

NOTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
Air Traffic Organization Policy

N JO 7110.754

Effective Date:
September 13, 2018

Cancellation Date:
February 28, 2019

SUBJ: Departure Clearances

- 1. Purpose of This Notice.** This notice provides interim guidance in advance of a change to FAA Order JO 7110.65X, Paragraph 4-3-2, Departure Procedures, to be effective February 28, 2019.
- 2. Audience.** This notice applies to the following Air Traffic Organization (ATO) service units: Air Traffic Services and associated air traffic control facilities, Mission Support, and System Operations.
- 3. Where Can I Find This Notice?** This notice is available on the MyFAA employee website at https://employees.faa.gov/tools_resources/orders_notices/ and on the air traffic publications website at http://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/.
- 4. Cancellation.** This notice is cancelled upon the publication of FAA Order JO 7110.65X, Change 3, on February 28, 2019.
- 5. Explanation of Policy Change.** Aircraft departing an airport on an IFR flight plan may be assigned a Departure Procedure (DP) or a heading within a Diverse Vector Area (DVA). The use of these assignments requires very specific understandings that can limit the pilot and/or the controller. Pilots will need an opportunity to brief then accept or decline operational restrictions or limitations. Controllers must be aware of control instructions that could make them responsible for terrain and/or obstruction clearances below the minimum vectoring altitude (MVA/MIA).

This change adds language to ensure that controllers understand their responsibilities when assigning a DP or DVA. It explains that pilots may be required to comply with specific performance criteria that must be understood and accepted before they depart.

Because of these criteria, controllers may be subject to restrictions on interrupting the climb of, or changing headings on, aircraft that are flying these procedures.

- 6. Procedures/Responsibilities/Action.** Amend FAA Order JO 7110.65X by changing the following paragraph to read as follows:

4-3-2. DEPARTURE CLEARANCES

Title through b.2. *PHRASEOLOGY*, no change

c. Departure Procedures.

1. Specify direction of takeoff/turn or initial heading to be flown after takeoff as follows:

(a) Locations with Airport Traffic Control Service – Specify direction of takeoff/turn or initial heading as necessary, consistent with published:

(1) Departure Procedures (DP).

If an aircraft is vectored off a published Standard Instrument Departure (SID) or Obstacle Departure Procedure (ODP), that vector cancels the DP and ATC becomes responsible for separation from terrain and /or obstructions. IFR aircraft must be assigned an altitude.

(2) Diverse Vector Areas (DVA).

The assignment of an initial heading using a DVA can be given to the pilot as part of the initial clearance, but must be given no later than with the takeoff clearance. Once airborne, an aircraft assigned headings within the DVA can be vectored below the MVA/MIA. Controllers cannot interrupt an aircraft's climb in the DVA until the aircraft is at or above the MVA/MIA.

NOTE-

It is important for controllers to understand that there can be differences in published climb gradients applicable to individual departure procedures serving the same airport or runway. Assigning a different departure procedure without the pilot being able to re-brief may result in the pilot rejecting the new procedure.

REFERENCE-

AIM, Para 5-2-7. Departure Control.

AIM, Para 5-2-8. Instrument Departure Procedures (DP) – Obstacle Departure Procedures (ODP) and Standard Instrument Departures (SID).

Delete existing Note.

No further changes to paragraph.

7. Distribution. This notice is distributed to the following ATO service units: Air Traffic Services, Mission Support Services, and System Operations, and Safety and Technical Training, the Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service, the William J. Hughes Technical Center, and the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center.

8. Background. In conjunction with Flight Standards, Flight Technologies and Procedures Division (AFS-400), AJV-8 has worked to update and clarify the guidance concerning instrument departure procedures in both the Aeronautical Information Manual (AIM) and the Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP).

This notice ensures that the guidance for controllers in FAA Order JO 7110.65X related to these AIM and AIP changes is effective on the same date. This notice will expire when FAA Order JO 7110.65X, Change 3 publishes on February 28, 2019.

Original signed by *Natking Estevez* for

Sharon Kurywchak
Director (A), Air Traffic Procedures, AJV-8
Air Traffic Organization

6/5/2018

Date Signed