National Safe Skies Alliance

Program for Applied Research in Airport Security

Project Statement

PARAS 0045 **Selecting, Designing, and Deploying Biometric Technology at Airports**

Funds: Up to $175,000
Contract Time: 12 Months
Staff Responsibility: Jessica Grizzle
Fiscal Year: 2022

The Project Statement below has been selected by the Safe Skies Oversight Committee and will be the starting point for a panel of experts to develop a Request for Proposals (RFP). The RFP is expected to be available in early 2022.

Many airports and air carriers have integrated or are considering biometric technology for identity verification in various activities at an airport, such as access control, checked bag drop, and passenger boarding. While biometric technology has improved greatly and modality options have expanded in recent years, the investment remains significant. In addition to cost, there are many other factors to weigh before selecting, designing, and implementing a biometric system. Refined guidance is needed to assist stakeholders in determining if biometrics will add value to their systems and processes, and what obstacles must be addressed for implementation in new and existing environments.

The objective of this research is to provide a thorough overview of current biometrics options viable for use in aviation, including advantages, restrictions, scalability, and other related factors, to assist stakeholders in making informed regarding the potential use of biometrics for various functions at airports.