

# BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

Kris Stancil, Chairman  
Josh Tippens, District 1 Commissioner • Josh Tatum, District 2 Commissioner

---

December 18, 2023

Mr. David Thorburn-Gundlach  
Light Sports Aviators  
744 Noah Drive  
Suite 113-220  
Jasper, Georgia 30143

RE: Open Records Request

Dear David,

Pickens County received your Open Records Act request. In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 50-18-71, Pickens County hereby responds to your requests.

The request seeks the following:

*Light Sport Aviators request copies of all documents, records, notes, communications, correspondence, memoranda, meeting minutes, announcements, publications, and other such items to, from, or within the Pickens County Airport Authority and/or Pickens County Government identifying, describing, clarifying, or otherwise providing information about grass operations at the Pickens County Airport. Such copies should especially include, without limitation, information regarding notice(s) to the Airport staff, tenants, and customers and as published as a NOTAM and/or other FAA notice. Also requested that this request is about operating airplanes on the grass rather than about grass cutting.*

Attached please find the records that are relevant to your request.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Lesa Thomason  
County Clerk



## Stacy McClure

---

**From:** Ed Wood <ed@eowood.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 12, 2022 11:16 AM  
**To:** Stacy McClure; Randy Thomason; Wendell Turner  
**Subject:** Re: "Grass landing" at the airport

Stacy,

Thanks for your email. We are exploring the liabilities of allowing the grass operations and will discuss as the PCAA and come back with direction. Until this decision is finalized, we should NOT antagonize our pilot community with a potential change that may or may not impact future operations. We've had enough hearsay information out there causing problems. Let's deescalate this.

Thanks,

Ed

On 5/12/2022 10:36 AM, Stacy McClure wrote:

Randy,

I have received a phone call from a pilot this morning regarding the subject of "grass landing" at the airport being prohibited. Currently, it's my understanding we have not determined the finality of that subject, so PLEASE refrain from making the announcement, or having a discussion on the matter with others until we hear from the airport authority board. That said, I was instructed by Ed Wood that the board needed to convene and sort out the stipulations prior to going public, so I did not add any comments to the monthly billing as you had originally requested. I will provide a memo/letter to all the pilots as soon as I get the approval from the board.

Thanks,

*Stacy McClure*

*Pickens County Government*

*Airport Administration*

*1266 East Church St.*

*Jasper, GA 30143*

*Office: 706-253-8967*

[smcclure@pickenscountyga.gov](mailto:smcclure@pickenscountyga.gov)



## Stacy McClure

---

**From:** Ed Wood <ed@eowood.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:05 PM  
**To:** Don Boggus; Stacy McClure; Wendell Turner  
**Cc:** 'Jerry Edwards'; David Johnson  
**Subject:** Re: near miss and grass runway change

Don,

I don't believe Randy's letter was sent out. Stacy and I talked about Randy's directive to include it with "statements" and have NOT added anything about this in any communication that I know of. Randy talked about the incident and has gotten everyone stirred up over the discussions. Nothing has been decided so no communication should be given to our user group.

Wendell and I talked with Phil Eberly and my understanding is there is no FAA regulations that we are violating in allowing the grass operations east of our paved runway. If we want to curtail the operations it would be due to our concerns of liability of aircraft landing on an area that is not maintained as a runway by the airport. If there should be debris or sink hole that developed in the area and an aircraft was damaged, what liability would the airport authority have?

Are we willing to accept the liability of such an event? Do we want to establish a practice of maintaining the grass area to the east of the paved runway as a sanctioned landing area?

I don't believe this is a subject that requires an immediate decision and can be covered in our next authority meeting. I do believe a conversation with the pilot of the plane that was involved with landing between the taxiway and runway is in order.

Hope this helps shed some light on the current situation. I'll be back from Germany Thursday afternoon and available for phone calls at that time.

Ed

On 5/17/2022 7:38 AM, Don Boggus wrote:

> I may be catching up here but my question is did Randy's letter go out and if so was this Phil Eberly's advise to this issue?

>

> Stacy, I have copied David and Jerry on this email so you will have their address. Also, do you have a general authority email address that you have access and check? Thanks.

>

> Don Boggus, CEO

> Frontline Capital Partners

> 91 Sammy McGhee Blvd., Suite 110E

> Jasper, GA 30143

> 404-312-3507 Cell

> 678-454-5600 Office

> [https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.f](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.frontlinecapitalpartners.com%2F&data=05%7C01%7Csmcclure%40pickensco)

> [rontlinecapitalpartners.com%2F&data=05%7C01%7Csmcclure%40pickensco](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.frontlinecapitalpartners.com%2F&data=05%7C01%7Csmcclure%40pickensco)

> [unttyga.gov%7C461d1e2fc2c34237932c08da3840796a%7Cb0b3f0ad34024182ac1b59](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.frontlinecapitalpartners.com%2F&data=05%7C01%7Csmcclure%40pickensco)

> [61391f0cce%7C0%7C0%7C637884146814897449%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWJj](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.frontlinecapitalpartners.com%2F&data=05%7C01%7Csmcclure%40pickensco)

> oiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiv2luMzliLCJBtil6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C  
> %7C%7C&sdata=8SJ6zcoEXR744ppboophhlE7K9diUqFDS3v1eNmdh4k%3D&re  
> served=0

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Stacy McClure <smcclure@pickenscountyga.gov>

> Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:15 AM

> To: Wendell Turner <wendell.b.turner@gmail.com>; Ed Wood

> <ed@eowood.org>; Don Boggus <dboggus@frontlinecapitalpartners.com>

> Subject: FW: near miss and grass runway change

>

> Good morning,

>

> I was off yesterday, but have returned to find this email. I see it also went to the airport authority, but wasn't sure who or how often that email is checked. I don't have David or Jerry's email addresses that I can find, so I have not sent this to them at this time. Just wanted to make sure someone was seeing it from the board.

> Thanks,

> Stacy McClure

> Pickens County Government

> Airport Administration

> 1266 East Church St.

