

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Board of County Commissioners

February 23, 2023



Okaloosa County to evaluate options following FAA ruling

Destin, Florida - In an effort to address various concerns related to helicopter operations at Destin Executive Airport (DTS), the Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners took action in 2021 that resulted in terminating the operating agreement with Timberview Helicopters.

Timberview filed a Part 16 Complaint with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) challenging the County's termination of its operating agreement.

In a Feb. 21, 2023 ruling by the FAA, six out of the seven claims filed by Timberview were dismissed. The FAA ruled in Timberview's favor on one claim. Due to the fact Destin Executive Airport is a federally obligated airport, within 30 days of the ruling, the County must either appeal the ruling or submit a corrective action plan to the FAA allowing Timberview to return to DTS.

The County is currently reviewing the ruling and evaluating its options.

Please note this matter remains in active litigation and there is still pending litigation in state court and further information will be released as legally permitted.

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