

# LEO Flying Armed

## Iowa Department of Public Safety Program Services Bureau

**Last updated: January 4, 2024**

### Important Information for Law Enforcement Officers Flying Armed (LEOFA)

The LEOFA Program has undergone several recent (May 17, 2016\_2000 ET) enhancements to maintain the program's integrity and to improve service and support to Law Enforcement Officers (LEOs), who meet the requirements to fly armed on commercial aircraft nationwide. Therefore, review all content, while paying particular attention to changes to the EIT, FLN, and CAP fields (Note: Another update to the EIT explanations took effect July 20, 2016, at 2000 ET).

### Instructions For State and Local LEOs Flying Armed

Since November 15, 2008, for state or local LEO to fly armed the employing agency must send an administrative message (AM) to the Federal Air Marshal Service ORI VAFAM0199.

A receipt with a unique alphanumeric identifier will be returned from TSA's system to the employing agency. Requesting agencies or departments should expect a delay in response up to two hours. This identifier shall then be verified at the airport on the day of travel. In addition to the unique alphanumeric identifier, the officer must present the Nlets message to the TSA agent.

Failure to provide the unique alphanumeric identifier may result in delays due to the additional verification requirements or denial of flying armed. Please visit the program website at <https://www.tsa.gov/travel/law-enforcement> to learn more.

### LEOFA Help File

To obtain a copy of the Leo Flying Armed help file, an Administrative Message (AM) should be sent to destination "NLFLYHELP".

If you have questions or comments regarding the LEOFA Program or experience difficulties with submission of LEOFA identifier request messages via Nlets, please contact the Federal Air Marshal Service, Flight Operations Division, Liaison Section at [LEOFA@tsa.dhs.gov](mailto:LEOFA@tsa.dhs.gov) or by calling 1-855-FLY-LEOS (1-855-359-5367) and follow the prompts. Please refer to the Sample Nlets Messages below as a reference tool.

### Detailed LEOFA Inquiry Field Specifications

In an administrative message, each field will be on its own line. All but the header and LEOFA require a period at the end of the line. All fields are required unless otherwise noted.

LEOFA	Indicates to TSA that this is a LEO flying armed request message. All messages without this will be ignored.
NAM/	Full name of LEOFA. Must be in the format of last name, first name.
AGY/	Agency or department name of the LEOFA.
BCN/	Badge or credential number of the LEOFA.
OFC/	Officer type. Must be either state or local.
NAO/	Name of authorizing official. The Authorizing Official will be the Chief, Sheriff, or Law Enforcement Agency Administrator who endorses and approves the submission of a LEOFA Nlets message and will ensure all program requirements have been fully met prior to submission. Must be in format of last name, first name.
CRT/	Completed required training. Must be either yes or no.
CPN/	Cell phone number of LEOFA. No dashes. Must be 10 digits.
APN/	Agency or department phone number of LEOFA. No dashes. 10 digits.
EIT/	Explanation of individual's travel. Must be one word, no spaces or punctuation. Examples: PROTECTIVEDETAIL (The officer must be assigned to a protective duty or on travel required to be prepared to engage in a protective function), SURVEILLANCE (Hazardous surveillance activity, from the time the officer would otherwise check their weapon until the time the weapon would be claimed after deplaning), ENFORCEMENT or INVESTIGATION (Official police activity that requires the officer to be "Armed and Prepared For Duty". The armed LEO must have an operational need to have the weapon accessible on the aircraft), PRISONER (The primary purpose of travel for the officer must be escorting or picking up a prisoner).
EIN	Escorted individual's name. Must be in format of last name, first name. If the LEOFA will not be escorting an individual, the field must be formatted as EIN/. or EIN/NA.
NOA/	Name of airline.
FLN/	Flight Number. Multiple flight numbers should be separated by a comma and a space.
DOF/	Date of flight. Must be in format of MMDDYY
DAP/	Departing airport. Must be a known and federalized United States airport three letter code. Must not be more than 3 characters long.
CAP/	Connecting airport. When more than one airport connection exists, all connecting airport codes should be entered separated by a comma and a space. This field is not required if no connections are scheduled.
FDA/	Final destination airport.

### Sample Agency Message to the TSA

AM.IADPS0000.VAFAM0199.TXT  
LEOFA  
NAM/SMITH,JOE.  
AGY/IOWA POLICE DEPARTMENT.  
BCN/97834.  
OFC/LOCAL.  
NAO/TAYLOR,ANDY.  
CRT/YES.  
CPN/5157256220.  
APN/8003622297.  
EIT/INVESTIGATION.  
EIN/NA.  
NOA/DELTA AIRLINES.  
FLN/AA1234, AA2345.  
DOF/071324.  
DAP/DSM.  
CAP/ATL.  
FDA/SRQ.

### Sample TSA Response Message to the Agency

AM.VAFAM0199  
07:41 01/03/2024 05854  
07:41 01/03/2024 01488 IADPS0000  
TXT  
FLYING ARMED LEO REQUEST APPROVED.  
YOUR UNIQUE LEOLANE IDENTIFIER IS: AAA11111  
NAME: SMITH, JOE  
AGENCY: IOWA POLICE DEPARTMENT  
BADGE/CREDENTIAL: 97834  
NAME OF AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL: TAYLOR,ANDY  
COMPLETED TRAINING: YES  
CELL PHONE: 5157256220  
ESCORTED INDIVIDUAL: NA  
DEPARTING AIRPORT: DSM  
CONNECTING AIRPORT: ATL  
FINAL DESTINATION AIRPORT: SRQ  
AIRLINE: DELTA AIRLINES  
FLIGHT NUMBER: AA1234, AA2345  
FLIGHT DATE: 071324  
PRINT OUT THIS REPLY AND PRESENT IT AT THE AIRPORT'S LEO  
LANE