> Jasper, GA 30143

> Office: 706-253-8967

> smcclure@pickenscountyga.gov

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: David T-G <contact@getinspiredflight.com>

> Sent: Saturday, May 14, 2022 10:17 AM

> To: Randy Thomason <rthomason@pickenscountyga.gov>; Planes KJZP

> <jzpmanager@ellijay.com>

> Cc: Airport Authority <airport@pickenscountyga.gov>; Stacy McClure

> <smcclure@pickenscountyga.gov>; Christopher L. Denison, Esq.

> <cdenison@denisonandassociates.com>

> Subject: near miss and grass runway change

>

> Good morning, Randy!

>

> Pursuant to our conversation earlier this week, we understand that there was a naer-miss here at KJZP which is driving a change in policy.

> As Flight Instructors, we need to know about such things, just as we need the annual Security and Incidents report.

>

> We're very curious about what happened (of course in a general, rather than tail-number-specific, manner) to better understand the issue.

> You mentioned that Ed and Wendell were on site and witnessed the event.

> We trust that they have filed NASA ASRS forms to document the issue,

> and we would be very interested in their additional commentary

>

> Since this will change policy for us as well, we want to be sure we have a clear picture. Would you mind documenting the new rule(s) and sending us the information ASAP so that we can conform once we receive them?

>

>

> Thanks for your help and have a great day!

>

> :-D



## Stacy McClure

---

**From:** Phil Landrum <phil@landrumandlandrum.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 28, 2022 5:20 PM  
**To:** Stacy McClure; Phil Eberly; Don Boggus  
**Subject:** FW: KJZP--FROM A PILOT'S PERSPECTIVE/REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
**Attachments:** 1568\_001.pdf

All:

Would any of you have the information Alan is requesting, below?

Thank you,  
Phil

**From:** Alan Armstrong [mailto:[alan@alanarmstronglaw.com](mailto:alan@alanarmstronglaw.com)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 28, 2022 4:14 PM  
**To:** Phil Landrum <[phil@landrumandlandrum.com](mailto:phil@landrumandlandrum.com)>  
**Cc:** Katherine Walker <[aaparalegal@alanarmstronglaw.com](mailto:aaparalegal@alanarmstronglaw.com)>  
**Subject:** KJZP--FROM A PILOT'S PERSPECTIVE/REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Phil: I went on Foreflight which is an aviation database used by many pilots to see what light it might shed on flight operations at KJZP. Here is what I found:

1. The Touch Down Zone Elevation (TDZE) for Runway 16 is 1515 feet Mean Sea Level (MSL) while the TDZE for Runway 34 is 1535 meaning Runway 34 slopes downhill 20 feet in 5,000 feet. That is a 4% downhill gradient. If the runway is not uniformly level, neither is the grass.
2. There are two Instrument Approach Procedures for KJZP, the RNAV/GPS for Runway 16 and the RNAVGPS for Runway 34. Both Instrument Approach Procedures contemplate the pilot landing on a paved runway. I can find nothing in the data on this airport authorizing landing on the grass. If the paved runway as closed by a Notice to Airmen in May of 2022, when someone landed on the grass, I would ask the pilot on what authority did he land on the grass as opposed to the runway. I cannot find anything in the data on the airport that would permit such an operation.

If we are going to have a meeting on the week of July 4 or July 11, I would respectfully ask for the following in advance of any meeting:

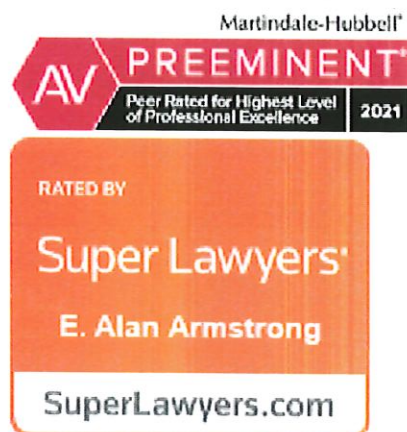
1. A copy of the current Airport Layout Plan (ALP);
2. A copy of the Airport Rules;
3. A copy of any minutes of meetings where complaints of Mr. Denison's clients were raised before the Pickens County Airport Authority or Pickens County Board of Commissioners;
4. All correspondence between the Pickens County Airport Authority and/or Pickens County Board of Commissioners and the clients of Mr. Denison;
5. All Grant Assurance Agreements between Pickens County and the Department of Transportation/Federal Aviation Administration for the past 20 years;

6. The T-Hangar List for KJZP;
7. Any rules concerning parking cars on the airport ramp or common areas;
8. Any rules concerning access to bathrooms, especially at night and after hours;
9. Any other documents in your possession that you believe would be helpful in helping me understand what has taken place on the airport; and
10. Copies of any and all leases, contracts or other documents evidencing agreements between Mr. Denison's clients and the Pickens County Airport Authority and/or the Pickens County Board of Commissioners.

Respectfully,

**Alan Armstrong, Esq.**

Alan Armstrong Attorney at Law  
**AV Rated Law Firm Since 1989**  
2900 Chamblee Tucker Road  
Building 5, Suite 350  
Atlanta, Georgia 30341  
Phone: (770) 451-0313  
Facsimile: (770) 451-0317  
[www.alanarmstronglaw.com](http://www.alanarmstronglaw.com)



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**From:** Alan Armstrong Law <[copieralanarmstrong@gmail.com](mailto:copieralanarmstrong@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 28, 2022 3:40 PM

**To:** Alan Armstrong <[alan@alanarmstronglaw.com](mailto:alan@alanarmstronglaw.com)>

**Subject:** Attached Image

19115

RNAV (GPS) RWY 16  
PICKENS COUNTY (JZP)

