



Memorandum

U.S. Department of
Transportation
Office of the Secretary
of Transportation
Office of Inspector General

Subject: INFORMATION: Audit Initiated of FAA's Process for Screening, Placing, and Training Newly Hired Air Traffic Controllers
Federal Aviation Administration
Project No. 09A3001A000

Date: November 19, 2008

From: *Lou Dixon*
Lou Dixon
Assistant Inspector General
for Aviation and Special Program Audits

Reply to: JA-10
Attn. of:

To: Assistant Administrator for Financial Services
and Chief Financial Officer

On October 30, 2008, Representative Jerry F. Costello, Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Aviation, requested that we review the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) processes for screening, placing, and training newly hired air traffic controllers. Specifically, the Chairman expressed concerns about whether FAA's screening test, Air Traffic Selection and Training, or AT-SAT, effectively identifies candidates' potential to become air traffic controllers and whether the FAA Academy adequately trains candidates before FAA places them at facilities.

Accordingly, we plan to review these FAA processes. Our audit objectives are to assess (1) how FAA determines whether candidates have the requisite abilities to become successful controllers, (2) what procedures FAA uses to place controllers at air traffic facilities, and (3) whether the initial training at the FAA Academy adequately prepares controller candidates for facility training.

We will contact your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference. If you have any questions, please contact Dan Raville, Program Director, at (202) 366-1405 or Bob Romich, Project Manager, at (202) 366-6478.

#

cc: FAA Deputy Administrator
Anthony Williams, ABU-100
Martin Gertel, M-1