

APA frustrated by lack of progress on crew self-defense training

Captain Mark Weiss, APA Security Committee Deputy Chairman, is frustrated by what he calls the "dilution process," which has led to little or no progress in flight crew self-defense programs mandated by the Aviation Transportation and Security Act (ATSA) shortly after 9/11. The APA Security Committee maintains the position that:

- ➔ Congress provided a mechanism for all crew, including pilots and flight attendants, to receive self-defense training.
- ➔ The federal government should pay for the training. ATSA, however, does not clearly state who is responsible for providing the funds.
- ➔ As a corollary to this position, the APA Security Committee supports the position that devices to enable discreet cabin-to-cockpit communication should be provided for the Flight Attendants on each aircraft. This has been a long-standing recommendation from the APA Safety Committee and is also a recommendation in ATSA.

APA's Security Committee will continue to monitor the issue while working closely with its various constituencies to ensure the government follows through on its intentions.