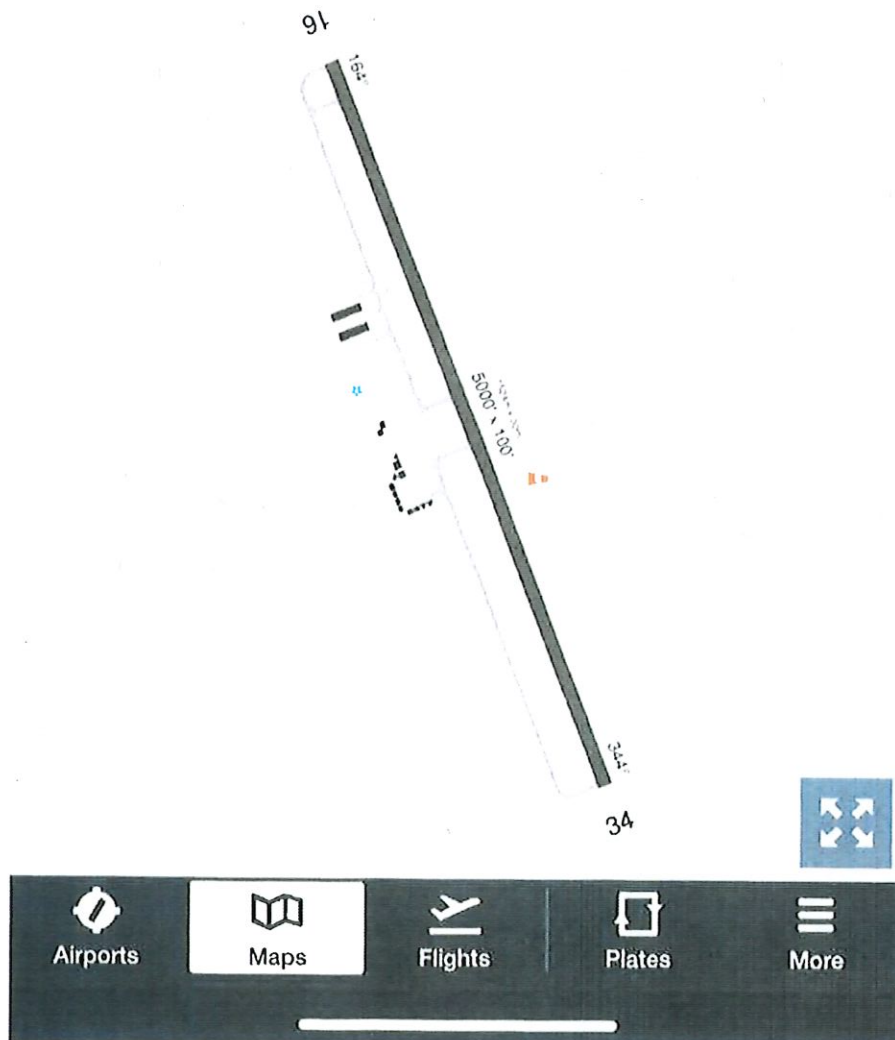
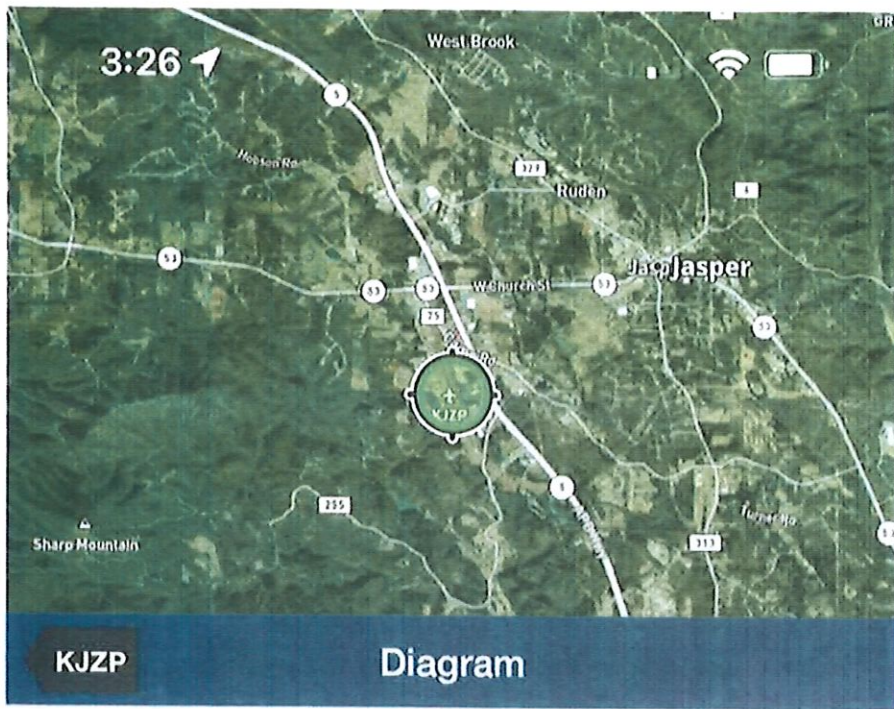
**MISSED APPROACH:**  
Climb to 3000 then  
climbing right turn to  
4400 direct IPECA  
and hold.

