

# ***Raymond A. Syms & Associates***

*Aeronautical Consulting Services*

28 Baruch Drive, Long Branch, New Jersey 07740

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October 22, 2008

Gary Stevens

ILDOT

Division of Aeronautics

1 Langhorne Bond Drive

Springfield, IL 62707

RE: Aviation Expert Services – Heliport Evaluation

Via Email [Gary.D.Stevens@illinois.gov](mailto:Gary.D.Stevens@illinois.gov)

Dear Mr. Stevens,

It was a pleasure to talk with you about the task you have envisioned for me with respect to the proposed heliport at Children's Hospital in Chicago. As you know I am familiar with that proposal from the large amount of public and industry media coverage.

I understand you would like me to provide an objective professional opinion of that proposal. You have informed me that there is substantial documentation of studies by others related to heliport design, wind and operational studies. When I have reviewed the relevant portions of that material and performed my own observations, you would desire me to produce a report of my findings and conclusions.

The outline of experience on my web site provides you with the major details of my professional experience. I have enclosed a current C.V. which is more update than the web version. My background uniquely blends a 10,000+ hour pilot and over 30 years of heliport design, operational and litigation support experience.

My extensive operational background as Captain, Chief Pilot, FAA Check Captain and Instructor in corporate and commercial aviation enables me to view all aspects of heliport design and operations from the viewpoint of a seasoned pilot. My hands-on operational experience, research with heliport and airport facility design, evaluation and regulatory development process experience serves me well in many aspects of litigation support during interaction scenarios.

I combine that with decades of highly successful heliport development and litigation support for a broad variety of clients. Many times this insight has been invaluable for improving approaches and focus on legal matters and at the same time maximizing cost-effectiveness.

My firm is very proud for our contribution to a successful defense of the FAA actions in a recent helicopter crash. That effort was as part of a team the Department Of Justice put

together for a full trial in Federal court. I can provide contact information for the DOJ attorney for a referral if desired. I will need to alert them to expect a call from you. That contact will enable them to provide relevant information they would not provide without my release.

My policy is for my firm not to be listed as an expert until we are covered by an agreement for services and I have had the opportunity to review the matter on a professional basis. This is to ascertain if the results of my preliminary workup are in favor of the position you are taking for your client.

***For the sake of simplicity, we can use this letter as our agreement for services.***

Raymond A. Syms & Associates agrees to provide aeronautical expert services for the review of a potential heliport at the Children's Hospital in Chicago, IL.

You may, without prior notice, cease the request for expert services at any time during the scope of this agreement. The only obligation for the client would be for payment of services up to and including the day notification is received by Raymond A. Syms & Associates. (RAS & A)

RAS & A will cease work on the agreement work scope only if the account is not kept current or circumstances beyond the reasonable control of RAS & A preclude completion of the work scope.

My rate is \$250.00 per professional and transit hour for my services, transit time beyond four hours each way is billed at \$125.00. Expenses for travel, photographs, research materials and necessary items billed at cost. We work from a retainer and request a \$5,000 deposit into that account at this time. Monthly or appropriate time interval invoicing for replenishment of that account is provided with details on services provided along with breakdown of expenses and receipts as requested. In the event of non-payment, collection fees, RAS&A time and expenses needed to accomplish payment are also included with the amount to be paid. These hourly rates are subject to increase one year from the date of this agreement.

If you would acknowledge the acceptance of this proposal for services in the space provided below, please send me a copy along with a list of the case materials. From that list I will request certain items for review to support my study.

Upon the review of that material, we can discuss the next steps we should take in my preparation of my report.

Sincerely yours,



Raymond A. Syms  
Aeronautical Consultant

Accepted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## ***Outline of Professional Experience***

Raymond A. Syms & Associates provides aviation consulting and expert services based on over 40 years of aviation experience encompassing Military, Corporate, Commercial, Airline and Government operations. Management of helicopter and airplane operations, airport and heliport master planning and design, certification and construction, accident prevention, investigation and expert witness services have been performed for a large variety of organizations. Aviation qualifications include over 10,000 flying hours in both rotary and fixed-wing with multi-engine and turbine engine aircraft ratings. Those ratings are: Airline Transport Pilot (both rotary and fixed-wing); BH206 SK76; Flight Instructor in Airplanes, Helicopters and Instruments; and FAA Part 135 Chief Pilot and Instructor Pilot.

