



October 18, 2021

The Honorable Shalanda Young
Acting Director
Office of Management and Budget
New Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20503

Re: COVID-related Requirements for Employers Under EO 14042

Dear Ms. Young:

On behalf of the members of the Cargo Airline Association (“Association”), we are writing to provide input on the Administration’s implementation of Executive Order (EO) 14042 “Ensuring Adequate Safety Protocols for Federal Contractors”. The Association is the nationwide organization representing the interests of the United States all-cargo air carrier industry. Members include all-cargo airlines ABX Air, Atlas Air, FedEx Express, Kalitta Air and UPS, as well as indirect air carrier DHL Express.

The Association supports the goals of EO 14042 and agrees that the best way of stopping the spread of the coronavirus is for as many individuals as possible to be fully vaccinated. At the same time, we have significant concerns with the employer mandates announced on September 9, 2021, and the ability of industry members to implement the required employee vaccinations by December 8, 2021.

Association members are now entering (or have entered) their peak seasons, with operations ramping up to support our customer base and the national economy as the annual Holiday Season approaches. This is in addition to our continued role in transporting critical medical supplies, vaccines, and essential goods in response to the ongoing pandemic. Indeed, to support these services, industry members will be hiring hundreds of thousands of temporary workers to meet our needs. As a practical matter, we are extremely concerned that it will be virtually impossible to have 100% of our respective work forces vaccinated by December 8. This problem is further exacerbated by the fact that we are already experiencing a worker shortage, both in the air and on the ground, and any loss of employees who refuse to be vaccinated will adversely impact needed operations.

Faced with these facts, we respectfully request that members of the air cargo industry be granted flexibility with respect to the December 8 implementation date for 100% employee vaccinations. Sliding this date into the first half of 2022 will allow Association members to meet the demands of the e-

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commerce revolution during the Holiday Season while, at the same time, moving forward toward the 100% vaccination standard in the New Year.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steph A. Alterman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Stephen A. Alterman
President

Cc: Hon. Jeff Zients, Co-Chair, Safer Federal Workforce Task Force