

As a business flyer, I think the best means of Prevention of Aircraft Hijacking ATTEMPTS is to 1) Background Check, 2) Train, 3) Properly Equip, and then 4) Widely Publicize

The Background Checks would be for ALL crewmembers: Flight Crews and Cabin Crews. Failure to pass the background check would prevent the individual's working as a crew member on U.S. Flag carriers. Background checks would be repeated on an Annual basis unless evidence demonstrates a need for more frequent checks.

Training would also be for ALL Crew Members and ALL Law Enforcement Officers who wish to obtain it; and would consist of both classroom, pistol range, and situation simulation training. Individuals who fail to complete the necessary training would be removed from active duty as a crew member until such time as the training is completed. Training would be in the proper use of the firearm to KILL a would-be hijacker. In the current climate, no lesser alternative will be widely accepted by the citizens of the U.S.

Equipment for the trained crew members and other law enforcement persons would be compact style 9mm handguns loaded with low velocity frangible ammunition (such as Glazer Safety Slugs). The handguns would be part of the Duty Uniform for all Flight Crews, and would be available to Cabin Crew members through "Button Code" handgun safes concealed at the Galley(s) and on the Beverage Cart. Code procedures would require coordination. Non crew member law enforcement persons would be permitted to carry these on their person while riding as passengers on U.S. flag carriers.

Publicization of the Background Checks, Training, Equipment and Attitude of our newly deployed Aircraft Defense Crews would be critical in deterring anyone from attempting a hijacking.

The terrorist doesn't object to giving his life to accomplish his mission, but would be very hesitant to attempt a hijacking with so little chance of success.

Thus, the integrated system of Background Checks, Training, and Equipping, and Publicity accomplishes the objective of ending hijacking.