### ***General:***

Raymond A. Syms & Associates has planned, developed, operated and/or evaluated numerous aeronautical facilities and operations throughout the world. They participate extensively as an industry representative and contracted consultant in many statewide aviation and helicopter system plans. Expert aviation testimony and litigation consultation services have been provided to plaintiffs and defendants on general aviation and airline matters relating to safety, operational concerns, planning, accident prevention and investigations.

Empanelled on numerous FAA and user group committees addressing issues of aeronautical facility design, operations and safety. Contributed essential information and opinions to various federal and state regulators for the formulation and implementation of far-reaching aviation programs and regulatory reviews.

### ***Major Publications:***

- Heliport/Vertiport Development Guide – Helicopter Association International
- The “Twenty – Five Most Asked Questions and ANSWERS about Heliports/Vertiports” – Helicopter Association International
- Operational Survey – VFR Heliport Approaches & Departures – Federal Aviation Administration
- Safety Issues in Heliport/Vertiport Design – The 1990’s and Beyond
- Analysis of Helicopter Mishaps at Heliports, Airports and Unimproved Sites – Federal Aviation Administration
- Composite Profiles of Helicopter Accidents at Heliports and Airports – Federal Aviation Administration
- Published numerous articles in Rotor Magazine, Rotor & Wing, Hospital Aviation, Helicopter World, ERHC News

## ***Affiliations:***

Dowling College, Georgia Institute of Technology, HAI Professional Development Program.  
(Presentations on Heliport safety and design, wire strike prevention and flying safely in the wire environment, FAA regulations and guidelines.)

## ***Member:***

Aircraft Owners & Pilots Assn.	-Acoustics Committee
Air Traffic Control Assn.	-Fly Neighborly Committee
American Helicopter Society	Mid-Atlantic Helicopter Assn.
Aviation/Space Writers Assn.	National Fire Protection Assn.
Eastern Region Helicopter Council	-Technical Comm., Helicopter Facilities
-Past Publisher & Editor, ERHC News	-Chairman, Helicopter Refueling W.G.
-Past Chairman, Heliport Comm.	National Forensic Center
Expert Resources, Inc.	New Jersey Aviation Advisory Council
Expert Witness Network	-Licensing and Regulator Committee
FAA / Industry	Quiet Birdmen
-Vertiport-Heliport Design Group, Vice Chairman-Industry	Sea Plane Pilots Association
Helicopter Association Intl.	Technical Advisory Service for Attorney
-Heliport Committee	Who's Who Registry of Global Business Leaders

## ***Education:***

### **SCHOOL AND LOCATION**

### **Curriculum**

United States Armed Forces Institute, Hunter AAF, GA	BA Liberal Arts
Savannah State College, Savannah, GA	BA Liberal Arts
Union County College, Union, NJ	BS Management
Rider Business College, Trenton, NJ	BS Management
Thomas Edison College, Trenton, NJ	BS Management
Middlesex County College, Edison, NJ	BS Management

*- All courses completed with a grade point average of 4.0*

## ***Aeronautical Training:***

### **SCHOOL AND LOCATION**

### **Type of Training**

Delta Airlines, Newark, NJ.	Ground Service
Basking Ridge Flight School, Basking Ridge, NJ	Aviator
US Army Airplane and Helicopter Mechanic Qualification, Ft. Rucker, AL	Mechanic
United States Army Flight Training School, Ft. Wolters, TX	Aviator
United States Army Flight Training School, Ft. Rucker, AL	Aviator
United States Army Flight Training School, Hunter AAF, GA	Flight Instructor
US Army Accident Investigation Board, Hunter AAF, GA	Investigator
Savannah Flight Service, Savannah, GA	Aviator
Allison Turbine Engine Service Training, Indianapolis, IN	Operations

Flight Safety, Republic, NY  
Bell Helicopter Training School, Ft. Worth, TX  
Linden Flight School, Linden, NJ  
Aerospatale Helicopter, Grand Prairie, TX  
American Airlines, West Palm Beach, FL

ATP-MEL  
Aviator  
Aviator  
Aviator  
Aviator

***Clients:***

The following partial list of clients represents the broad cross-section of aviation and non-aviation clients that have used the services of Raymond A. Syms & Associates. (20+ clients have requested complete confidentiality and are not listed here to respect their wishes.)