16 JUN 2022 to 14 JUL 2022

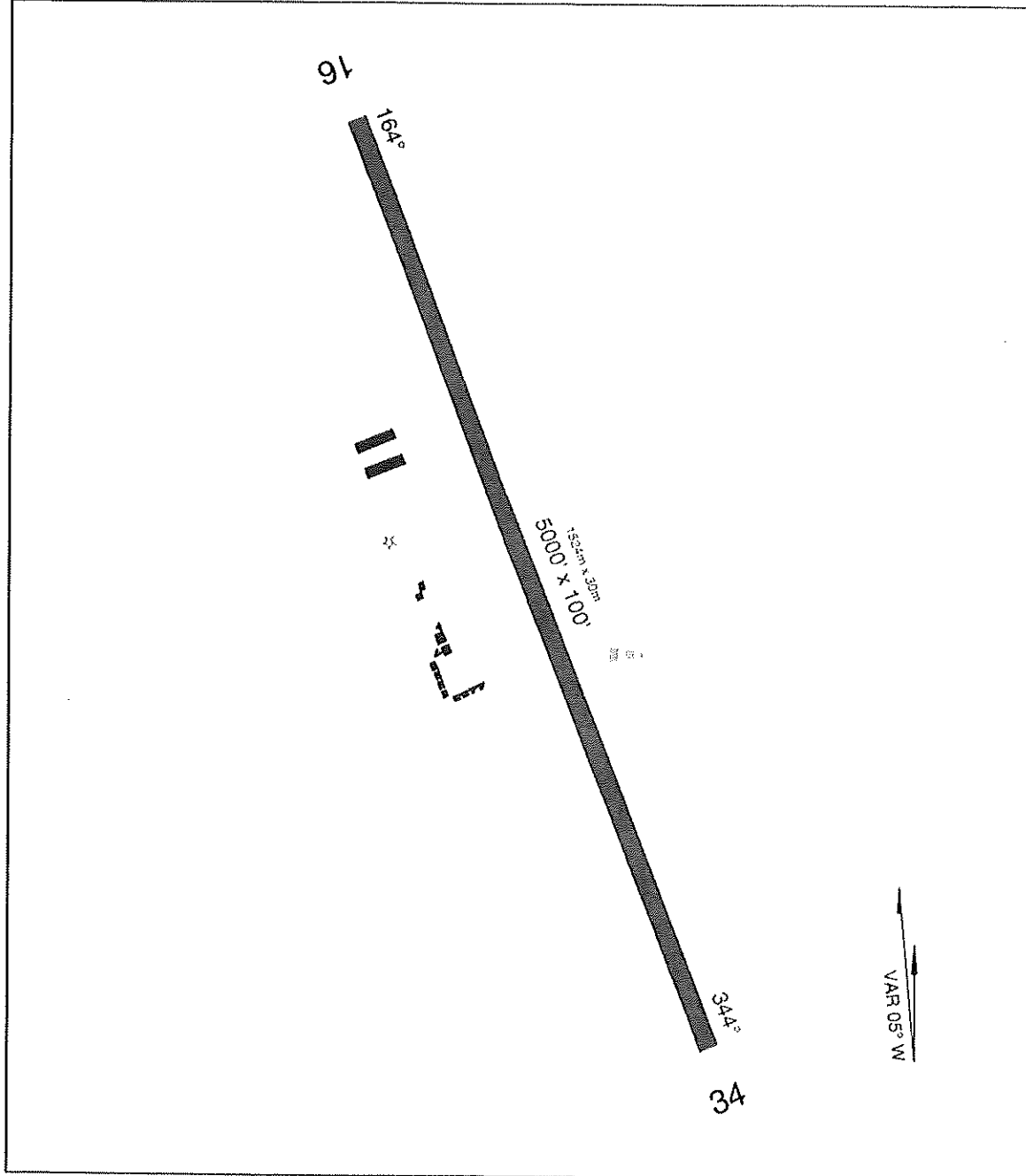
PICKENS COUNTY (JZP)  
RNAV (GPS) RWY 16







**KJZP: PICKENS COUNTY**  
JASPER, GA



**ForeFlight**  
Intelligent Apps for Pilots

3:29



Close

## Fixed Base Operators

### FBO

#### Pickens County Airport

(706) 253-8830

122.725 UNICOM

100LL \$7.26

Jet A+ \$5.50

### AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE / SERVICES

#### Joe Aircraft Maintenance

(404) 509-1559



3:30



Close

Remarks

Comments

Add Comment

Extensive student trng atl340045-atl355049; 3000-9000 ft;  
1200-1730.

Deer & wildlife on & in vicinity of airport.

For cd contact atlanta artcc at [770-210-7692](tel:770-210-7692).

3:31



KJZP



Q KJZP



## Pickens County



Jasper, Georgia, US

Elevation: 1,535'



6:28 AM



8:54 PM EDT

3D View

Taxiways

FBOs

Comments

Info

Weather

Runway

Procedure

NOTAM

Airport

Obstacle

TFR/ARTCC

### LAST 7 DAYS



#### JZP INSTRUMENT APPROACH PROCEDURE PICKENS COUNTY, JASPER, GA.

RNAV (GPS) RUNWAY 16, AMENDMENT 1B...

LPV VISIBILITY ALL CATS 1 1/8 SM, LNAV/VNAV VISIBILITY ALL CATS 1

SM, LNAV VISIBILITY CATS A/B 1 3/8, CIRCLING CATEGORY B MINIMUM DESCENT ALTITUDE 2360/HEIGHT ABOVE AIRPORT

825, CATEGORY C MINIMUM DESCENT ALTITUDE 2760/ HEIGHT ABOVE AIRPORT 1225; VISIBILITY CATEGORY B 1 1/4, CATEGORY C 3.

CHANGE NOTE TO READ: WHEN LOCAL ALTIMETER SETTING NOT RECEIVED, USE

CANTON ALTIMETER SETTING: INCREASE LPV DA TO 1990 FEET AND ALL

VISIBILITIES 1/4 SM; INCREASE LNAV/VNAV DA TO 1903 FEET AND ALL

VISIBILITIES 1/8 SM; INCREASE ALL MDAS 80 FEET AND LNAV ALL

VISIBILITIES 1/4 SM..

THIS IS RNAV (GPS) RUNWAY 16, AMENDMENT 1C.

2206241426-PERMANENT. FDC 2/3726

Effective Jun 24, 10:26 AM EDT (Active)



#### JZP INSTRUMENT APPROACH PROCEDURE PICKENS COUNTY, JASPER, GA.

RNAV (GPS) RUNWAY 34, ORIGINAL...

