

Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation G-IV
Bedford, Massachusetts
May 31, 2014
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**NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

ATTACHMENT 7

FAA LETTER TO MASSPORT BEDFORD 12/23/2011

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U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Office of Associate Administrator
for Airports

800 Independence Ave., SW.
Washington, DC 20591

DEC 23 2011

Ms. Barbara Patzner
Laurence G Hanscom Field Airport
200 Hanscom Drive
Bedford, MA 01730

Dear Ms. Patzner:

I am writing you about an agreement between the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Department of Defense (DOD) on aircraft rescue and fire fighting (ARFF) services provided by the DOD units at title 14 CFR, part 139, (Part 139) certificated airports. I also want to clarify your responsibilities as the airport sponsor under part 139.

As you may know, the DOD informed the FAA of the DOD policy and Federal statute which does not permit the FAA to inspect DOD controlled airfields or military ARFF facilities, equipment, and records at airports where DOD provides ARFF services for civilian part 139 airport operators. The DOD asserts this position because it is not subject to the provisions of part 139 or the oversight of the FAA.

Airport operators holding an FAA Airport Operating Certificate must comply with each section of 14 CFR part 139. Although, the military unit provides the ARFF coverage at Laurence G Hanscom Field Airport, you, as the certificate holder are responsible for ensuring compliance with 14 CFR part 139 ARFF requirements.

To help ensure Laurence G Hanscom Field Airport meets these requirements, FAA and DOD officials developed a process to assure the FAA and airport operators that the military ARFF services meet or exceed DOD and the National Fire Protection Association standards equivalent to part 139 requirements. The DOD provided ARFF standards, training, and inspection procedures to the FAA for review. The FAA determined that the standards and procedures are equivalent to the ARFF requirements of 14 CFR part 139.

Therefore, we developed a protocol for airport sponsors to use to demonstrate they meet their part 139 safety inspection requirements where the military provides ARFF services. Under this protocol, airport operators receive documentation from DOD ARFF providers every January beginning in 2012. In addition to receiving the annual documentation, airport operators should request their DOD ARFF providers update documentation prior to their annual FAA part 139 safety inspection. The airport operator must provide the completed documentation to the FAA Airport Certification Safety Inspector during the annual part 139 inspection to demonstrate compliance with the ARFF requirements. The DOD will provide guidance to its ARFF providers on how to complete the documentation.

This protocol does not change any current procedures or agreements you, as the airport operator, have with your local DOD ARFF provider. This only applies to the documentation that you must provide to the FAA Airport Certification Safety Inspector during your part 139 inspection demonstrating ARFF compliance.

We believe this process will help resolve issues concerning inspection for compliance with ARFF requirements at part 139 airports where the military provides ARFF services.

If you have additional questions or issues which emerge, please contact Michael J. O'Donnell, Director of Airport Safety and Standards, AAS-1 at

[REDACTED] or by email at; [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Catherine M. Lang
Deputy Associate Administrator
for Airports