

Write a Letter to the Editor

Letters to the editor affect public opinion, educate readers on an issue, and influence public officials. They can help raise awareness about air medical safety among elected officials, and the public.

Remember these simple points:

- **Keep it short.** Check with your newspaper's editorial department on the word limit requirements. Keeping it short also means your important points won't be left out.
- **Be clear.** Stick to one very clear point.
- **Substantiate.** Support your position with facts.
- **Personalize.** Write about your own experience - tell why you care about safety for crews and passengers on EMS flights.
- **Make it local.** Tell how this issue affects your local community.
- **Be polite!**
- **Sign it.** Include your name, address and telephone number. Don't forget to sign and date your letter and include your phone number. Many papers will call and confirm the author before printing the letter.
- **Cite references.** If possible, reference a recent news article – click on [*In the News*](#) to find recent safety-related articles.

Tell the newspaper editor that your issues are important and should be covered.