

James J. Ballough
Director, Flight Standards Service
Federal Aviation Administration

Jim Ballough joined the Federal Aviation Administration in August 1986 and was appointed as the Director, Flight Standards Service in December 2001. His organization of 4800 employees is responsible for promoting the Safety of Flight for civil aircraft by setting regulations and standards for air carriers, air agencies, general aviation, airmen, and designees. Flight Standards also is responsible for the certification, inspection, surveillance, investigation, and enforcement of the Federal Aviation Regulations. In addition, the organization manages the aircraft and airmen official registry system.



Before his appointment as the Director, Mr. Ballough served as the Acting Manager, Continuous Maintenance Division, at the FAA Washington headquarters. Prior to coming to headquarters, Mr. Ballough served in Flight Standards Eastern Region positions including the Regional Division Manager, Assistant Division Manager, and Technical Branch Manager.

Mr. Ballough also held the position of Supervisory Principal Maintenance Inspector assigned to the Pittsburgh Flight Standards District. As the Principal Maintenance Inspector, he was assigned oversight responsibilities for a major FAR part 121 air carrier. During his tenure at the Pittsburgh office, he served on a number of national committees and was an advocate of Human Factors and the role they play in aircraft maintenance.

Prior to his joining the FAA, Mr. Ballough held a variety of airworthiness positions with a major air carrier. Previously, Mr. Ballough served in the United States Army with an Honorable Discharge in 1973.

Mr. Ballough is the holder of a FAA mechanic certificate with an Airframe and Powerplant rating.

He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. He has also studied at Harvard University--Kennedy School of Government, Florida Atlantic University, and the Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics.

Mr. Ballough is married, with two children. His hobbies include golf, skiing, reading, and various computer related activities.