NGF Call Sign Changes

Effective - 1.1.2015

BACKGROUND AND TRANSITION

- 1. The three-letter Organizational designators (three-letter Identifiers) & telephony designators are assigned by the FAA with approval by ICAO for ATC operations and use in the AFTN system. (FAA AC#120-26K)
- 2. Effective June 30, 2000, the telephony "ANGEL FLIGHT" and the three-letter identifier "NGF" were approved for use by ANGEL FLIGHT AMERICA [now AIR CHARITY NETWORK], in air/ground communications, and when filing flight plans with ATC. Larry Camerlin of Angel Flight Northeast requested and secured the designators on behalf of Angel Flight America. (FAA letter to ACN 6.30.2000)
- 3. FAA Advisory Circular [AC] 120-26K reviews the flight data procedures, criteria and conditions of usage for assigned designators. A new circular will be forthcoming in early 2015 based on FAA order 7340.2 (revised publication date 11.13.2014.) (FAA)
- 4. Currently, the **NGF** designator followed by the last 3 digits of the aircraft N-number identifies the aircraft in the flight plan to ATC. **ANGEL FLIGHT** and the full aircraft N-Number are recorded in the "REMARKS" section of the associated flight plan. (AC)
- 5. In September, 2014, the FAA identified issues affecting the current usage of the NGF designator and ANGEL FLIGHT telephony which have an impact on the security of air traffic operations throughout the United States; but particularly in crowded or secure airspace where identification of every aircraft is critical. For example, (SA & Transition Timeline)
 - a. Unable to establish communications with an unidentified aircraft/pilot
 - b. Use of designators by a third-part foreign registered aircraft
 - c. Use of designators outside of airspace controlled by the United States, except for certain NGF flights that operate in Canada and the Bahamas
 - d. Aircraft/pilot identification when the first digit past the three-letter identifier is a letter and not a number or an incomplete flight plan is filed without N-number in the REMARKS section of the flight plan
 - e. Use of designators by pilots not flying on behalf of a third-party organization or for flights that do not directly support the organizations charitable purpose

The FAA and the member organizations of ACN developed an amicable solution that addresses these issues and a security agreement was executed between each organization and the FAA. The continued use of the three letter ICAO designator NGF and the telephony ANGEL FLIGHT, by Air Charity Network for third party use is contingent on the terms of the security agreement. (SA)

The resulting change will affect multiple companies and organizations that have designators assigned by the FAA. These changes are NOT specific to the NGF designator or only to flights flown on behalf of an ACN member organization.

Each ACN organization will determine the requirement for their pilots when using the NGF designator and ANGEL FLIGHT telephony. The density of flights in their geographic area and other factors will impact this decision. The consistent and continuous use, of the NGF call sign, by the member organizations of Air Charity Network, provides recognition and demonstrates the impact of public benefit flying within the aviation community.

Mercy Flight Southeast Operations

- 1. A 24/7 point of contact (POC) that can provide information to the FAA Domestic Events Network (DEN) ATC Security Coordinator (ATSC) that may be needed regarding any flight using the NGF three-letter ICAO designator and ANGEL FLIGHT telephony, including the name of the pilot in command, must be maintained. (SA)
 - a. The ATSC may need this information for lost communications, other security reasons or search and rescue. (AC)
 - b. Any changes to the 24/7 POC contact information must but be updated to the ATSC. This includes the ACN website contact information for each organization. (AC)
 - c. The 24/7 POC for Mercy Flight Southeast is: 800-352-4256, Press 2. Callers are instructed to leave a brief message with their call back number. Anyone trained to answer this phone line will have access to the information needed.
- 2. A unique NGF number will be issued to each active volunteer pilot and must only be used for flights flown on behalf of the organization. (*Transition Timeline*)
 - a. The first number past NGF identifies the organization (0-9). Number 3 after NGF represents Mercy Flight Southeast.
 - b. The next 1 to 3 numbers is the ID number connected to a specific pilot. (0-999)
 - c. A list of pilot numbers and pilot names will NOT be given to the FAA. The FAA will ONLY have access to a pilots name and information through the POC regarding a specific security issue identified by ATC.
- 3. Each ACN organization must maintain records for the past 12 months that can provide FAA Air Traffic System Operations Security with the NGF flight numbers assigned to NGF pilots, contact information for NGF pilots, and available flight information associated with NGF flight numbers when requested by FAA Air Traffic System Operations Security. (SA)

Using the NGF Call Sign and ANGEL FLIGHT Telephony

WHY USE A SPECIAL CALL SIGN FOR ANGEL FLIGHT MISSIONS?

As a member organization of Air Charity Network (formerly Angel Flight America), Mercy Flight Southeast encourages volunteer pilots to use the NGF call sign and ANGEL FLIGHT telephony when flying a mission on behalf of Mercy Flight Southeast. The use of the call sign is not required by Mercy Flight Southeast but is highly encouraged as it has benefits for passengers, pilots and for public benefit flying.

