



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

Airports Division  
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August 26, 2015

Mr. David Austin, Chairman  
Paulding County Board of Commissioners  
240 Constitution Boulevard  
Dallas, Georgia 30132

Mr. Calvin Thompson, Chairman  
Paulding County Airport Authority  
730 Airport Parkway  
Dallas, Georgia 30157

#### Part 13.1 Report

Dear Messrs. Austin and Thompson:

This letter is regarding the enclosed complaint from the City of Atlanta, Georgia, filed under Federal Aviation Regulation (FAR) Part 13, *FAA Investigative and Enforcement Procedures* (14 CFR 13). The City of Atlanta alleges that Paulding County (County) and the Paulding County Airport Authority (Airport Authority), as cosponsors of the Paulding Northwest Regional Airport, are in violation of their federal grant obligations as it relates to the airport. Specifically, City of Atlanta alleges that the County and the Airport Authority are in violation of Grant Assurance 4, *Good Title*, and Grant Assurance 5, *Preserving Rights and Powers*.

In support of the complaint, the City of Atlanta submitted 34 exhibits, including video recordings on compact discs.<sup>1</sup> Due to the voluminous nature of the supporting documentation, this office has elected to provide one copy to the County's attorney, Ms. Lani G. Skipper.

Please review this complaint and provide your response to the allegations and the status of any efforts to resolve this complaint. Because the County and the Airport Authority, jointly, sponsor the airport, we expect both the County and the Airport Authority to respond to this complaint, either jointly or separately.<sup>2</sup> Please provide your answer to the complaint by October 14, 2015.

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<sup>1</sup> The compact discs were provided to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) by the City of Atlanta. The FAA makes no claims or guarantees regarding the content it may contain.

<sup>2</sup> In James Vernon Ricks, Jr. v Greenwood-Leflore Airport/Airport Board, City of Greenwood, Leflore County, Mississippi, FAA Docket No. 16-09-04, (December 20, 2011) (Order of Remand), the Associate Administrator found that the City of Greenwood, an airport cosponsor, failed to answer the initial Complaint as required by 14 CFR § 16.23(d). While the FAA's Southern Region acknowledges that this is an informal proceeding under 14 CFR Part 13, we believe it is necessary for both the County and the Airport Authority to answer this complaint in order to establish a thorough record. [See James Vernon Ricks, Jr. v Greenwood-Leflore Airport/Airport Board, City of Greenwood, Leflore County, Mississippi, FAA Docket No. 16-09-04, (December 20, 2011) (Order of Remand) at 24]

If I can be of any assistance or answer any questions that you might have, please do not hesitate to contact me at (404) 305-6739.

Sincerely,



Deandra Brooks  
Airport Compliance Specialist

Encl.

cc: Ms. Lani G. Skipper, Paulding County Attorney, Talley, Richardson & Cable, P.A.  
Mr. William K. Whitner, Paul Hastings LLP, Counsel for City of Atlanta  
Ms. Andrea J. Pearson, Paul Hastings LLP, Counsel for City of Atlanta  
Mr. Charles A. Patrizia, Paul Hastings LLP, Counsel for City of Atlanta  
Ms. Cathy Hampton, City Attorney, City of Atlanta  
Mr. Maverick Douglas, Manager, Safety and Standards Branch, Southern Region  
Atlanta Airports District Office  
Office of Airport Compliance and Management Analysis  
Georgia Department of Transportation