LPV VISIBILITY ALL CATS 3/4 SM, CIRCLING CATEGORY B



Airports



Maps







Flights









Plates



More

3:32    

  KJZP  

 KJZP 

Info Weather Runway Procedure NOTAM

Airport Obstacle TFR/ARTCC

LAST 7 DAYS



**JZP INSTRUMENT APPROACH PROCEDURE PICKENS COUNTY, JASPER, GA.**

**RNAV (GPS) RUNWAY 34, ORIGINAL...**

**LPV VISIBILITY ALL CATS 3/4 SM, CIRCLING CATEGORY B MINIMUM DESCENT ALTITUDE 2360/HEIGHT ABOVE AIRPORT 825,**

**CATEGORY C MINIMUM DESCENT ALTITUDE 2760/HEIGHT ABOVE AIRPORT 1225; VISIBILITY CATEGORY B 1 1/4, CATEGORY C 3.**

**CHANGE NOTE TO READ: WHEN LOCAL ALTIMETER SETTING NOT RECEIVED, USE**

**CANTON ALTIMETER SETTING: INCREASE LPV DA TO 1854 FEET AND ALL**

**VISIBILITIES 1/8 SM; INCREASE ALL MDAS 80 FEET AND LNAV ALL**

**VISIBILITIES 1/4 SM.**

**THIS IS RNAV (GPS) RUNWAY 34, ORIGINAL-A. 2206241426-PERMANENT. FDC 2/3738**

**Effective Jun 24, 10:26 AM EDT (Active)**

OLDER

**JZP AD AP RDO ALTIMETER UNRELIABLE. AUTOLAND, HUD TO**

**TOUCHDOWN, ENHANCED FLIGHT VISION SYSTEMS TO TOUCHDOWN, HELICOPTER OPERATION(S)**

**REQUIRING RDO ALTIMETER DATA TO INCLUDE HOVER AUTOPILOT MODES AND**

**CATEGORY A/B/PERFORMANCE CLASS TAKEOFF AND LANDING NOT AUTHORIZED EXCEPT FOR AIRCRAFT**

**USING APPROVED ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF COMPLIANCE DUE TO 5G C-BAND**

**INTERFERENCE PLUS SEE AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES 2021-23-12,**

**2021-23-13. MCN 04/669**

Airports Maps Flights Plates More



3:32

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KJZP

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🔍 KJZP

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Info

Weather

Runway

Procedure

NOTAM

Airport

Obstacle

TFR/ARTCC

#### LAST 7 DAYS

AIRPORT 825,  
 CATEGORY C MINIMUM DESCENT ALTITUDE 2760/HEIGHT  
 ABOVE AIRPORT 1225; VISIBILITY CATEGORY B 1 1/4,  
 CATEGORY C 3.  
 CHANGE NOTE TO READ: WHEN LOCAL ALTIMETER  
 SETTING NOT RECEIVED, USE  
 CANTON ALTIMETER SETTING: INCREASE LPV DA TO 1854  
 FEET AND ALL  
 VISIBILITIES 1/8 SM; INCREASE ALL MDAS 80 FEET AND  
 LNAV ALL  
 VISIBILITIES 1/4 SM.  
 THIS IS RNAV (GPS) RUNWAY 34, ORIGINAL-A. 2206241426-  
 PERMANENT. FDC 2/3738

Effective Jun 24, 10:26 AM EDT (Active)

#### OLDER

JZP AD AP RDO ALTIMETER UNRELIABLE. AUTOLAND,  
 HUD TO  
 TOUCHDOWN, ENHANCED FLIGHT VISION SYSTEMS TO  
 TOUCHDOWN, HELICOPTER OPERATION(S)  
 REQUIRING RDO ALTIMETER DATA TO INCLUDE HOVER  
 AUTOPILOT MODES AND  
 CATEGORY A/B/PERFORMANCE CLASS TAKEOFF AND  
 LANDING NOT AUTHORIZED EXCEPT FOR AIRCRAFT  
 USING APPROVED ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF  
 COMPLIANCE DUE TO 5G C-BAND  
 INTERFERENCE PLUS SEE AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES  
 2021-23-12,  
 2021-23-13. MCN 04/669

Effective Apr 30, 12:01 AM EDT (Active)

Expires Apr 30, 2024, 12:01 AM EDT (in 671 days)

Only effective NOTAMs are displayed. NOTAMs are grouped by  
 their effective Zulu time.

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Airports

Maps

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More



3:32



KJZP



Q KJZP



Info

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NOTAM

Airport

Obstacle

TFR/ARTCC

LAST 7 DAYS



**JZP OBSTRUCTION/OBSTACLE TOWER (ASN 2019-ASO-5340-OE) 342628N0842101W (5.3NM E JZP) 1827FT (470FT ABOVE GROUND LEVEL) NOT LIGHTED. MCN 06/758**

**Effective Jun 27, 1:45 PM EDT (Active)**

**Expires Sep 24, 7:59 PM EDT (in 88 days)**

Only effective NOTAMs are displayed. NOTAMs are grouped by their effective Zulu time.



Airports



Maps



Flights



Plates



More

3:34



KJZP



Q KJZP

## Pickens County



Jasper, Georgia, US

Elevation: 1,535'



6:28 AM



8:54 PM EDT

3D View

Taxiways

FBOs

Comments

Info

Weather

Runway

Procedure

NOTAM

### WEATHER AND ADVISORY

#### AWOS-3PT

(706) 253-9008

118.55

### CLEARANCE

#### Clearance Delivery

Atlanta Center

(770) 210-7692

### COMMON

#### CTAF/UNICOM

122.725

### CENTER

#### Atlanta Center

133.1

### FLIGHT SERVICE

#### Flight Service

(800) 992-7433

Macon, 24H

122.3

#### Flight Service

(800) 992-7433

Macon, 24H

122.55

### TRAFFIC PATTERN



Airports



Maps



Flights



Plates



More

3:35



KJZP



Q KJZP



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NOTAM

### FLIGHT SERVICE

### TRAFFIC PATTERNS

Heavy Aircraft	3,035' MSL (est.)
Turbine	3,035' MSL (est.)
Light Aircraft	2,535' MSL (est.)
Rotorcraft	2,035' MSL (est.)
Ultralight	2,035' MSL (est.)

### CHART SUPPLEMENT

A/FD

### NEARBY

Nearby Airports

### ATTENDED

Months	ALL
Weekdays	ALL
Hours	0900-1800

### MANAGER

Name

Randy Thomason



Airports



Maps



Flights



Plates



More



3:35



KJZP



Q KJZP



Info

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Procedure

NOTAM

ATTENDED

MANAGER

Name Randy Thomason

Address 193 Airport Road, Jasper, GA 30143

Phone (770) 893-8135

OWNER

Name Pickens County

Address 1266 EAST CHURCH STREET, SUITE  
201, JASPER, GA 30143

Phone (706) 253-8817

AIRPORT

Phone (770) 893-8135

CYCLE

Version 2206

Updated Jun 22, 2022

Effective Jun 16, 2022

Expires Jul 14, 2022



Airports



Maps



Flights



Plates



More



3:35



KJZP



Q KJZP



Info

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Procedure

NOTAM

CYCLE

Effective

Jul 10, 2022

Expires

Jul 14, 2022

### FEATURES

Show in Maps

Wikipedia

Customs Available

Unknown

Elevation (MSL)

