



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Office of the Chief Counsel

800 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20591

May 13, 2010

VIA EMAIL

Edward M. Bolen
President and CEO
National Business Aviation Association
ebolen@nbaa.org

Re: Non-Citizen Trusts and FAA Registration

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am writing in reply to the letters to Administrator Babbitt and me dated May 10 and 11, 2010 on behalf of a large number of vital stakeholders in the manufacture, operation, and financing of aircraft relating to the use of non-citizen owner trusts ("Non-Citizen Trusts") for the registration of aircraft in the United States.

Please know that the FAA has not imposed any moratorium on the processing of any pending or future registrations involving Non-Citizen Trusts. The FAA Aeronautical Center is continuing its past practice of issuing opinions covering Non-Citizen Trust in accordance with its prior practice. We are not challenging the registration of aircraft currently registered under Non-Citizen Trusts.

As a result of a number of recent cases, however, we are conducting a more comprehensive review of Non-Citizen Trusts to ensure compliance with existing law, and determine whether any improvement should be made. In this regard, we do not contemplate any immediate changes to agency practice. During this review, we will involve the various stakeholders. In addition, following our review, to the extent the agency proposes any change in interpretation, rule, or law, the agency would follow notice-and-comment procedures as appropriate.

If you could kindly pass this response along to the other signatories to the letter, we would appreciate it.

Sincerely,

David Grizzle
Chief Counsel

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