



**NTSB** National Transportation Safety Board

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# HAI Public Aircraft Forum

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Board Member

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# National Transportation Safety Board

- Framework
  - Independent Agency
  - Five Member Board
- Function
  - Investigate and establish facts, circumstances, and cause/probable cause of transportation accidents
  - Promote transportation safety

# Crash During Takeoff of Carson Helicopters, Inc. , Firefighting Helicopter Under Contract to the U.S. Forest Service

- Accident

- Near Weaverville, CA - August 5, 2008
- Sikorsky S-61N helicopter
- Owned by Carson Helicopters; under contract to U.S. Fire Service
- Operation was considered a public aircraft operation
- 9 fatalities, including the pilot in command, the safety crewmember and 7 firefighters

- NTSB Accident Investigation Report

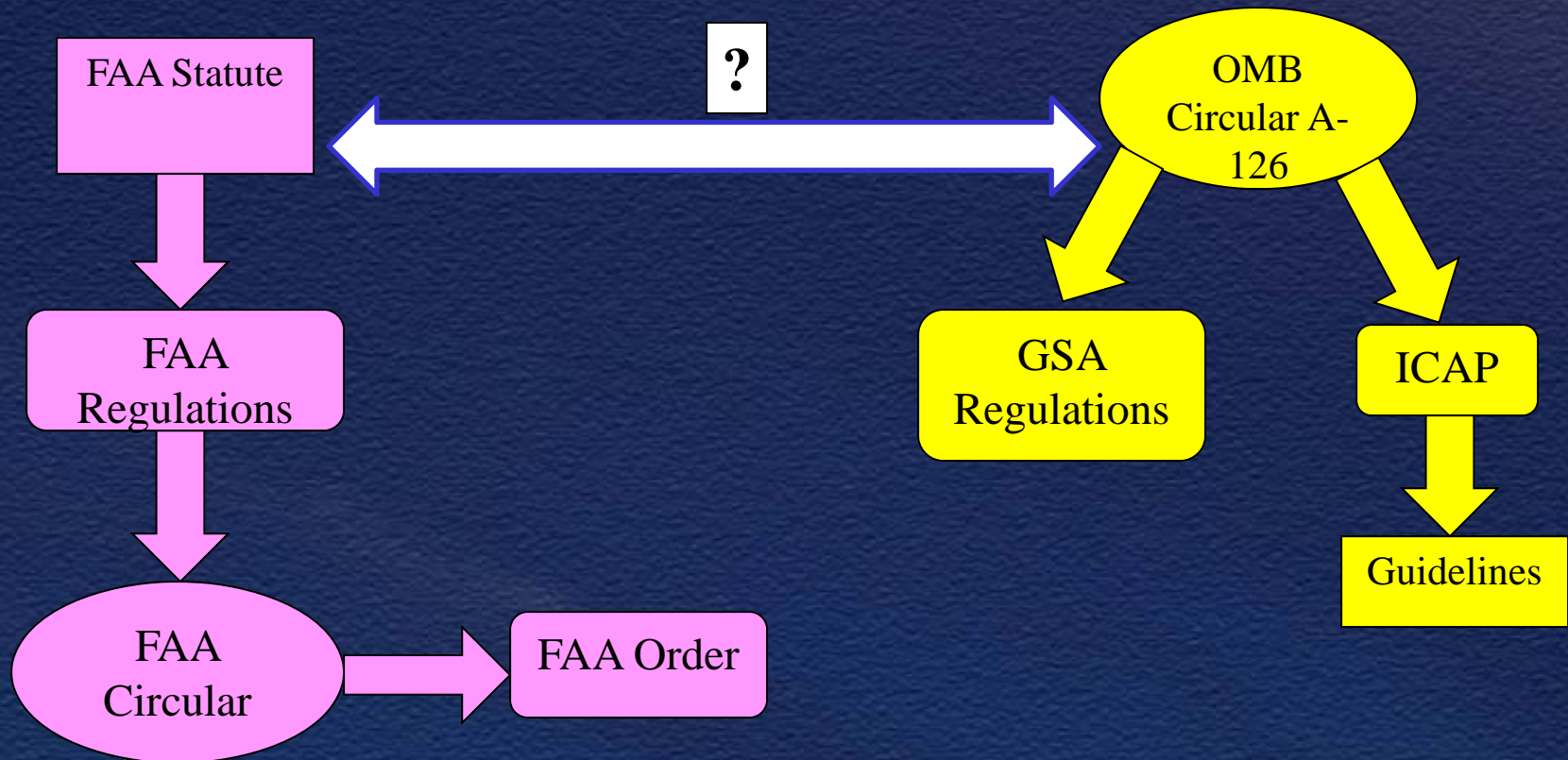
- Approved December 7, 2010
- Probable Cause
- Recommendations

