



# NATIONAL SAFE SKIES ALLIANCE

## Program for Applied Research in Airport Security

### PARAS 0035 Project Summary

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<b>Project Title:</b>	Synthesis of Escort Privileges and Escorting Practices		
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<b>Research Agency:</b>	QuinnWilliams, LLC		
<b>Principal Investigator:</b>	Julie Quinn		
<b>Effective Date:</b>	May 1, 2020		
<b>Contract Time:</b>	10 Months		
<b>Funds:</b>	\$124,960		

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## BACKGROUND

Under 49 CFR § 1542.209, airports are required to conduct fingerprint-based Criminal History Records Checks (CHRC) on applicants seeking unescorted access to the SIDA. In the absence of a badge that would allow unescorted access, 49 CFR § 1542.211 gives airports the option of allowing the escorting of individuals while they are in a restricted area. Airports are faced with challenges such as individuals abusing the escort system to bypass the badging process, monitoring/documenting escorted individuals, limited or no vetting for escorted individuals, Authorized Signatories not limiting escort privileges based on need, and inefficient or no audit procedures.

## OBJECTIVE

The objective of this research is to create a synthesis of current practices to assist airports with decisions surrounding escort privileges and escorted access options. Since not every option or idea will be feasible for all airports, the outreach should be comprehensive so that airports of all sizes and resource levels can benefit. Topics covered should include:

- Relevant terminology definitions
- General escort program rules, including number of escorted individuals a badge holder can have at one time, and escorting during the badging/vetting process
- Limits on escorted access, including purpose, practice, and rationale
- Vetting considerations and available options
- Associated issuance fees
- Monitoring/record keeping of escorted individuals, including potential physical pass issuance and recovery
- Components of physical pass, if used, including material and printed information
- Training for escort privileges
- ID media escort privilege indicators
- Accountability requirements for badge holder and authorized signatory/company
- Potential penalty structure and strategy
- Relationship of policies and plans to ASP
- Pertinent technology types in use or available, including cost and infrastructure considerations