

I agree that protecting pilots is a necessity (something I believe they were fighting for long before 9/11), but arming them could pose a problem. The same way terrorists were able to train as pilots they may be able to gain employment with an airline. Not to mention the law suits that will invariably turn up for innocent (and guilty) people being shot at 30,000 feet. And I'm sure there are US citizens out there that are praying to the Taliban every night just waiting for their chance to do something, so background checks on all new hires won't necessarily raise a flag to the danger of arming them. There must be a better way... Maybe some kind of trigger on the yoke that will send an alarm or release gas in the flight deck; maybe do away with airlines and get to know your pilot on each and every charter flight; maybe allow GA to fly without so many restrictions since they are NOT the problem. A gun is everyone's quick answer and is the reason for so many deaths on the street and in homes. Stop the knee-jerk reactions and mull over a real solution, rather than a band-aid fix that will only cause more bloodshed.