- Affinity Marketing
- Ahern Fire Protection
- Air Charter Evaluations Inc.
- A.H. Butz Inc.
- Air Pegasus Corp.
- Alticor Corporation (Amway)
- Alvin Trenk
- Analar Corporation
- Anne Arundel Medical Center
- Anthony Blanchette
- Anthony Ferguson
- ARCO
- ARC Wheeler Corporation
- Arizona State University Research Park
- Arthur Schneider
- Array Healthcare Facilities
- Atlanta Heliport
- Atlantic City Medical Center
- Atlantic Foundation
- Atlantic Aviation 34<sup>th</sup> Street Heliport
- Austin Company
- Bailey & Partners
- Bald Eagle Commons Inc.
- Baltimore Gas and Electric
- Balzarini, Carey & Watson, P.A
- Bamundo, Zwal & Schermerhorn, LLP
- Barbara Albom, Esq.
- Bayley Seton Hospital
- Baylor Health Systems
- Baylor Grapevine Hospital
- Baylor McKinney Hospital
- Bayview Hospital
- BDG Robbins Lane
- Belfonti Associates
- The Bellevue
- Gordon Belfort
- Blair & Sons
- Blumenfeld Development Corporation
- Boardwalk Helicopters
- Boeing Helicopter Corporation
- Borrus, Golden & Foley
- Bowers, Shuman & Welch
- Bradley Knoefler
- Brian Hart
- Brand & Brand, PA.
- Brandywine Aircraft Services
- Broadcast Helicopters Inc.
- Bristol-Meyers Corporation
- Bruce Farlow
- Byrne, Cardenas & Smitherman, LLP
- Cablevision Systems Corporation
- Cannon Design, Nassau Medical Center
- Captain Steven Albers
- Carolina Health Systems
- Carolina Healthcare – Cureton
- Carolina Healthcare - Pineville
- Carolina Healthcare - Probst
- Carolina Healthcare – Steele Creek
- Carolina Healthcare - Lincolnton
- Carolina Healthcare – Waxhaw
- Carolina MedCenter Air
- Cascaini LLC
- Catawba Valley Medical Center
- C.S.C Holdings
- Central Helicopters Inc.
- Chamlin, Rosen, Cavanagh & Uliano, P.C.
- Channel 12 News, NY

- Channel 12 News, NJ
- Charles M. Young Esq.
- Chef's D' France
- Chevron Oil Corporation
- Christopher Rade Musulin, Esq.
- Cigna Corporation
- Cirque Lodge
- City & County of Denver, CO
- Clark, Depew & Seiss L.L.P.
- Craig Depew, Esq.
- Clinton Tower Service Inc.
- Cole, Scott & Kissane, P.A.
- Computer Associates, Inc.
- Continental Insurance Company
- Control Dynamics
- Cooper Hospital
- Colonial Pipeline Company
- Cononco Phillips
- Cress & Associates, Inc.
- Cruz Construction Corporation
- Cushman & Wakefield
- David Turock
- David Blumenfeld
- Davis & Davis
- Deborah S. Baird-Diamond Esq.
- Derek Cribbs
- Dialight Corporation
- Doctor & Mrs. Szarko
- Diplomat Trading
- Driscoll Oil Corporation
- Dr. Rick DeBlasi
- Duke Power Facilities
- Duke Power System
- Dugan & Brown, LLP
- Eastcare Medical Program
- East Connecticut Health Network
- ECKO Limited
- Edwards & Kelcey, Inc.
- EMJ/McFarland-Johnson, Inc.
- Ensureplan, Inc
- Enzon Corp.
- Essex Enterprises LLC
- Ewing Cole Inc.
- Excel Aviation Inc.
- Executive Air Fleet
- Expert Resources Inc.
- Exxon Chemical Company
- Exxon Corporation
- Faraci, Guadagnino, Lange & Johns
- Fasken, Martineau, DuMoulin LLP
- Fairfax Hospital
- Fair Oaks Hospital
- Federal Aviation Administration
- Fightertown, U.S.A.
- Flying Tigers Inc.
- Forensic Technical Information Corp.
- Fort Saunders Medical Center
- Franzblau Dratch, PC
- Freedman Cohen Development LLC
- Freiden & Dobrinsky, PA
- Fuller, Johnson & Farrell
- Garden State Hi-Tech Park
- Gateway Center # 3
- Gateway/Pace Aviation
- Georgia Estates
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Glenpointe Associates
- Goodman Associates
- Golden Hands Farm
- Graftwork LLC
- Greg Arnette
- Grounds for Sculpture
- GTE
- G.T. Interactive Software
- Hall's Warehouse Corp.
- Hardcore/Dupont Composites
- Harlan M. Gordon, Esquire
- Harrah's Atlantic City
- HDR Engineers
- HealthEast/Nags Head N.C.
- Helene Fuld Medical Center
- Helicopter Association International
- Helicopter Development Assn.
- Helicopter Solutions Inc.
- Helix Helicopters-Canada
- Heritage Minerals, Inc.

