Memorandum

Subject: <u>INFORMATION</u>: Audit Announcement – Review of FAA's Efforts To Improve Its System for Tracking Controller Training
Federal Aviation Administration
Project No. 10A3003A000

Date: November 18, 2009

From: Lou E. Dixon
Assistant Inspector General
for Aviation and Special Program Audits

Reply to Attn. of: JA-10

To: Assistant Administrator for Financial Services
and Chief Financial Officer

On June 8, 2009, we issued our audit report to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), "Training Failures Among Newly Hired Air Traffic Controllers." Overall, we found that FAA's system for tracking training failures was ineffective and that the data in FAA's national tracking system were incomplete, inaccurate, or understated. We made several recommendations to focus FAA's efforts on developing procedures to obtain accurate data on training failures so it can effectively monitor and improve its controller training program. FAA agreed with our recommendations and established acceptable timeframes for implementation.

The House Appropriations Committee Report directed us to update the both House and Senate Appropriations Committees by March 15, 2010, on FAA's progress. Accordingly, we plan to begin an audit later this month; our audit objective is to evaluate FAA's actions taken to improve its system for tracking the training progress of newly hired controllers.

We will contact your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Dan Raville, Program Director, at (202) 366-1405 or Bob Romich, Project Manager, at (202) 366-6478.

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cc: FAA Deputy Administrator
Anthony Williams, ABU-100
Martin Gertel, M-1