FAA Advisory Circular [AC] #120-26K based on FAA order 7340.2 (rev. 11.13.2014) outlines the usage of ICAO designators issued by the FAA for ATC operations and use in the AFTN system. Benefits of using the designators include:

- To provide a measure of safety and security for passengers (AC)
- To give pilots access to special handling by ATC (AC)
- To encourage pilots to accountability to ATC for ground and inflight operations (AC)
- For authorization of flight operations by pilots during emergencies or disasters (AC)
- To increase the value and awareness of public benefit flying within the aviation community

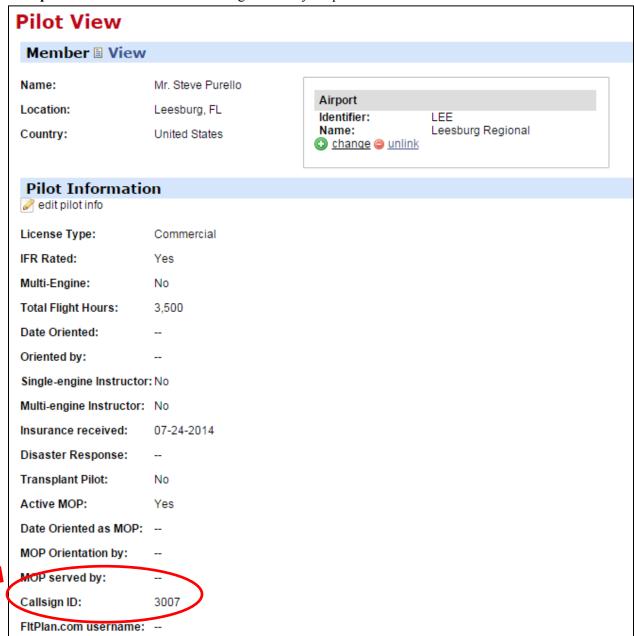
WHEN AND HOW DO I USE MY NGF NUMBER

- 1. As an active command pilot for Mercy Flight Southeast you will be issued a unique NGF number that you MUST use in conjunction with telephony ANGEL FLIGHT and when filing a flight plan with your NGF number. Pilots who fly for multiple organizations or companies should be clear on usage requirements from each organization.
- 2. Do not use your NGF number outside of U.S. controlled airspace except with certain NGF flights that operate in Canada and the Bahamas. Do not use your NGF number with a foreign registered aircraft. Do NOT use your unique NGF number when you are no longer an active AFC volunteer pilot.
- 3. ONLY use your NGF number for flights that directly support the charitable mission of Mercy Flight Southeast ["Arrange free flights so children and adults can have access to the far-from-home doctors that can save their lives."]. All missions flown on behalf of Mercy Flight Southeast will have an assigned Mission number and Itinerary. The PIC for the mission must be the pilot of record with Mercy Flight Southeast. As PIC, your name will be on the itinerary and you will file the post mission report. Only the PIC on an AFC flight has authorization to use their unique NGF number. Any other pilot onboard is NOT the pilot of record with AFC.

4. **Mission itinerary:** Your code will be automatically populated in your itinerary.



5. **Pilot profile:** You will also find Call sign ID # in your profile.



- 6. Flight Plan Requirements (see example)
 - a. When filling a Flight Plan, put your unique NGF number in **Box 2. AIRCRAFT IDENTFICATION.**
 - b. In Box 11. REMARKS insert ANGEL FLIGHT and the FAA N-number of the aircraft.

Using the NGF call sign and ANGEL FLIGHT Telephony [SAMPLE FAA FLIGHT PLAN]

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA USE		ONLY)	PILOT BRIEFING		VNR	TIME STARTED	SPECIALIST INITIALS		
				STOPOVER					
FLIGHT PLAN									
1. TYPE 2. AIRCRAFT IDENTIFICATION	AIRCRAFT TYPE/ SPECIAL EQUIPMENT		4. TRUE AIRSPEED	5. DEPARTURE POINT	L	6. DEPARTURE TIME		7. CRUISING ALTITUDE	
VFR		OIAL EQUII WEITT	AIROI EED			PROPOSED (Z) ACTUAL (Z)	ALITIODE		
IFR NGF3007			KTS						
DVFR A			, KIS			İ			
9. DESTINATION (Name of airport 10. EST. TIME ENROUTE 11. REMARKS									
and city)	HOURS		II. KEWAKK	ANGEL FLIGHT N1256S					
			<u> </u>						
12. FUEL ON BOARD	13. ALTERNATE AIRPORT(S)		14. PILOT'S NAME, ADDRESS & TELEPHONE NUMBER & AIRCRAFT HOME BASE 15. NUMBER ABOARD						
HOURS NINUTES									
			17. DESTINATION CONTACT/TELEPHONE (OPTIONAL)						
airspace. Failure to file could			FAR Part 91 requires you to file an IFR flight plan to operate under instrument flight rules in controlled I result in a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000 for each violation (Section 911 of the Federal Aviation Act of a VFR flight plan is recommended as good operating practice. See also Part 99 for requirements s.						
FAA Form 7233-1 (8-82) CLOSE VFR FLIGHT PLAN WITH FSS ON ARRIVAL								VAL	
Enter "NGF" and the four digit			Teleph	Telephony Radio call:			Enter ANGEL FLIGHT and the		
Callsign ID# in BOX 2.			"Angel Flight Double-			aircraft registration number in			
The first number (2)				O-Seven"			BOX 11 "REMARKS" Section.		
The first number (3) represents Mercy					'				
Flight Southeast						Flight Plans are closed out by tail			
The remaining number(s) identifies						number NOT call signs.			
you as a pilot on a volunteer mission flying on behalf of Mercy Flight Southeast.					L				

Terms:

AC Advisory Circular

ACN Air Charity Network (formerly Angel Flight America)
AFTN Aeronautical Fixed Telecommunications Network

ATC Air Traffic Control

ATSC Air Traffic Security Coordinator
DEN Defensive Events Network

ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization
FAA HQ Federal Aviation Administration Headquarters

POC Point of Contact

Pilot Communication by - 12.1.2014

Effective date of FAA order 7340.2 - 1.1.2015