

Use and possession of firearms or other methods of defense should be permitted for flight crews. This should be on a strictly volunteer basis. Any crew member who volunteers to carry a firearm would be required to attend a training class along the lines of the Secret Service, FBI or Federal Air Marshall academy training. Preference would be for the Air Marshall training due to its aviation specific training.

Stun guns or other weapons of the type should be of the non-lethal type to prevent fatal injury to the crewmember in the event of a contact usage (where the weapon is used against an assailant in physical contact with the weapon's user). The training requirement for these types weapons could be acquired from a police academy or accredited civilian training academy.

Firearms, by their nature, are lethal and training with firearms should emphasize lethal application. Caliber should be minimum 9mm Parabellum/.38 Special, but not larger than .40 S&W.

Ammunition should be the "Glazer Safety Slug" or other highly frangible bullet to minimize aircraft pressure hull penetration and over penetration of a perpetrator's body, causing secondary wounds to innocent persons.

In addition to the training requirement for the weapons, those who volunteer would be required to undergo emergency medical training to the extent required to treat and stabilize a gunshot victim or a person disabled by electric shock or asphyxiating gases such as "Mace" or the various pepper sprays. The first aid kits currently aboard most airliners are adequate to these tasks.

To assist with training costs, volunteers would be required to pay not more than \$1000.00 for the required training, with the balance to be paid by their employer.