



NATIONAL SAFE SKIES ALLIANCE

Program for Applied Research in Airport Security

PARAS 0066 Project Summary

Project Title:	Continuity of Security Operations after a Cybersecurity Incident		
Program Officer:	Jessica Grizzle	865-738-2080	Jessica.Grizzle@sskies.org
Research Agency:	LAM LHA USA		
Principal Investigator:	Andrew Goldsmith		
Contract Time:	15 Months		
Effective Date:	August 18, 2025		
Funds:	\$250,000		

BACKGROUND

The operational security impacts of a cyberattack on an airport are similar to other operational disruptions, such as a power outage or widespread system failure. The primary differences are the recovery options available and how long they take to fully implement for a return to normal operations. In the meantime, alternate procedures and resources must be leveraged.

To minimize security operational impacts and maintain regulatory compliance, airports must have detailed, practical plans for continuity of operations when essential security-related systems are not available due to a cybersecurity incident.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this research is to create a consolidated resource to assist airports in effective planning for continuity of operations after a cybersecurity incident impacting essential security-related systems. At a minimum, the final deliverable should address:

- Continuity of Operations planning process
- Inventory and risk assessment of essential security-related systems and functions
- Prioritizing systems and functions for recovery
- Alternate processes and resources during recovery
- Scalability for incident scope and duration
- Maintaining regulatory compliance
- Communication with internal and external stakeholders
- Exercises and training
- After action review

The resulting guidance should be applicable to airports of all sizes.