

## SHERIFF AEROSQUADRONS

- ALAMEDA, CA
- CARSON CITY NV
- EL DORADO CA
- FRESNO CA
- IMPERIAL CA
- LAKE CA
- MARICOPA AZ
- MARIN CA
- MENDOCINO CA
- NAPA CA
- ORANGE CA
- PALMS SPRINGS POLICE CA
- PHANTOM
- SAN FRANCISCO CA
- SAN JOAQUIN CA
- SAN MATEO CA
- TULARE CA
- YOLO CA
- YUBA/SUTTER CA



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## Western States Association of Sheriff's Air Squadrons (WSASAS)

The Western States Association of Sheriffs' Air Squadrons (Western States) was founded in 1947 at Bass Lake, CA. It was then incorporated as a non-profit organization in 1956.

As stated in the by-laws, "The purpose is to aid law enforcement, by furnishing aircraft and trained personnel for official purposes as designated by the Sheriff, help enforce civil air regulations, furnish search and rescue aid in disasters and support activities that benefit and promote aviation".

"Western States" acts as a clearinghouse by allowing member squadrons to share ideas and successes in search, rescue, communications, flight safety, and other vital matters.

Membership is limited to Sheriff's and Police Aero Squadrons of the eleven most western states. Several meetings or training sessions are planned each year. The various squadrons sponsor these Fly-Ins Seminars and all squadrons from Western States are invited to attend.

Squadron Council meetings are held at each gathering or Fly-In Seminar to conduct any business and pass along any Western States related information. The Squadrons' Council and its' elected officers manage affairs of Western States. These meetings are open to all members of WSASAS.



A publication entitled "Flight Plan" is used to disseminate safety information, news of squadron activities, and other items of interest to members.

Almost every Western States' Fly-In Seminar includes one of three types of safety programs; an FAA Wings, an AOPA lecture, or a law enforcement

video. They typically include a Camp Perry pistol shooting match as well as a flying search and rescue mission with competition between members and squadrons. Prizes are awarded for the best individual and team scores at the awards banquet, our grand finale. Strict



rules for pistol and flying competitions are specified by Western States and all participants are required to adhere to those rules.

Members attending the Fly-In Seminars experience individual accomplishment as well as a team spirit in the shooting and flying exercises. In many of these events, properly trained spouses may participate as well, allowing everyone a chance to demonstrate their skills.

## PURPOSE AND BENEFITS

- Serve in a major disaster as well as in national and local emergencies
- Search for downed or lost aircraft
- Search for persons lost or in distress
- Provide a means of cooperation with the Civil Air Patrol
- Develop uniformity of operations and be integrated into the state offices of emergency service.
- Promote camaraderie among members through shared interests in aviation and law enforcement
- Expand our expertise beyond our own county by helping to develop other squadrons in emergency services of all kinds
- Promotes understanding between the public, law enforcement agencies and flyers through their volunteer status and willingness to help others and through search and rescue operations and other public efforts

It is the intention of Western States to invite all Air Squadrons from all states of the western United States to enlist in this most gratifying and rewarding association.