



2009-8

NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS BIOMETRIC IDENTIFICATION SYSTEMS TO ALLOW LAW ENFORCEMENT TO FLY WHILE ARMED

WHEREAS, state and local law enforcement routinely extradite and transport fugitives from one state to another;

WHEREAS, a common method of transportation for extraditions is via commercial airlines;

WHEREAS, there is a critical need for state and local law enforcement to remain armed during flight to ensure the safety and security of the passengers, the flight crew, the law enforcement officers, and the fugitive;

WHEREAS, federal legislation is needed to develop a system for the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to allow state and local law enforcement to fly while armed;

WHEREAS, biometric identification systems would enable TSA the ability to verify the armed law enforcement officer's identity;

WHEREAS, TSA currently lacks the necessary biometric identification systems;

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association supports the concept of law enforcement officers flying while armed;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association supports providing TSA with vital biometric identification systems to efficiently and effectively identify an armed law enforcement officer.

Adopted at a Meeting of the General Membership in Ft. Lauderdale, FL on June 23, 2009.