HAI’s Salute to Excellence MD Helicopters Law Enforcement Award

Jack H. Schonely spent more than 33 years in law enforcement where he dedicated his professional life to promoting professionalism in, and the advancement of, helicopter use in airborne law enforcement in the United States and around the world. He is a nationally recognized expert on suspect tactics and perimeter containment.

Schonely began his law enforcement career as a deputy sheriff in Berks County, Pa., before moving to Los Angeles in 1983 and joining the LAPD. He witnessed the changes in daily police work firsthand and did exhaustive research on suspect tactics, culminating in his book, *Apprehending Fleeing Suspects: Suspect Tactics and Perimeter Containment*. In addition to his book, Jack has been published in many industry magazines.

Working as an LAPD patrol officer, Schonely was involved in perimeters containment on a daily basis. In 1992 he became a K-9 handler within the Metropolitan Division, where he spent the next five years searching for LA’s most dangerous criminals. He worked as a tactical flight officer in LAPD’s Air Support Division, coordinating tactical operations from a helicopter that involved foot pursuits and perimeter containments. He served as chief tactical flight officer and later command pilot, where he served until his retirement in June 2016.

Schonely has participated in more than 2,000 perimeter containments during his career, and he has seen many successes and failures. He has shared this experience with thousands of U.S. and Canadian law enforcement officers and as an instructor for the Airborne Law Enforcement Association and individual agencies. His programs set the standard for tactical flight officer training and perimeter containment operations.

The awards will be presented at the annual Salute to Excellence Awards dinner during HAI HELI-EXPO 2017. HAI HELI-EXPO®, the world’s largest helicopter trade show and exhibition, will be held at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center in Dallas, March 6–9, with the exhibit hall open March 7–9.