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LEAC Pilot wins award

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By Eric Wilson

ROCKFORD (WREX) - American Airlines honors a Rockford area pilot for the work he does when he's not flying for American.

Dave Kennedy also flies helicopters for "LEAC," the Law Enforcement Aviation Coalition. That job is strictly volunteer, supporting police agencies with things like searches and drug enforcement.



Dave's also a first officer at American. The airline just recently gave him the "Spirit of American" award.

Only about 1% of the company's more than 10,000 pilots ever earn the honor. And he's gotten it twice. The first, not long after he started, when his captain got sick. Kennedy says, "Next thing you know he's unconscious and having a seizure and things aren't looking very good. So as a brand new first officer I landed the aircraft without him in Pittsburgh and got him medical attention."



LEAC Pilot Dave Kennedy

Kennedy is also a part-time Rockford Park District police officer and a volunteer driver for the Rock River Valley Blood Center.

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