



National Safe Skies Alliance

Program for Applied Research in Airport Security

PARAS 0073 Project Statement

PARAS 0073 Considerations for the Use and Procurement of Third-Party Security Services

Funds: Up to \$200,000
Contract Time: 15 Months
Staff Responsibility: Jessica Grizzle
Fiscal Year: 2026

The Project Statement below has been selected by the Safe Skies Oversight Committee and will be the starting point for a panel of experts to develop a Request for Proposals (RFP). The RFP is expected to be available in early 2026.

Most airports in the United States maintain contracted third-party security services to augment their in-house security staff. A defined scope of use, specific contracting language, and individualized procurement provisions are needed, but it can be difficult to determine if these decisions will have the desired impact or result in unintended consequences after a contract is in place. Guidance is needed to assist airports in evaluating the potential scope of use for third-party security services, considerations for RFP and contract language, and lessons learned from previous contracts and procurements.

The objective of this research is to create comprehensive guidance to enable informed decision-making for airport operators procuring contractual security services.