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THE PORT AUTHORITY OF NY & NJ



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September 24, 1999

US Department of Transportation Dockets
Docket No. FAA-1999-6001 - 21
400 Seventh Street SW
Room Plaza 401
Washington, DC 20590

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKET SECTION
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Re: 14 CFR Part 193 – NPRM - PROTECTION OF VOLUNTARILY SUBMITTED INFORMATION

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey offers the following comments as the operator of LaGuardia, John F. Kennedy International, and Newark International Airports.

It is important that the FAA provides a vehicle to encourage the voluntary submission of information that affects aviation safety and security. The proposed rulemaking improves upon existing legislation by allowing the Administrator to designate information as protected without notice to the public whenever circumstances require immediate response.

It is understandable and justified that legal action would be pursued if warranted as a result of disclosure, however, protection from public disclosure should be extended to jurisdictions beyond the FAA whenever the release of the information would affect aviation safety and security. Such protection should also apply to any additional information gathered during the investigation and would therefore include information that is gathered other than voluntarily.

Based on the statement that an entire “national program” can be designated as protected, the term should be defined.

If there are any questions or concerns on the comments submitted, please contact me at (212) 435-6020.

Sincerely,

Nancy J. Johnson, Manager
Security & Operational Programs
Aviation Department

Copy to: F. DiMola, M. Driscoll, J. Jacoby, J. Paternoster, J. Spampanato