

NOTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

N 8900.363

National Policy

Effective Date:
5/17/16

Cancellation Date:
5/17/17

SUBJ: Washington DC FRZ Airport Access and TSA Airman Vetting Process

1. Purpose of This Notice. The General Aviation and Commercial Division (AFS-800), in coordination with the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), has streamlined the process and guidance to grant access for airmen to use airports inside the inner ring of restricted airspace within the Washington, DC Special Flight Rules Area (SFRA) known as the Flight Restricted Zone (FRZ). The application process is a function of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and is managed by the TSA Maryland Three (MD-3) Program.

2. Audience. The primary audience for this order is Flight Standards aviation safety inspectors (ASI), their managers and supervisors, and other operational and administrative employees. The secondary audience includes Flight Standards branches and divisions in the regions and in headquarters (HQ).

3. Where You Can Find This Notice. You can find this notice on the MyFAA employee Web site at https://employees.faa.gov/tools_resources/orders_notices. Inspectors can access this notice through the Flight Standards Information Management System (FSIMS) at <http://fsims.avs.faa.gov>. Operators can find this notice on the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Web site at <http://fsims.faa.gov>. This notice is available to the public at http://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/orders_notices.

4. Background. Previously the FAA was using an internal Quality Management System (QMS) process, AFS-EA27-039, DC-3 Airports Vetting/TFR Review Process. This process was not in agreement with the TSA's requirements under Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (49 CFR) part 1562 and as a result, it led to additional work by the FAA, airman confusion, and delays in processing applications.

5. Action. AFS-800 will retain responsibility for overall TSA coordination, policy and procedures in regard to the TSA MD-3 Program. The AFS-EA27-039 DC-3 Airports Vetting/TFR Review Process is cancelled. Offices should follow the guidance as described in Order 8900.1, Volume 9, Chapter 3, Section 1, TSA and FAA Process to Grant Access to Restricted Airspace. This guidance will direct airmen to the TSA Web page <https://www.tsa.gov/for-industry/general-aviation> for initiating applications on TSA Form 418. Inquiries regarding Safety Performance Analysis System (SPAS) violations noted by TSA should be directed to AFS-800.

Note: Please note that under the new process, the TSA will conduct their own SPAS inquiries for airman violations. If for some reason the TSA has SPAS access issues during the transition, they should direct the airman vetting to the AFS-800 point of contact (POC) for processing.

6. Disposition. We will incorporate the information in this notice into Order 8900.1 before this notice expires. Direct any questions concerning this notice to the Commercial Operations Branch (AFS-820) at (202) 267-1100.

ORIGINAL SIGNED by

/s/ John Barbagallo
Deputy Director, Flight Standards Service