



FAA UAS SYMPOSIUM

Airport Authorities

Operations, Authorities, and Best Practices

Moderator: Brian Rushforth

Manager, Airport Safety and Operations,
FAA Office of Airports



Federal Aviation
Administration



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Breakout Session 3B: Airport Authorities

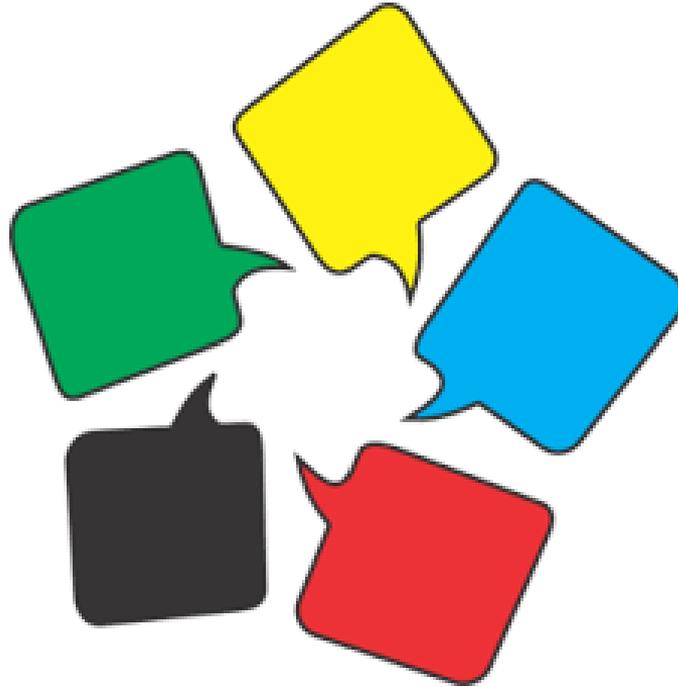


- **Moderator: Brian Rushforth**, Manager, Airports Safety and Operations Division, FAA Office of Airports
- **Jack Allen**, Deputy Director, Air Traffic Services, FAA Air Traffic Organization
- **Mark Bury**, Deputy Chief Counsel, FAA Office of the Chief Counsel
- **Paul Werts**, Program Manager, South Carolina Aeronautics
- **Marilyn Mora**, Chief Executive Officer and President, Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority

Purpose of the Breakout Session

- Discuss and share best practices for airport operators and local authorities to ensure safe and efficient airport operations
- Share best practices for UAS operations conducted at or from airports
- Provide feedback on concerns and issues

Open Dialogue



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Priorities and Ideas



- **Top 3 Priorities for Stakeholders**
- **Top 3 Ideas for Continuing the Dialogue**

Breakout Session 3B: Airport Authorities



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Brian Rushforth, Manager, Airports Safety and Operations Division, FAA Office of Airports



Brian Rushforth is the manager of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Airports Safety and Operations Division. This division is responsible for creating, coordinating, and interpreting policy for certificated commercial service airports and other areas of airport safety.

Mr. Rushforth has worked at the Office of Airports for five years, and has worked at the FAA since 2001. He has worked in various positions within Aviation Safety, as well as the Office of Chief Financial Officer.

Prior to joining the FAA, Mr. Rushforth worked in a management consulting firm in Washington, DC, leading projects and staff for Fortune 500 clients in a variety of industries. He also worked in marketing development for Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina. Mr. Rushforth is also former U.S. Army aviation logistics officer and UH-60 Blackhawk pilot.



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Jack Allen, Deputy Director, Air Traffic Services, FAA Air Traffic Organization

Jack Allen has been with the FAA for 25 years and has worked in a variety of facilities during his career. He served as a controller in both Memphis and Miami ARTCCs. He also worked at Atlanta ARTCC as a Front-Line Manager and Operations Manager. Mr. Allen worked at the Eastern Service Center from 2010-2014 as both the Airspace Redesign Manager and Operations Support Group North Team Manager. He moved to Washington, D.C. in July 2014 and served the Air Traffic Procedures Directorate as the Senior Advisor and En Route Group Manager.

