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DOCKETS

April 20, 1999

U. S. Department of Transportation Dockets  
Docket No. FAA-19995536 -220  
Room Plaza 401,  
400 Seventh St., SW  
Washington, DC 20590

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Gentlemen:

As a frequent traveler throughout the United States, I submit the following comments and opinions pertaining to Security of Checked Baggage on Flights Within the United States, under the authority of 14 C.F.R. part 11.3 1. I enjoy the comfort and ease of flying to the many large and small airports in this country, but with the current terrorist situations around the world, I am concerned with the option given to certificate holders in proposed parts 108.5 (a) (2), (3) and (4).

On April 16, 1999 the Federal Aviation Administration posted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) proposing to amend part 108 of Title 14, C.F.R. In my opinion I believe the proposed parts 108.5 (a) (2), (3) and (4) should not give the certificate holder an option to not carry out the provisions of part 108.12. This could possibly give a potential terrorist a chance to get explosives onto a large aircraft via a connecting flight in witch the certificate holder elects not to carry out the provisions of part 108.12.

Today the detection devises being used such as x-ray machines and dogs, are good but have been around for such a long time terrorist have found ways around these old outdated programs. The Computer Assisted Passenger Screening (CAPS) and Explosives Detection Systems (EDS) described in parts 108.12(a)(1) and 108.12(a)(2) are excellent proposed programs, which would bring much needed updated technology to airport security throughout the U.S.

In summary by shutting down all possible angles potential terrorist may try to use we can keep our skies safe. I believe airport security should be one of the top priorities, not only to make our airports safe from terrorist actions but to also make it an easy and painless experience.

Respectfully,



James P. Leandro