Summary of the Federal Aviation Administration 14 CFR Part 93
[Docket No. FAA-2026-10827; Notice No. 26-14]

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This proposed rule by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) would establish a permanent Special Flight Rules Area (SFRA) in the airspace near the President Donald J. Trump International Airport (DJT), which was formerly named Palm Beach International Airport (PBI).

Why the Rule is Being Proposed

- **Secret Service Protection**: The U.S. Secret Service (USSS) requested this permanent restricted airspace to help protect President Trump and safeguard other individuals protected by the Secret Service.
- **Securing Mar-a-Lago**: The rules are designed to help secure Mar-a-Lago, which President Trump designated as a permanent, non-Governmental property to be secured by the Secret Service.
- **Mitigating Modern Threats**: The Secret Service noted that a permanent restriction is necessary due to ongoing threat intelligence and to help security teams manage the persistent risks posed by unauthorized traditional aircraft and unmanned drone systems.

The Restricted Airspace Zone

- **Size**: The proposed restricted zone covers a circular area with a **one nautical mile radius** centered directly on Mar-a-Lago.
- **Altitude**: The restriction starts at the ground surface and goes up to **2,000 feet above mean sea level (MSL)**.

Why a Special Rule Zone Instead of a Total Flight Ban?

- **Past Presidential Precedents**: In the past, the FAA has placed total flight bans ("prohibited areas") over the private homes of previous presidents—including Richard Nixon, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, and George W. Bush.
- **Protecting Airport Operations**: Unlike a total ban, which completely blocks all non-emergency flights, this "Special Flight Rules Area" allows approved aircraft to transit through under strict supervision.
- **Preventing Airport Gridlock**: Mar-a-Lago is extremely close to the airport. A total flight ban would make the airport's primary commercial runway (Runway 28R/10L) unusable because commercial airlines must fly through this one-mile zone to safely land or take off.

How the Airspace Rules Work

- **During High-Security Travel (Active TFRs)**: When President Trump or other high-profile public figures are actively traveling in the area, the FAA will temporarily issue a Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR). During these times, pilots must follow the much stricter temporary flight rules and security alerts that are issued.
- **During Normal Times (No TFR Active)**: When there is no temporary flight alert, only specific types of flights are allowed to enter this one-mile zone:
    - **Allowed Flights**: Aircraft landing or taking off from the airport on active flight plans, military flights directly supporting the President or Secret Service, active law enforcement flights, active firefighting flights, active air ambulance flights, and emergency flights authorized by Air Traffic Control (ATC).
    - **Pilot Requirements**: Any pilot operating one of these permitted flights must stay in constant two-way radio contact with ATC, obtain explicit ATC permission before entering the zone, and continuously transmit a unique radio tracking code assigned by ATC.

Economic and Community Impact

- **No Extra Costs**: Because these security rules are already being used under a temporary instruction, the transition to a permanent rule will not add any new operational costs for pilots, airlines, or small businesses.
- **Preserving Airport Flow**: The rules ensure that commercial airlines and lifesaving emergency services can continue to operate normally without disrupting the daily flow of air traffic.

Public Involvement

- **Public Comments Invited**: The FAA is inviting the public to submit feedback, data, or opinions on this proposal. Commenters must submit their feedback online, by mail, by hand delivery, or by fax within 30 days of the rule's publication in the Federal Register.