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**Press Release 10-054, 22 September 2010**

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## **For Immediate Release**

### **Utah Active-Duty Soldier Killed in Afghanistan**

DRAPER, Utah – As indicated in an announcement today from the Department of Defense, Orem resident Chief Warrant Officer Matthew G. Wagstaff, died in Afghanistan Sept. 21 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Wagstaff, a graduate of Orem High School and Utah State University, was on his third combat tour overseas, having served once in Iraq and twice in Afghanistan.

He was a member of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division and had served in the Army as a Blackhawk helicopter pilot for 10 years.

The Wagstaff family has released the following statement:

“We appreciate the support and concern expressed by our friends, neighbors and community during this difficult time. Matt died doing what he loved to do – and that was to fly. He was a tremendous husband, son, brother and uncle, and he served his country well.”

The family has asked for privacy as they grieve. Until further notice they will be declining requests for interviews.

Kelvin Brock, a family friend, will serve as family spokesman. He can be reached at (801) 554-2228.

Funeral arrangements are pending.