- Hewlett-Packard
- Hiscock & Barclay, LLC
- Hokie Aircraft Company
- Hovtown Corporation
- Hunter & Morton
- ISN Corporation
- Intrepid Heliport Corp.
- Jack Cayre
- Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugal, LLP
- James R. Dugan II, Esquire
- James Gilgore
- James Sinclair
- James Schermerhorn, Esq.
- Janmar Corporation
- Jayne Valley Farm
- Jeffery L. Jacobs, Esq.
- John J. Carlin Jr. Esq.
- John Hopkins, Esq.
- John Kanas
- John Matthews, AIA
- John Mc Dougal, Esq.
- John Payton, Esq.
- John Turak
- Jones Day
- Jordan Cunningham, Esq.
- Joseph J. Brunetti Company
- Joseph Miannecki
- Justice Aviation
- Katich, Wersé & Petillo
- Kellogg Farm
- Kelly & Vistosky
- Kessler, Digiovanni & Jesuele
- Keystone Helicopter Corporation
- Kimball Medical Center
- K. Hovanian Acquisitions
- K. Hovnanian Corporation
- KTR-Phelps Dodge, Indonesia
- Landye, Bennett, Blumstein LLP
- Laughlin Helicopters
- Lerner Corporation
- Leverton Associates Inc
- Liberty Helicopters, Inc.
- Lifestar Helicopter Inc.
- Lomurro, Davison, Eastman & Munoz, P.A.
- Lowe's Home Improvement Co.
- Louisville Gas & Electric
- Madison Square Garden
- Mack-Cali Real Estate
- Maine Medical Center
- Mark Croce
- Mark N. Stageberg, Esq.
- Mainstreet, Inc.
- Maricopa County, AZ Assoc. of Gov.
- Matrix Development Corporation
- Maui Memorial Medical Center
- McInerney, Tom & Paula
- Medical Center of Ocean County
- Medvin & Elberg, P.A.
- Metedeconk National Golf Club
- Methodist Hospital, Philadelphia
- Mid Jersey Helicopters Ltd., Inc.
- Michael D. Parrish, Esq.
- Michael Kierman, Esq.
- Michael Selig, MD
- Miller & Gaudio, P.A.
- Mobil Oil Corporation
- Monk, Robert and Carol
- Monmouth Executive Airport
- Monmouth Medical Center
- Morristown Memorial Hospital
- Najarian Associates
- Nassau Medical Center
- Newcomb Medical Center
- Newport City Development Corp.
- Nicholas Cardwell, Esq.
- Niagara Mohawk Power Corp.
- North Arundel Medical Center
- Nurenberg, Plevin, Heller P.A.
- N.Y. City W. 30th Street Heliport
- N.Y.C. Economic Development Corp.
- Old Bahama Bay
- Omega Engineering Inc.
- ONYX Equities
- Open Wave Systems
- P.A.B. Aviation, Inc.

