

NTSB Chairman Calls Government Aircraft “Safety Orphans”

By: Callahan & Blaine

<http://litigation-update.com>

NTSB Chairman Deborah Hersman said that government planes and helicopters are currently “safety orphans,” with no governing body regulating the safety of the flight crews, government employees and passengers who use them and that “someone needs to accept this duty.”

The issue of who is responsible for overseeing the safety of government aircraft came to light following a two-year investigation into a crash that killed seven U.S. Forest Service firefighters and injured four others near Weaverville, California on Aug. 5, 2008.

The General Services Administration, which makes air fleet management recommendations to federal agencies, said the FAA is responsible for oversight of aircraft that is used only to carry passengers, but does not regulate aircraft engaged in government activities like firefighting, criminal investigations, border patrol or land surveying. The FAA has said it does not have the authority to regulate government aircraft.

About Callahan & Blaine

Efficient and Sophisticated Client Service Focused on Results

Callahan & Blaine's trial practice reflects our firm's commitment to client service and outstanding results across a wide range of litigation problems — business and employment law, corporate and ownership disputes, and personal injury claims. We've been working toward building the ideal civil trial practice since we opened our doors in 1984. [Contact us](#) in Santa Ana to learn how our approach to dispute resolution can benefit you or your company.

If you or a loved one is involved in an accident that causes death or serious injury, call Callahan & Blaine, California's Premier Litigation Firm. We are one of the leading catastrophic injury firms in the state of California. In fact, in the last five years alone our lawyers have obtained over \$1.2 billion in verdicts and settlements, including [a record breaking \\$50 Million settlement](#)

[against the City of Dana Point](#), which has been certified as the largest personal injury settlement in the history of the United States. Callahan & Blaine has also recently obtained a [\\$28 Million settlement](#) for a driver who was hit by a runaway truck wheel on the freeway, a [\\$7 million settlement](#) for a bicyclist who was struck by a newspaper delivery truck, and a [\\$7.25 million settlement](#) for a man who was run over trying to board a city bus.

Our success in litigating and negotiating personal injury cases comes from our uncommon approach; we handle each personal injury case as though it were a complex business litigation case, attacking it from every angle possible. While our firm is located in Orange County, California, we handle serious personal injury, wrongful death and product liability cases nationwide.

If you or someone you know has suffered a catastrophic injury or died as the result of a fall, please [contact our California law firm](#) for expert legal counsel.