



OPERATIONAL DIRECTIVE NO. 81-42

Effective date: October 1, 1981

Last Modified: MARCH 16, 2001

SUBJECT: MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TAXICAB OPERATIONS

PURPOSE: To ensure efficient taxi service at Miami International Airport (MIA); to provide a fair and manageable system for equitable fare opportunities for the taxicab industry; and to establish policies, fees and charges for the operation of taxicabs while engaging in the transportation of passengers and baggage at and from MIA.

I. AUTHORITY:

- A. Chapter 25 of the County Code, Aviation Department Rules and Regulations.
- B. Chapter 31, of the County Code, For-Hire Passenger Motor Vehicles.

II. DEFINITIONS:

- A. *Airport Regional Taxicab Service (ARTS)* – A specific taxicab operation designated to provide flat rate fares within predetermined and geographically defined airport zones.
- B. *Starter* – Authorized Airport employee who dispatches taxicabs to the designated holding zones.
- C. *Washout* - Situation arising when a taxicab has followed the sequence from the first lower level taxi pickup stand to the last taxi pickup stand on the lower level and has no fare because there are no passengers and no scheduled arrivals.

III. POLICY:

- A. Only taxicabs licensed and operating in compliance with the standards and conditions set forth in Chapter 31 of the County Code shall have the right to operate at MIA.

- C. Miami-Dade law enforcement officers, authorized personnel of the Airport, and representatives of the Passenger Transportation Regulatory Division, Consumer Services Department will administer and enforce the applicable ground transportation provisions established by this OD.
- D. Taxi operators will pay the fee established by [County Ordinance 31-85](#), for the purpose of recovering a portion of the costs to provide and operate the taxi operations by the Landside facilities.
- E. Taxicabs are specifically restricted from entering any area of the Airport for the purpose of waiting, turning around, stopping or standing except in those areas designated for such purposes and described herein.
- F. Drivers must remain in close attendance of their vehicles, except when parked in the Taxi Storage Lot.
- G. Taxicabs are prohibited from any form of solicitation.
- H. Private vehicles will not be permitted to park in the Taxi Storage Lot (Annex A) at any time. Unauthorized vehicles will be cited and removed as an illegally parked vehicle.

IV. TAXI STORAGE LOT INDICATOR LIGHTING SYSTEM:

- A. Taxicabs desiring to pick up passengers at the Airport, must comply with the indicator light system installed by MIA to provide the status of the Taxi Storage Lot.
- B. Taxi Lot status indicator lights are positioned at:
 - 1. The entrances on LeJeune Road
 - 2. At the intersection of N.W. 21st Street and N.W. 39th Avenue (See Annex B)
 - 3. Central Boulevard, inbound and outbound in the vicinity of the Perimeter Road overpass.
 - 4. On the upper drive, across from the Flamingo Parking Garage
 - 5. At the entrance to the Taxi Storage Lot
- C. The YELLOW lights indicate that the Taxi Storage Lot is closed and taxicabs without passengers shall not come in.
- D. The BLUE lights indicate that the Taxi Storage Lot is open and taxis may proceed directly into the lot and to the holding lines.

V. PROCEDURES: *(The following procedures do not apply to ARTS taxis. Procedures for ARTS taxis appear in Section VI.)*

A. Passenger Drop-off Service:

1. Taxis desiring to drop off passengers at MIA will proceed directly to the upper level, Departure Level, and drop off at the curbside lane adjacent to the Terminal. *Discharging passengers at areas other than the one specified is prohibited.*
2. Once passengers have been discharged, drivers are prohibited from picking up new passengers on the upper level and must immediately depart the airport.

B. Passenger Pickup Service:

1. Taxis desiring to enter the Airport to provide passenger pickup service must do so by entering from LeJeune Road onto Central Boulevard, or NW 21st Street at 37 Avenue. If the indicator lights are blue, drivers may proceed to the Taxi Storage Lot. *The use of any other ingress route by taxis without passengers is prohibited.*
2. Before entering the Lot, drivers must select a line for either the lower or the upper level passenger pickup zone and proceed to the rear of the next available line. Taxis are dispatched on a first-in/first-out basis.
3. Taxis are only permitted to pick up passengers or baggage at authorized taxi-loading zones adjacent to the Terminal bag claim areas (see Annex C). Taxis will maintain an orderly first-in/first-out sequence at each taxi pickup zone.

C. Dispatching Taxicabs for Passenger Pickup at the Lower Level - Arrivals:

1. Taxis will, at all times, follow the directions and instructions of the Starters.
2. Drivers who do not move their car when the Starter calls a line are subject to citation and have their cars towed.
3. Drivers who lose their place in line when proceeding to the Terminal cannot pass others in order to regain their position.
4. Once a Starter dispatches a line, the driver will proceed to the cashier's toll booth to pay the required fee, obtain a receipt, and

exit to the lower level Concourses A/B, taxi holding zone shown on Annex C.

