

The Alabama Northwest Florida Flight Standards District Office

Certified Flight Instructor Special Emphasis Program

Statement of Intent

The Alabama Northwest Florida Flight Standards District Office (ASO-FSDO-09) will establish and implement a Certified Flight Instructor Special Emphasis Program (CFI/SEP) during the 2006 fiscal year. The Certified Flight Instructor Special Emphasis Program will be established to provide more direct FAA involvement in flight instructor training operations and flight evaluations occurring within the Alabama Northwest Florida Flight Standards District Office geographical area. The ultimate goal of the program is to eliminate aviation accidents and incidents.

The Certified Flight Instructor Special Emphasis Committee (CFI/SEC) will consist of, but is not limited to, FAA Inspectors and all of the Designated Pilot Examiners (DPE's) in the FSDO-09 geographic area. The team's goal is to maintain program efficiency and standardization within the flight instructor and flight training community. The Alabama Northwest Florida primary team will consist of the FSDO Manager, 6 Operations inspectors, 2 Airworthiness inspectors, Operations SPM's, Airworthiness SPM, all of the DPE's of the SO-09 district office and any resources available from Aviation Safety Program staff.

The Flight Instructor Special Emphasis Program is being implemented in response to the FAA identifying flight instructor's weakness as a major contributing factor to the overall quality of the pilot community. This project will continue until further notice, as directed by the Office Manager. Special emphasis is placed on increased surveillance of instructor activity within this district, to include reexamination of those airmen who fail to meet their instructional responsibilities. Vigorous investigation and discussion of all accidents and incidents involving flight instructors or student pilots will be mandated. The team will meet at least quarterly to develop a plan of action and to determine the best methods to implement those plans. The program will also include increased monitoring of Part 141 flight schools, which hold self-examining authority for initial flight instructor certification.

Each Principal Operations Inspector (POI) from our major FAR Part 141 Approved Schools, holding "Flight Instructor Self Examining Authority", should monitor course completion tests and report any findings that need to be addressed. Each of these schools may be required to notify their POI of all initial flight instructor course completion tests to be administered by them in order to accommodate ASO-FSDO-09 surveillance activities.

All requests for initial flight instructor practical tests received by this office will be given highest priority to be assigned to FAA Inspectors, when resources allow, or given to a select group of highly trained and qualified DPE's. DPE's will be

assigned whenever necessary to assure sufficient resources are available to meet public needs, thus avoiding scheduling backlog.

To accomplish testing consistency among our examining team, a series of standardization meetings will be conducted prior to beginning this program. Thoughts will be collected from the members and organized into a forum, which will be disseminated to the flight instructor and DPE community.

The Alabama Northwest Florida FSDO Safety Program Managers are required to develop CFI Workshops and 141 Flight School seminars and will conduct at least three during the 2006 fiscal year. Special programs and activities to support and enhance the Flight Instructor Special Emphasis Program will be developed and implemented as needs are identified. These seminars will be dedicated to helping flight instructors better understand their responsibilities and to promote a cooperative partnership within the flight training community and FAA, Flight Standards. The Alabama Northwest Florida Flight Standards District Office is committed to the effort of eliminating aviation accidents.

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