

Federal Aviation Administration

Memorandum

Date:February 14, 2023To:FAA Management BoardFrom:Billy Nolen, Acting AdministratorSubject:FAA Safety Call to Action

Billy Note

We are experiencing the safest period in aviation history, but we cannot take this for granted. Recent events remind us that we must not become complacent. Now is the time to stare into the data and ask hard questions.

We must ensure that our structure is fit for purpose for the U.S. aerospace system of both today and the future. That's why I'm forming a safety review team to examine the U.S. aerospace system's structure, culture, processes, systems, and integration of safety efforts.

The initial focus will be to hold a Safety Summit in March to examine what additional actions the aviation community needs to take to maintain our safety record. A group of commercial and general aviation leaders, labor partners, and others will examine which mitigations are working and why others appear to be not as effective as they once were.

Second, I'm asking the Commercial Aviation Safety Team to take a fresh look at Aviation Safety Information Analysis and Sharing data. We need to mine the data to see whether there are other incidents that resemble ones we have seen in recent weeks. And we need to see if there are indicators of emerging trends so we can focus on resources to address now.

Finally, the review team will focus on the Air Traffic Organization (ATO). The review team will assess ATO's internal processes, systems, and operational integration. I will ask the team to explore actions needed to reinforce a collaborative, data-driven safety culture. The review will also look for opportunities to strengthen the connection between ATO and the FAA Aviation Safety organization for monitoring and addressing of safety risks.

I know that all of you share my goal to do what is necessary to keep our organization strong, effective and well prepared to take on the safety challenges of the future.

We know that our aviation system is changing dramatically. Now is the time to act.