Civil Air Patrol Safety

Reviewing a Safety Significant Occurrence

Terms and Definitions

Objectives

Recognize the terminology you will encounter in reviewing a safety significant occurrence (SSO)

Important Terms and Definitions

- **Safety Significant Occurrence (SSO)** = any observed outcome that resulted in or could have resulted in damage to equipment or a facility, injury to a member, and/or a member illness

- **Mishap** = An occurrence resulting in damage, injury, or illness.

- **Prevention =** Program to ensure risks are properly controlled, and part of commitment to continuous improvement

- **Reporting =** Document indicating what was witnessed or seen as evidence an SSO happened

- **Review =** Thorough analysis of reported SSOs

Definitions Continued

- **First Aid** = Immediate care after illness or injury

- **First Aid Only.** An SSO report designation where a member was injured or became ill but did not receive medical treatment beyond the immediate first aid care following the injury or illness. The actual location at which the first aid was provided is not a factor, whether on site or at a medical facility.

- **Bodily Injury (Injury-Illness)** = Evidence of physical trauma, or illness affecting the body or mind.

- **Damage** = Any physical harm, breakage, marring, or unintended change to a vehicle, aircraft, facility or property

Definitions Continued

- **Near-Miss** = an SSO that did not, but could have resulted in damage to equipment, injury to a member, and/or a member illness

- **Trends** = Multiple occurrences or escalation of a type of a safety outcome or hazard which could indicate an increase in likelihood or severity of an outcome

- **Pre-Existing Conditions** = a prior existing illness, injury, and/or medical & psychological conditions that manifested or was aggravated in the context of a CAP activity – can include dehydration, poor diet, and sleep deprivation

Definitions Continued

- **Incident** = Event associated with aircraft (ACFT) operation from the time a person boards with the intention of flight, all persons disembarked, if any person suffers death or serious injury, or when an ACFT receives substantial damage.

- **Accident** = Mishap resulting in death or serious injury to a person, or substantial damage to an ACFT

- **Serious Injury or Illness** = Injuries of fractures, internal damage, serious burns, or needing hospitalization

- **Substantial Damage** = Damage affecting structural strength of the ACFT, or flight characteristics requiring extensive repairs

Event chain

A series of events culminating in a safety significant occurrence (SSO). Events are observable snapshots that reflect the facts that describe actions or inactions that led to an SSO..

Event chain

Contributing factor

The human and/or non-human factors that contributed to a safety significant occurrence.

Event chain

Contributing factor

Causal factor

The factor or factors that are primarily responsible for a safety significant occurrence and, if addressed, would reduce its likelihood.

Event chain

Contributing factor

Causal factor

Human factor

Factors that contributed to an SSO which relate to interactions between humans and the elements of a system.

Event chain

Contributing factor

Causal factor

Human factor

Non-human factor

Factors beyond human control such as equipment difficulties, natural disasters, and sabotage that cause damage, injury, or illness.

Thank you!