From:

Duff Ortman/ASO/FAA

To:

cc:

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Date:

Thursday, January 12, 2006 05:26AM

Subject: Re: LEX Authorized Staffing

## Darryl,

Presently, LEX is authorized 19 CPCs, a number which is less than other comparable Level 7 facilities that operate 24 hours. Within our own Hub, CHA and TRI are funded at one less CPC than LEX but only operate part-time. Given the ETSA guidance to increase staffing on the midshift, I am requesting an increase in staffing to 21 CPCs. The justification for this request is based upon the following:

- 1. The agency has failed to approve LEX for a reduction in operating hours, a proposal originally submitted in 2004.
- 2. An airspace reclassification is required at LEX before ZID can assume radar services on the midshift. That process will likely take a year (according to AEA-530) and approval is uncertain.
- 3. The Service Area Director has directed LEX to immediately double staffing on the midshift.
- 4. Despite the fact that ETSA endorsed a proposal to reduce operating hours at LEX, the Service Area Director will not grant LEX relief from this new staffing requirement.
- 5. LEX is operating at staffing levels below that of similar Level 7 24 hour facilities. CAE, for example, is funded at 21 CPCs.
- 6. The LEX support specialist is currently being scheduled operationally. Supervisors and CICs routinely work operating positions in combination with fulfilling oversight responsibilities. There is no more rubber band to stretch.
- 7. Without a concurrent increase in facility staffing, the requirement to increase midshift staffing creates an overtime liability. The FY06 LEX OT budget included a request for \$17,000. An additional \$75,000 in OT will be needed to meet the ETSU midshift staffing mandate (approx. \$500 per day for April-Sept). This would put the LEX FY06 OT budget at \$92,000.

8. The LEX FY05 funded number of CPCs was 20. We currently operate at 19.

For the above reasons, I am respectfully requesting an increase in staffing to 21 CPCs or a FY06 overtime budget not to exceed \$92,000.

Duff Ortman ATM, ETSA/LEX