



OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COMMANDER
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
CIVIL AIR PATROL
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY
MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, ALABAMA 36112-6332

31 May 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR REGION AND WING COMMANDERS

SUBJECT: Updated Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Security Directive 8G

1. Thanks to the efforts of CAP, the Air Force, AOPA and a number of other GA organizations, TSA issued an updated Security Directive (SD) on 29 May for all commercial-service airports.
2. Updated SD-8G goes into effect on 1 June and reduces the originally planned security restrictions for transient pilots flying into commercial-service airports. It clarifies and corrects some of the issues that the GA community objected to in SD-8F. As reported by AOPA, under the new directive transient pilots who fly into commercial-service airports no longer need to get an airport badge or background check. However, they must remain close to their aircraft, leaving it only to walk to and from the fixed-base operator, service provider, or airport exit. The TSA also said it will make provisions for self-fueling operations and grant allowances for emergency situations.
3. Aircrews who are based at commercial-service airports will still have to comply with some new rules. CAP aircrew members in units that use airport facilities, like a hangar or tie down area, will still need to get a badge in order to have unescorted access to the airport where they are regularly based. But, according to AOPA, the TSA did grant airport operators some flexibility with the new SD. The badge requirement can be waived if the airport operator approves an alternative, such as an escort program.
4. There are still a lot of unknowns at this point. We are working on initiatives with GA organizations and the Air Force to lessen the impact the SD will have on our members. Our recommendation is to move as many CAP aircraft as possible to non-commercial-service airports until all our efforts to lessen the restrictions have been exhausted. We will keep you informed as new developments occur. You can also get the latest updates directly from AOPA's website at <http://www.aopa.org/>.
5. CAP, the Air Force, TSA and others all have roles in the mission of Homeland Security. While the current situation may create added steps and pressure for our training and missions, please remember that we must all work as one team for America. Our watchword is CAP's core value of respect.
6. Ensure a culture of safety in everything you do. You are our most important asset.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Amy S. Courter".

AMY S. COURTER
Major General, CAP
National Commander

cc:

HQ CAP/CC/CV/CS/SE/EX/EXM/ED/PM/GC/DO/LG/XP/GVR/NOC
Senior Advisor for Operations (Col Skiba)
Senior Advisor for Administration (Col Guimond)
HQ CAP-USAF/CC
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