



Press Release

TSA: Readout of Reestablished Aviation Security Advisory Committee's First Meeting

WASHINGTON – Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Administrator John S. Pistole today kicked off the first meeting of the reestablished Aviation Security Advisory Committee. ASAC is TSA's sole Federal advisory committee that gives the agency recommendations for improving aviation security methods, equipment, and procedures.

There were approximately 60 participants in the meeting, including advisory committee members, representatives from several government agencies, and members of the public.

"I appreciate the new Aviation Security Advisory Committee member's service and dedication to helping TSA strengthen its layered approach to aviation security," said TSA Administrator John S. Pistole. "I am confident that TSA and the broader traveling public stand to benefit from these meetings and the committee members' experience, expertise, and counsel."

During the meeting, committee members discussed ASAC's charter and by-laws, formed working groups, and settled on topics for future meetings. In addition to the status of general aviation and air cargo initiatives, TSA representatives updated participants on several new screening concepts being tested at select airports as part of TSA's risk-based security approach, including the TSA Pre✓™ prescreening initiative, the Known Crew Member initiative designed to expedite airline pilots screening, and the expanded use of behavior detection in airports around the country.

TSA also announced that ASAC will be chaired by a private sector committee member for the first time since its establishment. Member-nominated chairpersons will help develop committee working groups and establish priorities.

ASAC enhances TSA's security posture through consultation with key partners concerning potential risks to infrastructure, passengers, and cargo. In addition, ASAC gathers input from stakeholders on the effectiveness of security procedures and develops recommendations for improvements to aviation security methods.

Last month, Administrator Pistole announced the appointment of 24 new ASAC members following their confirmation by Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano.

For more information on ASAC, visit www.tsa.gov.

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