- Palmer Industries
- Papillion Hawaiian Helicopters Inc.
- Paul T. Cardillo, Esq.
- Pegasus Global Helicopters
- Pelletreau & Pelletreau, P.A.
- Perkins & Will
- Peter Moote, Esq.
- Philip M. Weinstein, Esq.
- Phillip Hunter, Esq.
- Pineville Medical Center
- Pitt County Memorial Hospital
- Playboy Hotel & Casino
- Plano Heart Center
- Poudre Valley Hospital
- Pratt & Whitney Corporation
- Princeton Hospital
- Presbyterian Medical Center
- Proctor, Davis & Ray, Inc.
- Quantrum Publications, Inc.
- Queens Health Systems
- Ramesh K. Menon
- Rancocas Valley Hospital
- Randal A. Wiedemann & Assoc.
- Richard A. Griefinger, Esq.
- Richard F. Hodgkins & Assoc.
- Rockville General Hospital
- Robb & Robb LLC
- Robert Hall
- Robert E. Monk
- Robins Island Holdings L.L.C
- Ronald Istivan, Esq.
- Rocky Mountain Helicopter
- Ronson Aviation
- Ronson Corporation
- Rorer Group, Inc.
- Rotor & Wing
- RTKL Inc.
- Saint Mary's Hospital
- Sam DiFeo
- Sands, Anderson, Marks & Miller
- Saint Mary's Hospital
- Saint Agnes Hospital
- Sailfish Point Homeowners Assn.
- SAP America Inc.
- Schmittinger and Rodriguez, P.A.
- Solgar Vitamin & Herb
- St. Paul Travelers Insurance Co.
- Satellite Technology Implementation, LLC
- Siemens Airfield Solutions
- Shore Development Inc.
- S.O.A.R., Inc.
- Somerset Air Service
- Sony Corporation
- South Jersey Hospital
- St. Agnes Hospital
- Saint Joseph's Healthcare
- State of New Jersey
- State of New York
- Stephen S. Weinstein, P.C.
- Stetler & Guildin Engineering Inc.
- Steven Albers
- Steven Hafif, Esq.
- Steven J. Mianecki
- Stevenson & Ammons L.L.C.
- STIDD Systems, Inc.
- Stuart Investment Inc.
- Stefankiewicz & Barnes, P.C.
- Suburban Hospital
- Summit Associates Inc.
- Supersonic Aviation Corp.
- Synthesis Corporation
- Systems Control Technology, Inc.
- SUNY Health Science Center
- Techmeier Siegler
- Texaco Oil Company
- Temple University Hospital
- Tigert & Ligert, P.A.
- Toll Brothers, Inc.
- Toll Brothers Headquarters
- Thomson Industries Inc.
- Thomas & Paula Mc Inerney
- Thomas Holden
- Township of Warren, NJ
- Tri-Circle Development
- Trans Continental Records

- Tropicana Hotel & Casino
- Travelers Insurance Company
- TSOI/Kobus & Associates
- UNISYS Corporation
- Union Memorial Hospital
- Universal HelAir Inc.
- University of Maryland Trauma Center
- University of Wisconsin
- U.S. Department of Energy
- U.S. Department of Justice
- U.S. Steel Corporation, Indiana
- United States Steel, Michigan
- United States Postal Service
- Upper Marlboro Heliport
- Upstate Medical Center
- USAA Insurance
- Vail Hospital
- Ventura Aviation
- Ventura & Thompson
- Viking Yachts Inc.
- Vincent Jesule, Esq.
- Vonage Corporation
- Voorhees Township, NJ
- V & S Corporation
- WA Golf Company LLC
- W.R. Berkley
- Wall Street Helicopters
- Walter Gezari
- Washington Adventist Hospital
- Washington D.C. Heliport
- Warren Township Planning Board
- Warren Township Council
- Waterbury Hospital
- Wheeler, Goodman, Mazek
- WGMA Inc
- Wells, Singer Rubin & Musulin, PA
- Welch Farm Inc.
- West 30<sup>th</sup> St. Heliport, NYC
- WFAA-Dallas
- Whiteweld, Barrister & Brown Inc.
- White Hall Farm
- Wings Field
- Wilson, Kehoe & Winningham, PA
- William D. Fletcher, Jr. Esq.
- William Jones III, Esq.
- Willowbend Development Corp.
- Willowbend Towers Inc.
- Women & Children's Hospital of Buffalo
- Wright Flight Aviation
- WRAL-TV
- W.R. Berkley Corporation
- W.Z. Inc.
- Zemach Sternberg
- Zurich Insurance Company