

I think pilots should be allowed to carry firearms. I consider pilots to be as carefully screened as most law enforcement agents. They will need to be checked out and there will need to be procedures for use, but pilots are comfortable in dealing with these issues.

I ask you to consider if the firearm will be attached to the pilot or attached to the airplane. Both have advantages and I do not know which has better merit. If the gun is attached to the pilot you have the logistical problem of 15,000 civilians carrying guns to and from the airport each day. You must consider local laws (guns in a car), etc. If the gun is attached to the aircraft it must be secured very well when "not in use". To allow a lot of people, but not everybody, access to anything is a very difficult thing to do. Also, crashworthiness must be considered.

You may also consider having the firearm delivered to and from each flight by a courier. An "Armored Golfcart" delivering guns sounds kind of far fetched but this solution may have less bad aspects than other methods. The obvious problem with this idea is staffing.