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**HQ AIR FORCE FLIGHT STANDARDS  
AGENCY (AFFSA)**

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This publication delineates the mission, chain of command, and responsibilities of the Air Force Flight Standards Agency (AFFSA). It applies to Headquarters AFFSA and its subordinate units.

**SUMMARY OF REVISIONS**

Changes incorporated in this mission directive (denoted by a bar (|) preceding affected paragraphs) include administrative updates and clarification of responsibilities.

**1. Mission.** The Air Force Flight Standards Agency's mission is to develop, standardize, evaluate, and certify procedures, equipment, and standards to support global flight operations and to centrally manage Air Traffic Control and Landing Systems (ATCALs) for the Air Force. This organization is a Field Operating Agency of the United States Air Force.

**2. Command.** The AFFSA Commander:

- 2.1. Reports directly to the HQ USAF Director of Operations and Training (HQ USAF/XOO).
- 2.2. Commands personnel assigned to AFFSA.

**3. Responsibilities.** AFFSA's Commander is responsible for:

- 3.1. Producing USAF-level instrument directives, flight procedures criteria, aeronautical information, and training program guidance.
- 3.2. Standardizing current/emerging cockpit avionics/displays.
- 3.3. Providing Aircraft Accident Board technical advice.
- 3.4. Providing USAF Terminal Instrument Procedures (TERPS) waiver authority and managing the USAF TERPS automation program.
- 3.5. Evaluating new navigation systems.

- 3.6. Developing standards to implement new systems, e.g., Global Positioning System and Microwave Landing System.
- 3.7. Managing the Department of Defense (DoD) Notice to Airmen system for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and DoD.
- 3.8. Standardizing and evaluating USAF, ANG, and AFRC Air Traffic Control (ATC) and airfield management operational procedures and training/certification programs.
- 3.9. Managing the officer/enlisted ATC and enlisted airfield management career fields and associated manpower and personnel programs.
- 3.10. Conducting the ATC Facility Management School.
- 3.11. Evaluating and optimizing ATC radar, navigational aids, and communications systems.
- 3.12. Validating wartime ATC and airfield management requirements and capabilities.
- 3.13. Developing and processing mission need statements and operational requirements documents, program management directives, maintenance concepts, and engineering change proposals for ATCALS.
- 3.14. Facilitating user input, building consensus, and prioritizing ATCALS programs and modifications.
- 3.15. Maintaining the USAF ATCALS database.
- 3.16. Preparing and presenting Program Objective Memorandum initiatives to the USAF Program Element Monitor for new programs and approved modifications to USAF ATCALS.
- 3.17. Advising the ATCALS Single Manager in matters affecting the acquisition and logistics support of ATCALS equipment.
- 3.18. Supporting Integrated Weapon System Management teams and FAA Technical Groups.
- 3.19. Conducting combat, contingency, and FAA worldwide flight inspection of mobile and fixed navigational aids and instrument procedures.
- 3.20. Developing USAF Flight Inspection standards and procedures for the FAA.
- 3.21. Certifying National Airspace System (NAS) navigational facilities (civilian and military) and associated instrument approach procedures.
- 3.22. Sustaining military-unique and mobility equipment for flight inspection aircraft.
- 3.23. Ensuring flight inspection is included in wartime and contingency planning.
- 3.24. Coordinating and influencing international meetings to effect aviation solutions favorable to USAF and DoD.
- 3.25. Representing DoD on North Atlantic Treaty Organization Air Traffic Management Committee.
- 3.26. Coordinating national positions through Interagency Group on International Aviation.
- 3.27. Facilitating unmanned aerial vehicle operations in the NAS with the FAA.

| 3.28. Representing USAF on the DoD Policy Board on Federal Aviation.

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**Attachment 1****GLOSSARY OF SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

AFI 10-1, *Mission Directives*

AFI 10-101, *Format and Content of Mission Directives*

***Abbreviations and Acronyms***

**AFFSA**—Air Force Flight Standards Agency

**ATC**—Air Traffic Control

**ATCALs**—Air Traffic Control and Landing Systems

**DoD**—Department of Defense

**FAA**—Federal Aviation Administration

**NAS**—National Airspace System

**TERPS**—Terminal Instrument Procedures