

**Press Release**

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### **Huey Helicopter to arrive at TASM**

TULSA, Okla. – The Tulsa Air and Space Museum & Planetarium will gain a new addition to the museum as a Bell UH-1 Iroquois helicopter arrives at the museum at noon on Wednesday, December 5. The aircraft will be delivered by one of Melton Truck Lines' Military Pride wrapped trucks.

The Bell UH-1 Iroquois aircraft, nicknamed "Huey", first flew in 1956 and entered full production in 1960. It was the first turbine-powered aircraft to be produced for the United States military and played an integral role throughout the Vietnam War. In total, over 16,000 Huey helicopters have been built since production began and over 7,000 were utilized during Vietnam.

"Not only was the Huey a great workhorse of the Vietnam War, and became a symbol of the era," said Tonya Blansett, Executive Director of the Tulsa Air and Space Museum & Planetarium. "With this aircraft, we hope to honor those who served and remember those who gave their lives in the Vietnam War."

TASM's Huey aircraft is an ongoing restoration project, museum guests will be able to visit regularly and check the ongoing progress. A team of dedicated volunteers led by a Vietnam War veteran, who served as a Huey crew chief, will work on finishing the project. TASM is currently accepting donations to go towards the project. Commemorative bricks to honor a Vietnam War veteran are also available for purchase.

"We are honored to partner with the Tulsa Air and Space Museum on this historical project," said Russ Elliott, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at Melton Truck Lines, Inc. "With nearly 30% of our company consisting of military members, we are always eager to accept opportunities that recognize our veterans. The project's delivery to TASM will serve as an exhibit to be appreciated by all and an exceptional tribute to those who have sacrificed for our country."



#### ***About TASM***

Tulsa Air and Space Museum & Planetarium is the region's hub of science based learning through discovery. Each year, more than 50,000 visitors pass through the museum to explore Tulsa's rich aviation heritage and explore the correlation of science and technology with flight.

Learn more at <https://www.tulsamuseum.org>.

#### ***About Melton Truck Lines, Inc.***

Headquartered in Tulsa, OK, Melton Truck Lines Inc. is an award-winning leader in the air-ride flatbed industry and services the United States, Canada, and Mexico. In business for over 60 years, Melton has offices and terminals in Tulsa, Laredo, El Paso, Birmingham and Masury. For more information, please visit [www.meltontruck.com](http://www.meltontruck.com).

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