As the Deputy to the Director of Air Traffic Services (AJT-2), Mr. Allen provides leadership and guidance to over 80 air traffic specialists and 11 managers as well as providing assistance to the Directors and Deputy Directors in the field. Mr. Allen orchestrates the advancement and application of new or revised processes involving aircraft separation standards, equipment, software, and other ATC procedures-related activities for Air Route Traffic Control Center operations throughout the National Airspace System (NAS). His duties include the direct support of the NextGen Advisory Committee (NAC), NextGen Integration Working Group (NIWG) and Commercial Space Integration Team (CSIT).



Mark Bury, Deputy Chief Counsel, FAA Office of the Chief Counsel



Mark Bury serves as the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Deputy Chief Counsel for Enforcement and Regulations in the Office of Chief Counsel. He was previously the Assistant Chief Counsel for International Law, Legislation and Regulations, where the division provides legal support for all of the FAA's rulemaking initiatives, including the drafting and reviewing of regulatory documents published in the Federal Register and advising on the legal sufficiency of regulatory actions and associated economic analysis. The division also prepares legal interpretations of FAA regulations and reviews responses to petitions for exemptions and rulemakings.



Mr. Bury joined the FAA's Chief Counsel office in 1984. He has spent most of his legal career with the FAA, first as an attorney-advisor handling administrative law matters and regulatory enforcement cases, and later as a trial attorney participating in aircraft accident litigation involving the Federal government and in administrative hearings and proceedings conducted by the National Transportation Safety Board. Mr. Bury is a graduate of Ohio State University School of Law and is a member in good standing of the Ohio Bar. He also holds a Bachelor's degree in German from Ohio State University.

Paul Werts, Program Manager, South Carolina Aeronautics



Paul Werts is the Program Manager for South Carolina Aeronautics Commission (SCAC). He is the former Director of the South Carolina Aeronautics Commission with 37 years of public service to SCAC. He is responsible for South Carolina's regulatory regulations associated with aviation development and airport infrastructure focusing on airport planning, airport land use environs, airport design, grant administration, capital improvement and maintenance budgets, along with airport operational standards.

Mr. Werts currently serves on numerous aviation boards - Celebrate Freedom Foundation and the Challenger Learning Center, which focuses on student aeronautical education related to science, technology, and math (STEM). He also supports the South Carolina Aviation Association, fostering aviation commerce and economic development in South Carolina, and is the Committee Chairman of the National Association of State Aviation Officials (NASAO) National Wildlife, which mitigates and controls wildlife around airports.



Over the past two years, SCAC has owned and operated a UAS within the airport environs for the advancement of airport photogrammetry, obstacle evaluation, and airport related issues.

Mr. Werts is a certified Public Manager in State Government Administration. He is a graduate of Midlands Technical College with a degree in civil engineering.

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Marilyn Mora, Chief Executive Officer and President, Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority



Marilyn Mora became President/CEO of the Reno- Tahoe Airport Authority (RTAA) on July 1, 2013. She is responsible for leading and directing the Reno- Tahoe International Airport (RNO), and the Reno- Stead Airport (RTS), with an operating budget of \$46 million.

Mora brings 28 years of airport management experience to the job from three international airports including San Jose, Oakland and Reno-Tahoe International, where she served as Chief Operating Officer for 12 years before moving to Oakland in 2011 as the Assistant Director of Aviation. Ms. Mora also was a Deputy Director of Aviation for Mineta San Jose International Airport.

Her aviation industry affiliations are Vice Chair and past Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee of the American Association of Airport Executives and she also serves on the Board of Airports Council International-North America (ACI-NA). Ms. Mora is a member of the Federal Aviation Administration's Drone Advisory Committee.

Mora is an Accredited Airport Executive and has a B.A. in international relations from the University of California-Davis and an MBA from the University of Phoenix.



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