

**Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee
Government Issue Paper
Next Generation and Facilitation Subcommittee
Passenger Air Operations Working Group**

September 2023



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**



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**Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee (COAC)
Next Generation and Facilitation Subcommittee
Passenger Air Operations Working Group (PAO WG)
September 2023**

Action Required: Informational

Background:

- The PAO WG has met monthly since the initial meeting on January 25, 2023, and has focused on the following areas:
 - CBP Security Seal processing and access to international aircraft and passengers
 - Landing Rights process improvements
 - Global Entry program processing and improvement
 - Modernize the penalty process and notification process
 - Passenger and baggage facilitation
 - Elimination of outdated or obsolete forms
- During the most recent meeting on August 11, 2023, CBP provided updates on progress made with the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to improve the eBadge process.
- CBP also provided an overview of the Trusted Traveler program, applicant denial and appeal process, and steps they are taking to reduce the applicant backlog.
- The PAO WG discussed looking into regulation changes that would remove Pilots of commercial aircraft from being cited as the Pilot in command for certain CBP penalties related to the airline.

Current Status:

- The PAO WG continues to research industry challenges identified by the participants in the working group and identify best practices across the industry.
- CBP continues to research and explore ideas and concepts brought forward by PAO WG members to identify the paths forward toward possible implementation.

Next Steps:

- CBP is reviewing the current penalty process and the impact proposing penalties against the Pilot may have on their GE applications. Once the impact is assessed, PAO WG will look into plausible solutions, which may include proposing a Regulatory change to address the issue.
- The PAO WG has identified a group of Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) to examine the Landing Rights process and the challenges on both sides (Industry and CBP). The SMEs will provide their findings to the PAO WG at the next meeting.

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