

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

N 8900.733

National Policy

Effective Date: 4/17/25

Cancellation Date: 4/17/26

## **SUBJ:** Implementation of Section 807 of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024: Response to Letter of Investigation

**1. Purpose of This Notice.** This notice announces a new time for reply period in which certain individuals who receive a Letter of Investigation (LOI) may provide a response. With immediate effect, an applicable individual who is provided an LOI is entitled to 30 days after receipt to provide comments on the incident to the investigating office. This notice contains guidance that is pertinent to Title 49 of the United States Code (49 U.S.C.) Chapter 447.

**2.** Audience. The primary audience for this notice is the Flight Standards (FS) Safety Assurance offices responsible for issuing LOIs. The secondary audience includes the Office of Safety Standards (OSS).

**3.** Where You Can Find This Notice. You can find this notice on the MyFAA employee website at https://employees.faa.gov/tools\_resources/orders\_notices and the Dynamic Regulatory System (DRS) at https://drs.faa.gov. Operators and the public can find this notice on the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) website at https://www.faa.gov/regulations\_policies/orders\_no tices and DRS.

## 4. Background.

**a.** The FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024 (H.R. 3935) was signed into law by the President on May 16, 2024. It contains Section 807, Response to Letter of Investigation, that includes self-enacting statutory language amending the Pilot's Bill of Rights (PBR) (49 U.S.C. § 44703). With immediate effect, an individual<sup>1</sup> who is provided an LOI is entitled to 30 days after receipt to provide comments on the incident to the investigating office.

**b.** Current LOI instructions in FAA Order 2150.3, FAA Compliance and Enforcement Program, and letter templates in FAA Order 8900.1, Flight Standards Information Management System, generally provide for a 10-day response time. However, per Section 807, effective immediately, investigative personnel shall indicate a 30-day response time allowance in applicable LOIs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Section 807 and this notice apply only to individual airmen for whom the PBR is relevant. These individuals are defined as holders of pilot, flight instructor, flight engineer, aircraft dispatcher, mechanic, mechanic Inspection Authorization, repairman, parachute rigger, control tower operator, remote pilot, or airman medical certificates.

**Note:** As the 30-day time to reply requirement applies to the LOI, other correspondence between the FAA and an applicable individual, including initial inquiries or letters used to contact an airman suspected of a deviation or noncompliance, do not have the same statutorily-defined response period. An LOI will include an Enforcement Investigative Report (EIR) number (i.e., a case number) in accordance with the template provided in Order 8900.1, Volume 14, Chapter 1, Section 3, Providing Compliance Program Explanation and Pilot's Bill of Rights Written Notification.

**c.** A memo titled "Interim Implementation of Section 807 of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024: Time for Reply to Letter of Investigation," was published on September 19, 2024.<sup>2</sup> This memo provided initial awareness of Section 807's new requirement; however, it is superseded by this notice that expands on the expectations for FS personnel.

**5.** Action. When generating an LOI to an applicable individual and emergency action is not anticipated, investigative personnel shall request a response within 30 days after receipt for any voluntarily provided comments. However, the FAA still retains its authority to take emergency action relating to an airman certificate, when appropriate. For LOIs that have already been issued with the shorter response time, investigative personnel should not pursue action until the 30-day period following receipt of the LOI has elapsed. In all cases, an untimely response may still be considered, but investigative personnel will not delay the investigation beyond the time limit due to an untimely response.

6. Disposition. We will incorporate the changes to the PBR required by Section 807 in the FAA documents referenced in this notice and other appropriate guidance before this notice expires. These changes will include updating figures that provide sample LOIs in Order 8900.1. Direct questions or comments concerning the information in this notice to the Safety Analysis and Promotion Division's, System Approach for Safety Oversight Program Office (AFS-910) at 9-AVS-AFS-CPFT@faa.gov.

Robert Reckert for Robert M. Ruiz Acting Executive Director, Flight Standards Service

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The memo is available on DRS at https://drs.faa.gov/browse/AFS-1\_MEMORANDUMS/doctypeDetails.