5. Starters will direct taxis from Concourse A/B, maintaining the first-in/first-out sequence to Concourses C, D, and E as the line becomes depleted.
 6. The Starter at Concourse E will ensure that adequate taxis are provided at each pickup zone beyond Concourse E by moving one or more taxis down the line as required by passenger demand.
 7. Taxi drivers who lose their places in line at the Terminal, are not permitted to break the first-in/first-out sequence at any taxi pickup zone and proceed ahead to the next zone unless authorized by a Starter.
 8. If a "washout" occurs, the Starter at the Concourse H pickup zone will notify the starter at the Concourse A/B.
 9. Taxicabs that have been "washed out" will re-enter the Concourse A/B taxi holding zone through the rental car vehicle entry lane shown on Annex C and proceed to the Starter for sequencing.
 10. Taxicabs are prohibited from entering the lower level unless they have been sequenced from the Taxi Storage Lot and possess the required toll receipt.
- D. Dispatching Taxicabs for Passenger Pickup at the Upper Level Departures. Annex D:
1. Taxis will exit the Taxi Storage Lot when specifically requested by the Starter.
 2. Those first in line shall proceed to the cashier's toll booth, pay the required fee, obtain a receipt from the cashier, and exit to the upper level taxi holding stand at Concourse B, via Bus Road and Avenue E. *Short cutting through the Taxi Lot in route to the upper drive is prohibited and subject to citation.*
 3. Unless otherwise directed by the Starter, taxis will proceed from the Concourse B holding stand on a first-in/first-out sequence, to each upper level pick-up stand shown on Annex 4.
 4. Airport personnel will verify receipts of taxis operating for pickup service on the upper level. *Drivers not having a valid receipt will be subject to citation.*

5. Taxis shall pick up passengers on a first-in/first-out sequence at each upper level pickup stand. Taxis will only pickup at the upper level curbside when directed to do so by a Starter.
6. Backing up or double parking while waiting to occupy a space at a pickup stand on the upper level is prohibited.
7. Taxicab drivers will not cruise the pickup stands, nor wait at the curbside adjacent to the Terminal for a pickup, or violate the first-in/first-out sequencing procedure at any of the upper level pickup stands.
8. Taxicabs are prohibited from entering the upper level unless they are dropping off a passenger or have been sequenced from the Taxi Storage Lot and possess the required toll receipt.

VI. SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR AIRPORT REGIONAL TAXICAB SERVICE (ARTS)

- A. As previously defined, ARTS provides flat rate fares within predetermined, geographically defined airport zones.
- B. All taxicabs providing service within the ARTS system will possess a valid permit issued by the Dade County Passenger Transportation Regulatory Division and will comply with the general terms and conditions of the ARTS permit, County and State laws, specifically Chapter 31 of the County Code and this OD.
- C. Pickup procedures for ARTS taxis:
 1. ARTS taxis may enter the airport via any normal thoroughfare or ingress route.
 2. ARTS taxis are not prohibited from entering the Airport when the Taxi Storage Lot indicator light is yellow.
 3. ARTS taxis will pick up passengers at MIA lower level only.
 4. All ARTS drivers will strictly adhere to directions issued by Starters.
 5. Upon entering the Airport, ARTS taxis will proceed to the Taxi Storage Lot, line up in the designated first-in/first-out storage lane, and move in an orderly sequence to the cashier's toll booth when directed by the Starter.

6. If there are no ARTS taxis in the Taxi Storage Lot, the ARTS taxi may proceed directly to the cashier's toll booth, pay the required fee, obtain a receipt from the cashier, and advance to the special holding zone at Concourse C or E as depicted on Annex C.
7. ARTS taxis are prohibited from staging at Concourses A and B.
8. ARTS taxis will move in sequence from the holding zones to the individual loading areas when so directed by the Starter and will remain in place until a fare is obtained or until directed by the Starter to move down line to another ARTS Taxi Holding/Loading Area. The Starter may move one taxi or multiples of taxis down line as required by passenger demand.
9. ARTS drivers will remain with their vehicle at all times.
10. The Starter may double load ARTS taxis when passenger demand causes the ARTS holding lanes to be stripped of taxis.
11. Unless otherwise specifically addressed in this section, all policies, fees, and charges applicable to regular taxicab operations will apply to the ARTS taxis.
12. ARTS taxis are prohibited from entering the lower level unless they have been sequenced from the Taxi Storage Lot and possess the required receipt.

VII. EFFECTIVE DATE:

This OD shall become effective 15 days subsequent to its being filed with the Clerk of the Court as required by Chapter 25 of the Miami-Dade County Code.

VIII. AMENDMENTS:

Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MDAD) reserves the right to amend this OD at any time and from time to time, and notice of such amendments will be mailed to all affected parties who register with MDAD. The terms of such amendments shall be applicable to all as of the effective date of such amendment.

IX. SEVERABILITY:

If any court of competent jurisdiction determines that any provision in this OD is illegal or void, the remainder of this OD shall continue in full force and effect. If such court rules that any charge, fee, or security deposit requirement is illegal or void, the Aviation Director is authorized and directed to impose a charge, fee or

security deposit requirement that complies with the court order or applicable provisions of law, which shall become effective on the date of imposition and shall continue until modified by the Board of County Commissioners.

REVOCATION: None.

CROSS-REFERENCE: None.

(Original signed)

Gary J. Dellapa, Aviation Director

Date: February 20, 2002

ANNEXES:

Annex A – Entry Route to Taxi Storage Lot

Annex B – Indicator Lights

Annex C – Arrival Lower Level

Annex D – Departure Upper Level