

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION National Policy



SUBJ: Safety Oversight Circulars (SOC)

- 1. Purpose of This Order. This order establishes Safety Oversight Circulars (SOC) as a method of providing guidance material to the Air Traffic Organization (ATO) concerning compliance with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Aviation Safety (AVS), and Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service (AOV) directives.
- **2. Audience.** All FAA organizations involved in/or supporting the operation or maintenance of the National Airspace System (NAS). ATO adherence to AOV-provided guidance will demonstrate compliance with requirements and expedite the process of AOV oversight and approvals.
- 3. Where I Can Find This Order. AOV will post SOCs on an FAA Web site. AOV will not publish hard copies of SOCs. Any FAA organization or person desiring a hard copy may download and print the desired material from the AOV employee Web site located at: <a href="https://employees.faa.gov/org/linebusiness/avs/offices/AOV/">https://employees.faa.gov/org/linebusiness/avs/offices/AOV/</a>. AOV will number and date each SOC and list newest SOCs in ascending order. All active, cancelled, and superseded SOCs will be maintained on the above referenced site.
- **4. Authority to Change This Order.** The Associate Administrator for Aviation Safety, AVS-1, has delegated the authority to amend or cancel this order to the Director, Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service, AOV-1.
- 5. Action. All Air Traffic Safety Oversight Inspectors (ATSI) must become familiar with the contents of each SOC.
- **6. Background.** SOCs contain safety critical information. An SOC may contain information alone or a combination of information and guidance material or recommended actions to be taken by the ATO to meet the requirements of directives such as FAA Order 1100.161, Air Traffic Safety Oversight; FAA Order 8000.86, Air Traffic Safety Oversight Compliance Process; and FAA Order 8000.90, AOV Credentialing and Control Tower Operator Certification Programs.

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7. Announcement of SOCS. AOV will announce newly posted SOCs by e-mail notification to appropriate stakeholders in FAA headquarters for further dissemination within their respective organizations.

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