub airports Chicago, Detroit and Minneapolis. . CY-2009 records reflect that for the fourth consecutive year, Sawyer accommodated over 50% of all passengers traveling to or from the U.P.’s six commercial service airports. For more information contact Keith Kaspari, C.M., Airport Manager, Sawyer International Airport at 906-346-3308, x-222 or KKASPARI@MQTCTY.ORG