



**Transportation  
Security  
Administration**

Docket No. TSA-2004-19147

In the Matter of Flight Schools and Individuals Subject to 49 CFR part 1552

Grant of an Exemption from the Requirements for the Recurrent Security Awareness Training to occur in the same month as the initial Security Awareness Training as indicated in 49 CFR 1552.23 (d)(1).

**SUMMARY:**

This exemption is in response to comments received from flight school owners and operators concerning the restrictive nature of the annual recurrent security awareness training requirement in 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1552.23 (d)(1). It requires recurrent training to be accomplished in the same month as initial training in subsequent years. In order to facilitate more efficient recurrent security awareness training, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) is exempting flight schools (including independent Certified Flight Instructors, CFIs) from this requirement and is allowing their first recurrent security awareness training to be accomplished within 18 months of an individual's initial security awareness training.

**BACKGROUND:**

On September 20, 2004, TSA published an interim final rule (IFR) that requires flight school employees who have contact with students will receive initial security awareness training. Initial security awareness training first became available via the internet in late October of 2004. The target date for completion of initial training was 18 January, 2005 but technology limitations prevented many independent CFIs from completing the training on time.

The rule also requires that flight schools including independent CFIs have annual recurrent security awareness training in the same month as their initial training. TSA received comments from flight school operators, owners, and independent CFIs suggesting the timeframe for completing recurrent security awareness training was too restrictive. Owners and operators are under the opinion that providing recurrent training to all their subject employees at the same time each year would be more efficient for their training departments. Allowing the first recurrent training to be accomplished within 18 months of initial training will provide sufficient flexibility

for individuals and training departments. In addition, this exemption should simplify flight school training record keeping and reduce the costs associated with complying with the recurrent security awareness training requirement.

Under 49 U.S.C. § 114(r), TSA may grant an exemption from a regulation prescribed in carrying out the agency's duties if the agency determines that the exemption is in the public interest.

After considering the comments received from the interested and affected parties noted above, TSA has determined that a consistent approach for the completion of recurrent security awareness training is in the public interest, so that training efficiency can be enhanced and required record keeping simplified.

**Exemption:**

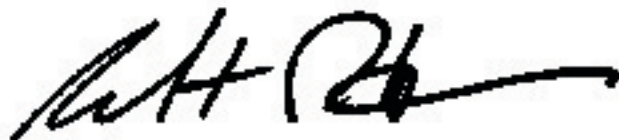
Accordingly, TSA is granting an exemption from 49 CFR 1552.23(d)(1) to all flight schools and independent CFIs. The flight school or independent CFI may take up to but no longer than 18 calendar months from completion of the initial security awareness training course to complete their first recurrent security awareness training. This exemption is subject to the following conditions and limitations:

1. This exemption will remain in effect until 1 January, 2007.
2. This exemption applies only to the requirements of the Flight School Security awareness training recurrent training requirement as stated in 49 CFR 1552.23(d)(1).

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact:

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