1,535

FIR/ARTCC

Atlanta (ZTL)

Flight Service

Macon (MCN)

Location

34.45°N/84.46°W

Magnetic Variation

4° W

Sectional

Atlanta

Time Zone

EDT (GMT-4)

Transition Altitude (MSL)

18,000

Type

Airport

### FLIGHT TRACKING



Airports



Maps



Flights



Plates



More

3:35



KJZP



Q KJZP



Info

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NOTAM

### FEATURES

Transition Altitude (MSL)

18,000

Type

Airport

### FLIGHT TRACKING

Scheduled Arrivals

Scheduled Departures

Enroute

### CAR RENTAL

Enterprise Rent-A-Car  
(706) 692-2800

0.9 mi

### LODGING

Super 8 Jasper  
(706) 253-3297

0.6 mi

Pickens Star Lodge  
(706) 253-2711

1.6 mi

Microtel Inn and Suites Jasper  
(706) 299-5500

1.7 mi

Woodbridge Inn Jasper  
(706) 253-6293

1.9 mi

Show All (8)



Airports



Maps



Flights



Plates



More

3:36



KJZP



Q KJZP



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NOTAM

#### LODGING

Pickens Star Lodge

(706) 253-2711

1.6 mi

Microtel Inn and Suites Jasper

(706) 299-5500

1.7 mi

Woodbridge Inn Jasper

(706) 253-6293

1.9 mi

Show All (8)

#### OTHER

Aircraft Rental

Pilot Instruction

#### RESTAURANTS

Bojangles' Famous Chicken 'n Biscuits

(706) 253-2442

0.8 mi

McDonald's

(706) 692-3553

0.8 mi

Pizza Hut

(706) 692-0051

0.8 mi

Wendy's

(706) 253-3738

0.8 mi

Show All (15)



Airports



Maps



Flights



Plates



More



3:36



KJZP

## Lodging

**Super 8 Jasper**

(706) 253-3297

0.6 mi

**Pickens Star Lodge**

(706) 253-2711

1.6 mi

**Microtel Inn and Suites Jasper**

(706) 299-5500

1.7 mi

**Woodbridge Inn Jasper**

(706) 253-6293

1.9 mi

**Budget Inn**

(706) 253-2533

2.5 mi

**Mountain Vista Rentals**

(404) 788-7635

3.0 mi

**Tate House**

(770) 735-3122

5.6 mi

**Seventy-four Ranch**

(706) 692-0123

7.4 mi



Airports



Maps



Flights



Plates



More



# Pickens County, Georgia

Article Talk

文A



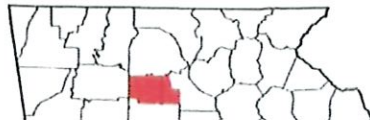
**Pickens County** is a [county](#) located in the north-central portion of the [U.S. state](#) of [Georgia](#). As of the [2010 census](#), the population was 29,431.<sup>[1]</sup> The [county seat](#) is [Jasper](#).<sup>[2]</sup> Pickens County is part of the [Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, Georgia metropolitan statistical area](#).

## Pickens County

U.S. county



Pickens County Courthouse, Jasper



## Stacy McClure

---

**From:** Phil Eberly <peberly@leadedgedesign.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 29, 2022 3:08 PM  
**To:** Phil Landrum  
**Cc:** Stacy McClure; Don Boggus  
**Subject:** Re: KJZP--FROM A PILOT'S PERSPECTIVE/REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
**Attachments:** image001.png; image002.png; image003.png; image004.png; 1568\_001.pdf

Phil,

Of the 10 items requested we can provide items 1 (Airport Layout Plan) and 5 (Grant Assurances).

Also, Alan's runway slope calculation of 20' in 5,000' results in a slope of 0.4% rather than 4%.

Thanks,

Phil

Phil Eberly  
President  
Lead Edge Design Group, Inc  
300 Parkbrooke Place, Suite 100  
Woodstock, GA 30189  
770-845-7657  
www.LeadEdgeDesign.com

On Jun 28, 2022, at 5:40 PM, Phil Landrum <phil@landrumandlandrum.com> wrote:

All:

Would any of you have the information Alan is requesting, below?

Thank you,  
Phil

**From:** Alan Armstrong [mailto:[alan@alanarmstronglaw.com](mailto:alan@alanarmstronglaw.com)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 28, 2022 4:14 PM  
**To:** Phil Landrum <[phil@landrumandlandrum.com](mailto:phil@landrumandlandrum.com)>  
**Cc:** Katherine Walker <[aaparalegal@alanarmstronglaw.com](mailto:aaparalegal@alanarmstronglaw.com)>  
**Subject:** KJZP--FROM A PILOT'S PERSPECTIVE/REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Phil: I went on Foreflight which is an aviation database used by many pilots to see what light it might shed on flight operations at KJZP. Here is what I found:

1. The Touch Down Zone Elevation (TDZE) for Runway 16 is 1515 feet Mean Sea Level (MSL) while the TDZE for Runway 34 is 1535 meaning Runway 34 slopes downhill 20 feet in 5,000 feet. That is a 4% downhill gradient. If the runway is not uniformly level, neither is the grass.
2. There are two Instrument Approach Procedures for KJZP, the RNAV/GPS for Runway 16 and the RNAVGPS for Runway 34. Both Instrument Approach Procedures contemplate the pilot landing on a paved runway. I can find nothing in the data on this airport authorizing landing on the grass. If the paved runway as closed by a Notice to Airmen in May of 2022, when someone landed on the grass, I would ask the pilot on what authority did he land on the grass as opposed to the runway. I cannot find anything in the data on the airport that would permit such an operation.

