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OST-02-12417-5



**U.S. Department of
Transportation**

Office of the Secretary
of Transportation

Assistant Secretary

400 Seventh St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

June 25, 2002

The Honorable Thomas Holbrook
Illinois General Assembly
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Mr. Holbrook:

Thank you for your letter of June 6 to Secretary Mineta regarding the application of Multi-Aero, Inc. d/b/a Air Choice One to conduct scheduled passenger operations as a commuter air carrier. The Secretary has asked me to reply to you directly.

On May 30, we received Multi-Aero's application and assigned it docket number OST-02-12417. In order to approve an application for commuter authority, the Department must determine that the applicant is "fit, willing, and able" to conduct such operations. This requires an in-depth review of the backgrounds of the carrier's owners and managers, as well as of its operating plans and financial condition.

Because this application is currently being reviewed by my staff, it would be inappropriate for me to comment on the merits of the application at this time. I wish to assure you, however, that we will assist the applicant in its efforts to obtain the requested authority.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. As is our normal practice in such matters, I have placed your letter and my response in Docket OST-02-12417 as a contact outside the record of the proceeding.

If I can provide further information or assistance, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Read C. Van de Water
Assistant Secretary for Aviation
and International Affairs

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKETS

THOMAS HOLBROOK
STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 113TH DISTRICT

SPRINGFIELD OFFICE:
2065-L STRATTON OFFICE BUILDING
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706
217-782-0104

DISTRICT OFFICE:
9200 W. MAIN - SUITE 4
BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS 62223
618-394-2211

DISTRICT OFFICE:
1310 NIEDRINGHAUS
GRANITE CITY, ILLINOIS 62040
618-451-0200



ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

June 6, 2002

COMMITTEES:

MEMBER

- TOURISM CHAIRMAN
- CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS
- VETERANS AFFAIRS
- ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY
- TELECOMMUNICATIONS REWRITE

*Honorable Norman Mineta
Secretary of Transportation
400 7th Street SW
Washington, DC 20590*

RE: *Docket Number OST-02-12417*

Dear Mr. Mineta:

I am pleased to write this letter of support for Multi-Aero, Inc.'s effort to gain Commuter Carrier status with the Department of Transportation. Multi-Aero is currently a tenant at MidAmerica St. Louis Airport and eagerly ready to start providing service to the traveling public in Southern Illinois.

As Illinois State Representative for the 113th District I can assure you that Multi-Aero's new service offering will meet the needs for generations of future travelers as well as enhance the air transportation opportunities for the entire metropolitan area.

Please feel free to contact me personally at my Belleville district office with any questions or comments you may have concerning this letter of support, (618) 394-2211.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Holbrook".

THOMAS HOLBROOK
State Representative
113th District

TH/ar

Cc: *Thomas Russell
10801 Pear Tree Lane
Suite 200
St. Ann, MO 63024*