# Carson Investigation

- Accident Report highlights re: Public Use
  - Report details
  - Past history
  - Findings

# Public Aircraft Operations

## Governing framework



# Public Aircraft Operations

## FAA Authority

No Authority  
(Statute)

FAA says  
no  
authority,  
by statute  
49 US  
Code:  
§44701  
§40102  
§40125

Limited Authority  
(Regulation)

FARS – prescribe  
limited authority  
14 CFR  
Part 133 –  
Rotorcraft  
External-Load  
operations  
Part 137 –  
Agricultural  
operations

Unclear – both  
(Advisory Circular)

FAA AC –  
00-1.1 –  
Suggests no  
authority;  
but, restates  
authority  
under FAR  
Parts 133  
& 137

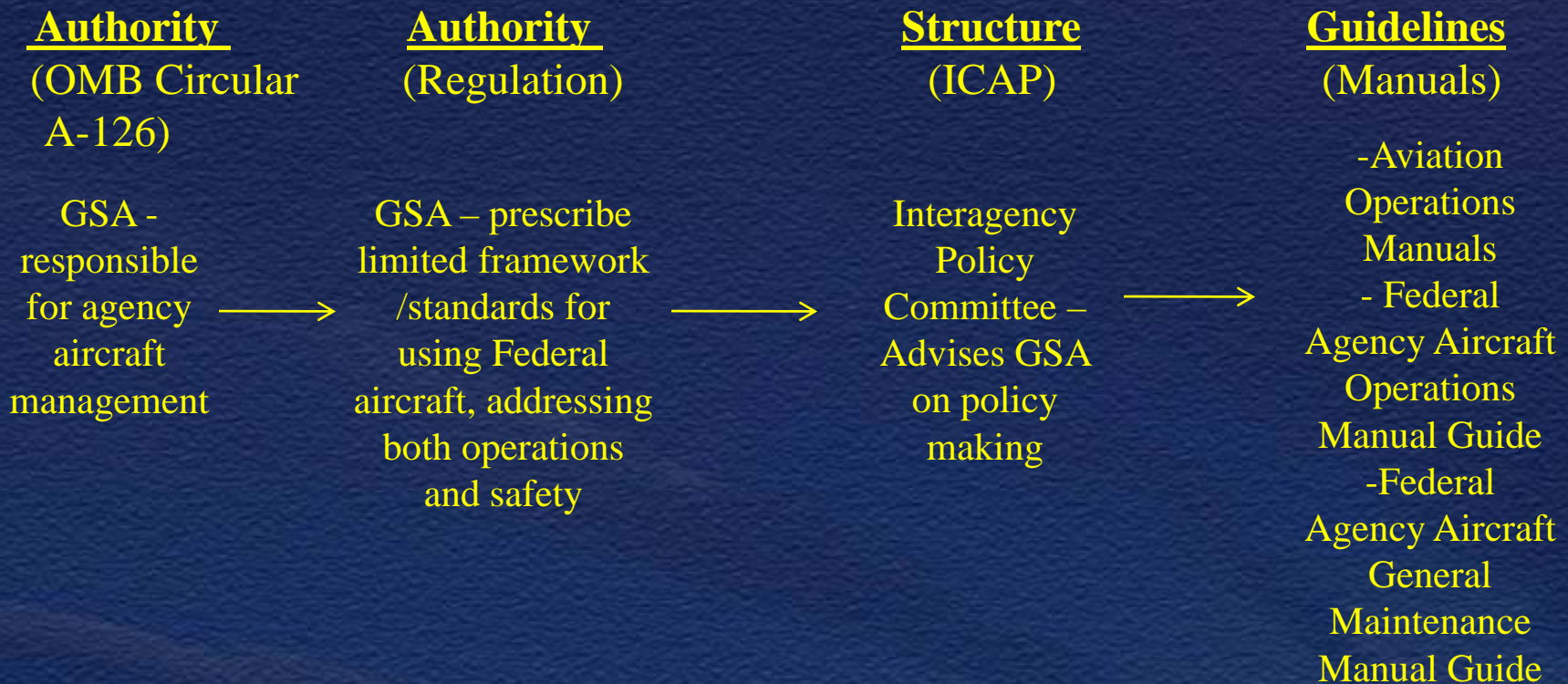
Authority  
(FSIMS)

FAA Order –  
8900.1 – directs  
inspectors to  
conduct  
surveillance  
activities;  
monitor –  
suggests  
oversight  
authority



# Public Aircraft Operations

## GSA Authority



# Public Aircraft Operations

- Recommendation A-10-150 – issued to FAA

“Take appropriate actions to clarify Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) authority over public aircraft, as well as identify and document where such oversight responsibilities reside in the absence of FAA authority.”





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