If we are going to have a meeting on the week of July 4 or July 11, I would respectfully ask for the following in advance of any meeting:

1. A copy of the current Airport Layout Plan (ALP);
2. A copy of the Airport Rules;
3. A copy of any minutes of meetings where complaints of Mr. Denison's clients were raised before the Pickens County Airport Authority or Pickens County Board of Commissioners;
4. All correspondence between the Pickens County Airport Authority and/or Pickens County Board of Commissioners and the clients of Mr. Denison;
5. All Grant Assurance Agreements between Pickens County and the Department of Transportation/Federal Aviation Administration for the past 20 years;
6. The T-Hangar List for KJZP;
7. Any rules concerning parking cars on the airport ramp or common areas;
8. Any rules concerning access to bathrooms, especially at night and after hours;
9. Any other documents in your possession that you believe would be helpful in helping me understand what has taken place on the airport; and
10. Copies of any and all leases, contracts or other documents evidencing agreements between Mr. Denison's clients and the Pickens County Airport Authority and/or the Pickens County Board of Commissioners.

Respectfully,

**Alan Armstrong, Esq.**

Alan Armstrong Attorney at Law  
**AV Rated Law Firm Since 1989**  
2900 Chamblee Tucker Road  
Building 5, Suite 350  
Atlanta, Georgia 30341  
Phone: (770) 451-0313  
Facsimile: (770) 451-0317  
[www.alanarmstronglaw.com](http://www.alanarmstronglaw.com)



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**From:** Alan Armstrong Law <[copieralanarmstrong@gmail.com](mailto:copieralanarmstrong@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 28, 2022 3:40 PM

**To:** Alan Armstrong <[alan@alanarmstronglaw.com](mailto:alan@alanarmstronglaw.com)>

**Subject:** Attached Image





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

Western-Pacific Region  
Office of Civil Rights

777 S. Aviation Blvd, Suite #150  
El Segundo, CA 90245

August 10, 2022

Randy Thomason  
Airport Manager  
Pickens County Airport  
193 Airport Road  
Jasper, GA 30143

Re: Complainant v. Pickens County Airport

Dear Randy Thomason:

The FAA Airport Nondiscrimination Compliance Program has received a complaint related to Pickens County Airport (JZP). The complainant alleges that Pickens County Airport Authority ("the Authority"), the owner and operator of JZP, discriminated against the complainant on the basis of sex, in violation of the Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982. The complainant is the only female tenant business owner at JZP, with three businesses operating at JZP. The complainant alleges that the Authority treated the complainant differently than similarly situated male-owned businesses and male independent operators.

The complainant's specific allegations are as follows:

1. Starting on May 11, 2022, the JZP airport manager ordered pilots for one of the complainant's three businesses at JZP, Get Inspired Flight, Inc. (GIFT), to stop operating on the grass area on the east side of Runway 34 approach, that parallels the runway for approximately 4,000 feet. The complainant alleges that pilots of male-owned businesses and male independent operators at JZP were not prohibited from doing so. GIFT's inability to operate on the grass area creates financial hardship by preventing nearly half of GIFT's operations.
2. Additionally, the complainant alleges that the Authority gave preferential treatment to male-owned businesses and male independent operators regarding use of the parking ramp and onsite facilities as follows:
  - A. Effective June 30, 2021<sup>1</sup> and continuing to this day, the Authority ordered that the ramp in front of complainant's second business, Light Sport Aviators (LSA), and Joe Aircraft (male-owned) must remain empty at all times, but does not enforce this requirement against Joe Aircraft, particularly for automobile parking and aircraft maintenance on the ramp. The Authority continues to allow Joe Aircraft to perform maintenance on its aircraft and to

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<sup>1</sup> The complainant states that the airport Authority issued the order at the June 14, 2021 meeting; the order was effective June 30, 2021.

park automobile vehicles belonging to its staff, associates,<sup>2</sup> and customers on the ramp area that is supposed to be kept clear. To comply with the Authority's order, complainant cut the tie down ropes for their aircraft, at the tie down rented by LSA, forcing LSA to hangar their aircraft after each lesson, but Joe Aircraft continues to use the ramp for its aircraft tie downs.

- B. The complainant's requests for a key to the FBO/terminal for GIFT on January 10, 2022; January 29, 2022; and March 12-13, 2022 were denied. However, the Authority provided Joe Aircraft and two independent flight instructors<sup>3</sup> (both male), neither of whom rent a hangar or own an airplane, with keys<sup>4</sup> to the FBO/terminal, allowing them to enter 24 hours a day / 7 days a week.
- C. The Authority does not provide trash services to the Complainant that are similar to what it provides to Joe Aircraft. Joe Aircraft does not pay the Authority for trash service, but the Authority routinely takes its trash to the County dump, but not GIFT's. The Authority provides a dumpster that Joe Aircraft uses; GIFT does not use it, but the airport manager has and continues to accuse GIFT of dumping garbage in it.

The FAA Airport Nondiscrimination Compliance Program, within the FAA Office of Civil Rights, is responsible for investigating complaints that allege discrimination by recipients of Federal assistance on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, creed, or age, as well as related acts of retaliation, in violation of Federal law. Airport sponsor recipients under the FAA Airport Improvement Program (AIP) are covered by the Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982 (49 USC § 471, Section 47123) (hereafter, "Sec. 47123"), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex. AIP grant recipients commit to comply with Sec. 47123, and related authorities and to ensure against discrimination in their activities as a condition of receiving Federal financial assistance (Airport Sponsor Assurance 30). See DOT Order 1000.12C, *The Department of Transportation Title VI Program* (June 11, 2021)<sup>5</sup> and AIP Grant Assurances, 87 Fed. Reg. 25691 (May 2, 2022)<sup>6</sup> (Assurance 30).

Please be advised that no one may intimidate, threaten, coerce, or engage in other discriminatory conduct against anyone because he or she has either taken action or participated in an action to secure rights protected by the civil rights laws we enforce. Any individual alleging such harassment or intimidation may file a complaint with the FAA. We would investigate such a complaint if the situation warrants. Any questions or

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<sup>2</sup> The complainant alleges that pilot friends of Joe Aircraft, including Al Loveless, Jim Gouin, Tom Gray, Ted Scott, Russ Ziprik continue to park their vehicles on the ramp, in violation of the order by the Authority, while LSA abides by the order.

<sup>3</sup> The complainant identified the flight instructors as Ted Scott and Wendell Turner.

<sup>4</sup> The complainant's belief that Joe Aircraft and the second flight instructor have keys is based on observations of them teaching in the FBO, after hours.

