



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
National Policy

**ORDER
8025.1C**

Effective Date:
03-12-2008

SUBJ: Medical Responsibilities in Aerospace Incidents and Accidents

1. Purpose of This Order. This order establishes the Office of Aerospace Medicine (AAM) responsibilities in the analysis of medical factors related to aerospace incidents and accidents.

2. Audience. Office of Aerospace Medicine personnel.

3. Where Can I Find This Order. You can find this order on the MyFAA Employee website: https://employees.faa.gov/tools_resources/orders_notices/.

4. What This Order Cancels. FAA Order 8025.1B, Medical Investigation of Aircraft Accidents, dated February 16, 1984, is cancelled.

5. Explanation of Policy Changes. This revision removes references to Aviation Medical Examiner participation in accident investigation and revises the AAM responsibilities for the Regional Medical Offices (RMO) and the Civil Aerospace Medical Institute (CAMI) regarding this Order.

6. Activities. Public and private organizations/individuals rely upon the analysis of biomedical data from aerospace incidents and accidents for a variety of purposes. This program is part of a systems safety approach to measuring aviation safety outcomes of interest to aerospace medical authorities and is a valuable data source for the AVS Safety Management Systems. Relevant medical information is received at CAMI. Specific activities related to fatal and non-fatal incidents and accidents include:

a. Toxicology specimens are analyzed by the Bioaeronautical Sciences Research Laboratory (AAM-610).

b. Autopsy and injury data are sent for analysis to the Aeromedical Protection and Survival Research Laboratory (AAM-630).

Medical personnel are responsible for reviewing the Administrator's Daily Alert Bulletin published by the Office of Emergency Operations and Communications (AEO-100) for reports of aerospace accidents and incidents. Those incidents and accidents meeting certain criteria may require further aeromedical analysis to enhance the safety of the National Airspace System.

7. Responsibilities. The following offices are responsible for the following functions.

a. The Office of Aerospace Medicine shall coordinate and manage all responsibilities for the analysis of biomedical data collected from aerospace incidents and accidents.

b. Regional Medical Offices shall provide assistance to agency personnel or external customers when requested.

c. Civil Aerospace Medical Institute shall:

(1) Conduct toxicologic analysis and arrange for any other studies deemed appropriate on specimens from aerospace incidents and accidents.

(2) Obtain, store, and analyze incident and accident reports, autopsy, toxicology, medical certification information, aircraft occupant injury, in-flight aircrew incapacitation, and other human performance information on airmen involved in aerospace incidents and accidents.

(3) Establish aerospace medical research databases that comply with current Privacy Act and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requirements, to allow determination of possible contributions of various medical and human factors in accidents and incidents.

(4) Conduct biomedical research utilizing incident and accident data.

(5) Conduct research into methodology of post incident/accident specimen analysis

(6) Recommend additional research as appropriate.

(7) Work collaboratively with appropriate stakeholders to obtain incident and accident information that promotes aviation safety.

(8) Manage the AAM aerospace accident autopsy process.

(a) Assist the NTSB or the FAA IIC in arranging for autopsies and collection of toxicology specimens in cases where local authorities do not do so.

(b) Budget for and arrange for payment of autopsies and notify FSDO of CAMI's intent of willingness to pay for requested aircrew autopsies.

(c) Develop policy and procedures that establish the criteria for the authorization and payment for autopsies conducted on the victims of fatal aviation accidents.

(9) Participate in incident and accident investigations as requested.

(10) Provide training in the medical investigation of aerospace incidents and accidents.

(11) Provide periodic reports regarding biomedical aspects of aerospace incidents and accidents.

8. Funding. Funds for these activities shall be requested through the normal budgetary process.

9. Distribution. This order is distributed to director level in Washington, except in the Office of Aerospace Medicine, where it is distributed to division level in regions, CAMI; Office of Accident Investigation where it is distributed to branch level; and Flight Standards District Offices.



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