FROM:  Scott Broyles
       President & CEO, National Safe Skies Alliance

SUBJECT:  Potential PARAS Research Topics for the Fiscal Year 2022
          Due by September 1, 2021

The Program for Applied Research in Airport Security (PARAS) is soliciting **Problem Statements** for Fiscal Year 2022. Problem Statements form the basis for selection of the annual PARAS research program; these statements are not proposals to conduct the research, but are used to identify potential research needs only. Most are 1-3 pages in length.

PARAS is a contract-based applied research program focused on developing near-term solutions to security-related issues faced by airport operators. PARAS is sponsored by the Federal Aviation Administration and managed by National Safe Skies Alliance. The program is governed by the Safe Skies Oversight Committee (OC), which is comprised of airport-industry representatives.

A Problem Statement is simply a description of a security problem or question for which airports need an answer. What problems do you see daily, seasonally, or annually? Do you need a better way to accomplish a task, assignment, or mission? Could you benefit from knowing the best practices or standards for a specific area? Statements include some background information that explains why the problem is important and a concise description of what you want to accomplish or produce with the research. Problem Statements are refined by an expert panel and become the basis for Requests for Proposals (RFP) that are used to find contractors to conduct the research.

Research results are released in the form of guidebooks, reports, or manuals and are expected to be put into practice at the conclusion of the research.

*Guidance for Preparing Problem Statements*, along with an outline for writing successful Problem Statements, can be found at www.sskies.org/paras/program-materials/. Problem Statements should be developed according to the guidance and may be submitted by anyone at any time. However, the deadline for submitting problems for consideration in the FY 2022 program is **September 1, 2021**. Problem statements should be sent as attachments in Microsoft Word format to jessica.grizzle@sskies.org.

The OC will select the Problem Statements for the FY 2022 program in November 2021. For problems selected by the OC, RFPs will be issued, and contractors will be selected through a competitive proposal process. Submitting an idea for a Problem Statement will not eliminate you from responding to any resulting RFP.

Thank you very much for your interest in PARAS. Your willingness to identify the relevant airport research topics is key to creating a successful, industry-driven program. If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact Jessica Grizzle, PARAS Program Manager, at (865)738-2080.