



DPS AVN – Significant Activity Report

Station: San Antonio

Date: 06-09-2010

Shift: 8A – 5P

Narrative of activities: During shift aircrew responded to the New Braunfels area at approximately 8:45 AM, to assist Comal County with search, rescue and recovery efforts after torrential rains caused severe flooding along the Guadalupe River south of Canyon Lake dam. Upon arrival in the area aircrew assisted with aerial recon of the disaster area reporting washed out vehicles and RV's to ground units so that they could be checked for occupants.

Aircrew also located a group of six individuals consisting of men women and children waving frantically from steep cliff face that were not visible to ground units. These campers had climbed up a cliff they were camping at the base of to escape the rising flood waters earlier in the morning, and kept going higher to find a semi level area to perch on about 150 feet above the river. They became stranded as the cliff face was rain slickened and extremely difficult and dangerous to traverse back down. Subjects were poorly dressed and (some without shoes), to traverse such terrain due to the hasty manner in which they were forced to flee to the higher ground. Aircrew reported the subjects to ground units and Comal County Deputies 394 and 393 asked them to find some climbing rope and guided them to the bottom where they climbed up to meet the victims. Using the ropes and assisting the campers, the deputies got them down without injury.

DPS 107 staged ground transportation at a nearby LZ and remained on station in case of a fall or other urgent medical need required airlifting across the flooded areas to medical attention. No Medevac required.

Aircrew continued to patrol the area, responding to numerous calls for service and capturing video footage of the flood damage until the water began to recede before returning to New Braunfels for fuel. No additional significant activity was noted or calls for service received and aircrew returned to base in San Antonio at approximately 4:50 PM.