

## **Helicopter safety advocate receives HAI's Salute to Excellence BLR Aerospace Safety Award**

HAI also announced that Bryan Smith, pilot for the Seminole County (Florida) Sheriff's Office and safety program manager for ALEA, is the 2017 winner of HAI's Salute to Excellence BLR Aerospace Safety Award. This award honors those who have excelled in promoting safety in the helicopter industry and will also be presented at HAI's Salute to Excellence Awards dinner during Heli-Expo.



A pilot since 1992, Bryan Smith flies rotary-and fixed-wing aircraft for the Seminole County Sheriff's Office, where he serves as safety officer and instructor pilot. HAI Photo

Smith has dedicated countless hours to developing and advocating safety solutions for pilots and operators worldwide. A pilot since 1992, he flies

rotary-and fixed-wing aircraft for the Seminole County Sheriff's Office, where he serves as safety officer and instructor pilot.

He has flown both fixed and rotary-winged aircraft in law enforcement aviation for 11 years and has been a regular instructor at aviation events around the world for the last eight years. Smith is also the ALEA safety program manager and works on the U.S. Helicopter Safety Team (USHST), where he has chaired the Safety Management System (SMS) Working Group and served on the Flight Training Working Group. He works as an instructor in aviation safety and SMS, law enforcement tactics, flight training, accident response planning and unit management and marketing strategies.

Since 2012, Smith has supported ALEA members' safety management and program development efforts, safety outreach and education, and development of risk management tools and resources. He has also acted as liaison with other aviation safety organizations.

As chair of the USHST SMS Working Group, Smith led a volunteer team of industry experts to help cut worldwide accident rates and implement SMS. He continues to be an active contributor to this team and has published numerous articles in industry trade publications, such as \*\*\*Vertical 911\*\*\*. He also gives regular safety presentations and leads safety courses around the world.