



## **Transportation Security Administration Update: Secure Flight Program**

The Transportation Security Administration is implementing a new program called Secure Flight. This program is now being publicized by the TSA to streamline the terrorist watch list matching process and insure the protection of the air traveling public. This new program will affect the commercial airline industry within the United States and International airlines that fly into or over the United States. You may be receiving inquiries from customers as to how this will affect their travel. Please review the following information regarding Secure Flight to assist you with answering any customer inquiries:

### **Background on Secure Flight:**

Following the September 11, 2001 attacks, the 9/11 Commission recommended the implementation of a uniform watch list matching program. Currently, the Transportation Security Administration provides airlines with lists of names of individuals on certain government terrorist watch lists and the airlines have compared passengers to the lists in their database. If the passenger data is a possible match to the watch list, a boarding pass cannot be printed without direct interaction with an airline customer service representative.

Section 4012 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act (IRTPA) requires the Department of Homeland Security to assume from aircraft operators the function conducting watch list matching of airline passenger data to Federal Government watch lists. The Secure Flight Final Rule, issued in October 2008, authorizes TSA to assume watch list matching from the airlines. TSA has begun to implement the Secure Flight program. The major difference is, instead of the TSA providing the airlines with watch list, the air carriers will transmit information known as the SFPD (Secure Flight Passenger Data) to the TSA, which will use it to conduct the watch list matching. TSA will then transmit either a cleared boarding pass printing result to the air carrier which allows a boarding pass to be printed, or an inhibited response which will require further information from the customer. Airline representatives will also be able to contact the Secure Flight Service Center directly to request assistance with clearing passengers.



A major requirement of this program is the need to collect the additional data from your customers at the time of booking that make-up the SFPD. These addition data requirements are:

1. Passenger's Full Name – Definition of Full Name: the name as it appears on the government issued ID (e.g. a customer by the name of John Smith plans on using his driver's license for his upcoming trip. His driver's license has his name as Jonathan Allen Smith. The reservation will have to be made using the name Jonathan Allen Smith).
2. Passenger's Gender
3. Passenger's Date of Birth
4. Passenger's Redress Number- This is a unique number that is provided to individuals with a name that is similar to a name on a government watch list. Only customers who have sought relief through the Department of Homeland Security's Travel Redress Inquiry Program (DHS TRIP) will have this number.

Information regarding the program, including commonly asked questions may be found online: [www.tsa.gov/SecureFlight](http://www.tsa.gov/SecureFlight)

You may also read the [Secure Flight Final Rule](http://www.tsa.gov/assets/pdf/secureflight_final_rule.pdf) online:  
[http://www.tsa.gov/assets/pdf/secureflight\\_final\\_rule.pdf](http://www.tsa.gov/assets/pdf/secureflight_final_rule.pdf)