

# NOTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

N 8900.186

National Policy

Effective Date:  
4/30/12

Cancellation Date:  
4/30/13

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**SUBJ:** Federal Air Marshal Exemption from the Carry-On Baggage Limitations

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**1. Purpose of This Notice.** This notice advises principal operations inspectors (POI) and cabin safety inspectors (CSI) of revisions to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Order 8900.1, concerning the flexibility to exempt Federal Air Marshals (FAM) traveling on official business from the carry-on baggage limitations in compliance with Federal regulations.


**2. Audience.** The primary audience for this notice is the POIs and CSIs responsible for the approval and surveillance of Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 121 air carrier manuals and training programs. The secondary audience includes Flight Standards Service (AFS) branches and divisions in the regions and in headquarters (HQ).

**3. Where You Can Find This Notice.** You can find this notice on the MyFAA employee Web site at [https://employees.faa.gov/tools\\_resources/orders\\_notices](https://employees.faa.gov/tools_resources/orders_notices). Inspectors can access this notice through the Flight Standards Information Management System (FSIMS) at <http://fsims.avs.faa.gov>. Operators can find this notice on the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Web site at <http://fsims.faa.gov>. This notice is available to the public at [http://www.faa.gov/regulations\\_policies/orders\\_notices](http://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/orders_notices).

**4. Background.** The FAA has revised Order 8900.1, Volume 9, Chapter 2, Section 1, Minimum Crew Requirements for Boarding and Presence of Federal Air Marshals, to include Air Marshals in the "Trusted Traveler" classification. These FAMs are exempt from the carry-on baggage limitations of revenue passengers. On occasion FAMs travel internationally with their firearms, but they are prohibited from entering a foreign country with their firearm on their person and have requested a special exemption to allow the carriage of a third carry-on bag to accommodate their required firearm. The FAA encourages air carriers to consult with the principal security inspector (PSI) and to develop discreet procedures to allow the carriage of an additional bag in addition to the carry-on bag and personal item.

**5. Action.** POIs assigned to a certificate holder that operates under part 121 should advise air carriers of the revisions to 8900.1. Is the part 121 operators submits a revised carry-on baggage program that incorporates this guidance, POIs may approve it.

**6. Disposition.** We will permanently incorporate this notice into FAA Order 8900.1. Direct questions concerning the information in this notice to the Air Transportation Division, (AFS-220) Survival Factors Team Coordinator at 202-267-8166.

for 

John M. Allen  
Director, Flight Standards Service