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**Helicopter Association International President and CEO Matt Zuccaro
Issues Statement on NTSB Hearing Regarding 2018 East River Accident**

ALEXANDRIA, VA – Today, Helicopter Association International (HAI) issued the following statement from President and CEO Matt Zuccaro in advance of the National Transportation Safety Board’s (NTSB) hearing on the East River, New York, accident investigation:

“On March 11, 2018, a tragic accident with five fatalities occurred on the East River in New York City. Today, the National Transportation Safety Board will unveil the findings of its nearly two-year investigation of the accident and provide further insight into the steps our industry can take to make sure a similar incident never happens again. Helicopter Association International’s top priority is and always has been safety, and along with our operators, we continue to work toward a goal of zero accidents.

“We are grateful to the NTSB and its staff for their efforts to help our industry improve safety standards and make operations safer for pilots and passengers. The NTSB’s continued work to determine the root cause of this accident is critical in helping our industry understand what steps need to be taken to avoid ones like this in the future.”

If journalists have additional questions for Matt, they may reach out to him by email at tailrotor@aol.com or by phone at 914-645-2039.

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