<sup>5</sup> Information for DOT Orders is available at <https://www.transportation.gov/mission/dot-orders>.

<sup>6</sup> Information for AIP Grant Assurances is available at [http://www.faa.gov/airports/aip/grant\\_assurances/#current-assurances](http://www.faa.gov/airports/aip/grant_assurances/#current-assurances). The prior version was published at 85 Fed. Reg. 18755 (February 20, 2020).

concerns you have regarding the investigative process and your rights can be discussed with the investigator.

We would also like to inform you that under the Freedom of Information Act (5 USC § 552) and the Privacy Act (5 USC § 552a), it may be necessary to release this information, related correspondence, and records upon request. In the event that we receive such a request, we will seek to protect, to the extent provided by law, personal information, which if released, could constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy.

To assist us in investigating and resolving the concerns mentioned in the complaint, we ask that you send us the following information no later than the close of business on September 9, 2022. Please provide brief written responses. In some cases, it may be useful to provide pictures instead of or in addition to a written response.

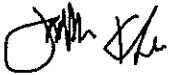
1. Airport response to the complaint.
2. Describe the grass area immediately adjacent to Runway 34 on the east side of the Runway 34 approach, that parallels the runway for approximately 4,000 feet, and related policies:
  - a. Provide a general description and pictures, if possible.
  - b. Clarify how the area is supposed to be used – is it designated as a landing or take off area for tailwheel aircraft (sod runway)?
  - c. What are the policies restricting use of the area for aircraft operations?
  - d. How are the policies made available to tenants and aircraft operators?
  - e. Describe how the Authority enforces restrictions for use of the grass area. If any exceptions are made, who has received an exception and what are the reasons for the exceptions?
3. Describe the ramp area in front of LSA and Joe Aircraft:
  - a. Provide a general description and pictures, if possible.
  - b. Clarify how this ramp area is supposed to be used.
  - c. What are the policies restricting use of this ramp area, including for tenant aircraft and automobile parking?
  - d. How are the policies for use of this ramp area made available to tenants and aircraft operators?
  - e. Describe how the Authority enforces restrictions for use of this ramp area. If any exceptions are made, who has received an exception and what are the reasons for the exceptions?
4. What is the policy regarding which tenants are granted terminal/restroom keys? If any exceptions made, who has received an exception and what are the reasons for the exceptions?
5. What is the policy regarding use of the trash dumpster near Joe Aircraft, including for tenants leaving trash in the dumpster? How is the policy enforced? If any exceptions made, who has received an exception and what are the reasons for the exceptions?
6. Has the Authority or any of its representatives accused GIFT or its representatives of dumping their trash in Authority-controlled or other tenant-controlled dumpsters, without permission? If so, please explain the reasons.



Lastly, in accordance with DOT Order 1000.18, we invite you to meet with our staff to discuss options for informal resolution. The Order encourages early informal resolution as an alternative to formal investigations. It can be initiated at any stage of the complaint investigation process.

If you have any questions, please contact me. I can be reached at (424) 405-7202 or by electronic mail at [Jonathan.Klein@FAA.gov](mailto:Jonathan.Klein@FAA.gov). You can also contact Elisha Luyeho, the lead investigator for this complaint. He can be reached at (847) 294-7238 or by electronic mail at [Elisha.Luyeho@FAA.gov](mailto:Elisha.Luyeho@FAA.gov). Please direct any written correspondence regarding this matter that cannot be sent by electronic mail to Cherry Smith at 159-30 Rockaway Blvd, Room 217, Jamaica, NY 11434. Reference the DOT tracking number cited above in all future correspondence or contact with this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Klein', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jonathan Klein  
Team Lead  
FAA National Airport Disability and Nondiscrimination Compliance Programs

## Stacy McClure

---

**From:** Randy Thomason <jzpmanager@ellijay.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 12, 2022 10:18 AM  
**To:** Stacy McClure; Don Boggus; Ed Wood; Kris Stancil  
**Subject:** FW: 4B JZP Airport Notification and Request for Information Letter  
**Attachments:** JZP Title VI Airport Notification Ltr 220810a.pdf

Received from FAA about complaints from GIFT (Get Inspired)  
Please review, discuss and respond by the date indicated.

These are my initial thoughts for your review.

We cut the grass and didn't when our cutters were in maintenance – No one was stopped.

GIFT has a large hangar area for training, our county owned building leaves the outside entrance open for entry to the bathrooms 24/7.

We do not provide garbage service to anyone.

GIFT and Joe Aircraft both park in front of H-12 (GIFT) and H-11 Joe Acft.

Temporarily, H-11 is more out of the way, H-12 with an acft in front blocks egress from the FBO to the South to 34.

Garrett has a key and responds to aircraft emergencies if needed,

Ted Scott has a key & Wendell have a key – no buildings available otherwise and very infrequently.

With one office condemned another repurposed space is extremely limited. We will be locking our office much more in the future for security.

We do not discriminate. Period

Thanks

Randy Thomason

**From:** Luyeho, Elisha (FAA) <Elisha.Luyeho@faa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 10, 2022 4:47 PM  
**To:** jzpmanager@ellijay.com  
**Cc:** Klein, Jonathan (FAA) <Jonathan.Klein@faa.gov>  
**Subject:** 4B JZP Airport Notification and Request for Information Letter

Dear Randy Thomason,

Attached is a letter regarding a Title VI complaint we have received against the Pickens County Airport (JZP). Please note the letter includes a request for information we should receive no later than September 9, 2022.

We no longer mail a hard copy of this letter, but can mail a hard copy of this letter upon request.

Due to technical difficulty with the US Department of Transportation complaint tracking system, we will provide you a complaint tracking number when the complaint tracking system service is restored.

Please give me a call if you have a question or need clarification.



**Elisha Luyeho**  
Equal Opportunity Specialist  
Office of Civil Rights  
(ACR-4B)

Office: 847.294.7238

Email: [Elisha.Luyeho@faa.gov](mailto:Elisha.Luyeho@faa.gov)

Federal Aviation Administration  
Office of Civil Rights  
2300 East Devon Avenue, Room 440  
Des Plaines, IL. 60018

[www.faa.gov](http://www.faa.gov)



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