



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHP Air Operations Participates in First Responder Critical Incident Training Event at the Fairfield Public Safety Academy

FAIRFIELD, CA – On Thursday, January 29, 2015, the California Highway Patrol Golden Gate Division Air Operations Unit was invited to take part in a demonstration/exercise at the Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District's Public Safety Academy.

CHP Helicopter 32 (H-32) joined the Fairfield Police Department Motorcycle Squad, Canine Officers (and their four-legged partners), and personnel from the Fairfield Fire Department in several demonstrations for the cadets at the Public Safety Academy.

The FPD Motorcycle Officers answered cadet questions before participating in an extremely tight agility course, demonstrating a mastery of their machines. The FPD canines showed off their discipline and obedience to their handlers in several drills. The canines then demonstrated their skill at tracking fleeing subjects and locating hidden contraband, as well as their ability to apprehend and subdue dangerous subjects.

The Fairfield Fire Department showed their teamwork and skill in an exercise to extricate a subject out of a heavily damaged pick-up truck. The firefighters used numerous battery-operated and hydraulic tools, including the "jaws of life" to take the truck apart and gain access to the injured patient (a mannequin). The firefighters secured the patient to a backboard for medical air evacuation. The patient was packaged and moved to the school field, where H-32 hovered overhead. H-32's flight officer/paramedic was lowered to the patient using the helicopter's hoist cable. The paramedic connected the patient to the hoist hook, and both were lifted to the helicopter.

After the hoist demonstration was complete, H-32 landed in the field, giving the cadets an opportunity to see the helicopter up close. The pilot and flight officers showed the cadets around the helicopter and answered their questions. The Fairfield Fire Department also opened their truck and rescue equipment to allow the cadets to see the equipment up close.

A video of the hoist demonstration has been uploaded to our YouTube channel and can be found at this link: <http://youtu.be/mZ04pBtrzyQ>.

Photographs of the event have also been uploaded to our Facebook page and can be found at <http://facebook.com/CHPGoldenGate>.

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