

NATIONAL SAFE SKIES ALLIANCE Program for Applied Research in Airport Security PARAS 0037 Project Summary

Project Title:	Planning and Operational Security Guidance for Construction Projects at Airports
Program Officer:	Jessica Grizzle 865-738-2080 Jessica.Grizzle@sskies.org
Research Agency:	Garver
Principal Investigator:	Nathan Polsgrove
Effective Date:	November 1, 2020
Contract Time:	12 Months
Funds:	\$149,999

BACKGROUND

Construction projects have become a consistent activity in both public and regulated areas at many airports. As discussed in PARAS 0004, *Recommended Security Guidelines in Planning, Design, and Construction*¹, security requirements related to the end results of a construction project should be considered during the design phase.

However, maintaining security compliance *during* construction/execution of the project must also be considered in the design and planning phase in order to prepare for the dynamic nature of construction, and to clearly convey associated requirements during the airport's procurement process. This is especially important for projects that have multiple phases that require adjustments to the compliance strategies employed, based on the project's evolving activities.

The entities that carry out construction activities at airports often have varying levels of knowledge related to the airport's regulatory requirements and the resulting processes/compliance activities. Ensuring these entities have a clear understanding of the airport's requirements and expectations is essential to successfully maintaining the airport's security posture. Sustaining stakeholder coordination and communication throughout the life of the project also poses a significant challenge.

Research is needed to gather considerations, lessons learned, successful practices, and potential pitfalls to assist airports in successfully planning for and maintaining security regulatory compliance during the life of a construction project.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this research is to provide practical, systematic guidance to assist airports in working collaboratively with stakeholders to manage the security regulatory aspects of construction projects and maintain their security posture throughout design, construction, and closeout. At a minimum, the guidance should include:

- Planning strategies to:
 - Evaluate the project's operational impact
 - Control access to regulated areas
 - Establish and document the airport's expectations of contractors
 - o Ensure contractor understanding of airport processes
- Coordination strategies to:
 - Manage stakeholder engagement
 - Ensure effective communication
- Administrative and enforcement strategies (e.g., contract language, airport rules and regulations, etc.)

¹ PARAS 0004 is currently being revised through PARAS 0028.

- ASP considerations and compliance strategies, including adapting to unanticipated regulatory changes
- Public safety considerations, such as maintaining life safety/emergency access routes
- Training strategies and recommendations for third-party providers
- Relevant technology types in use or available, including cost and infrastructure considerations
- Templates, checklists, sample contract language, and other relevant documentation
- Summary of pitfalls and associated lessons learned
- Summary of relevant reference material

The resulting guidance should be comprehensive to ensure that it is scalable for varying project scopes, and that it is beneficial to airports of all sizes and resource levels.