

October 29, 1981

Mr. Charles J. Swift
Swift Computing Services
15834 Sunnyvale Lane
Grass Valley, California 95945

Dear Mr. Swift:

This is in reply to your letter of October 14, 1981, regarding the availability to the public of the names and addresses of airmen and aircraft owners on file with the Federal Aviation Administration.

In 1978, the Federal Aviation Administration took the position that the release of the names and addresses of airmen and aircraft owners was not mandatory under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552. The basis for this was that it was believed that such a release constituted a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy pursuant to the provisions of Exemption 6 of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6). The Federal Aviation Administration was sued in two Federal District Courts with the result that it was determined that the Federal Aviation Administration could not support its position regarding such denials.

Accordingly, the names and addresses of airmen and aircraft owners are available to the public upon request.

We hope this answers your inquiry.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
JOSEPH T. BRENNAN

Joseph T. Brennan
Aeronautical Center Counsel

bcc:
AAC-260