

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2004 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 108-297 effective Mar. 1, 2006, and not applicable to any registration or recordation that was made before such date under this chapter or any legal rights relating to such registration or recordation, see section 7 of Pub. L. 108-297, set out as a note under section 44101 of this title.

§ 44108. Validity of conveyances, leases, and security instruments

(a) VALIDITY BEFORE FILING.—Until a conveyance, lease, or instrument executed for security purposes that may be recorded under section 44107(a)(1) or (2) of this title is filed for recording, the conveyance, lease, or instrument is valid only against—

- (1) the person making the conveyance, lease, or instrument;
- (2) that person's heirs and devisees; and
- (3) a person having actual notice of the conveyance, lease, or instrument.

(b) PERIOD OF VALIDITY.—When a conveyance, lease, or instrument is recorded under section 44107 of this title, the conveyance, lease, or instrument is valid from the date of filing against all persons, without other recordation, except that—

(1) a lease or instrument recorded under section 44107(a)(2)(A) or (B) of this title is valid for a specifically identified engine or propeller without regard to a lease or instrument previously or subsequently recorded under section 44107(a)(2)(C) or (D); and

(2) a lease or instrument recorded under section 44107(a)(2)(C) or (D) of this title is valid only for items at the location designated in the lease or instrument.

(c) APPLICABLE LAWS.—(1) The validity of a conveyance, lease, or instrument that may be recorded under section 44107 of this title is subject to the laws of the State, the District of Columbia, or the territory or possession of the United States at which the conveyance, lease, or instrument is delivered, regardless of the place at which the subject of the conveyance, lease, or instrument is located or delivered. If the conveyance, lease, or instrument specifies the place at which delivery is intended, it is presumed that the conveyance, lease, or instrument was delivered at the specified place.

(2) This subsection does not take precedence over the Convention on the International Recognition of Rights in Aircraft (4 U.S.T. 1830) or the Cape Town Treaty, as applicable.

(d) NONAPPLICATION.—This section does not apply to—

(1) a conveyance described in section 44107(a)(1) of this title that was made before August 22, 1938; or

(2) a lease or instrument described in section 44107(a)(2) of this title that was made before June 20, 1948.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1165; Pub. L. 108-297, §5, Aug. 9, 2004, 118 Stat. 1097.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
44108(a)	49 App.:1403(c) (less words after semicolon).	Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85-726, §503(c), 72 Stat. 773.

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES—CONTINUED

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
44108(b)	49 App.:1403(d).	Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85-726, §503(d), 72 Stat. 773; July 8, 1959, Pub. L. 86-81, §3, 73 Stat. 181.
44108(c)(1) ..	49 App.:1406.	Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85-726, 72 Stat. 731, §506; added June 30, 1964, Pub. L. 88-346, §1(a), 78 Stat. 236.
44108(c)(2) ..	49 App.:1406 (note).	June 30, 1964, Pub. L. 88-346, §1(c), 78 Stat. 236.
44108(d)	49 App.:1403(c) (words after semicolon).	

In subsection (a), before clause (1), the words “conveyance, lease, or instrument executed for security purposes” are substituted for “conveyance or instrument” for clarity and consistency in this subchapter. The words “in respect of such aircraft, aircraft engine or engines, propellers, appliances, or spare parts” are omitted as surplus. The text of 49 App.:1403(c) (proviso words before semicolon) is omitted because of section 7(d) of this bill. In clause (1), the words “person making the conveyance, lease, or instrument” are substituted for “the person by whom the conveyance or other instrument is made or given” to eliminate unnecessary words and for consistency in this subchapter.

In subsection (b), before clause (1), the words “When a conveyance, lease, or instrument is recorded under section 44107 of this title . . . from the date of filing” are substituted for “Each conveyance or other instrument recorded by means of or under the system provided for in subsection (a) or (b) of the section shall from the time of its filing for recordation” for clarity and consistency in this subchapter and to eliminate unnecessary words. In clause (1), the words “is valid” are substituted for “*Provided*, That . . . shall not be affected” for consistency in this subchapter. The words “or engines . . . or propellers” are omitted because of 1:1. In clause (2), the words “is valid” are substituted for “shall be effective” for consistency in this subchapter. The words “for items at the location designated in the lease or instrument” are substituted for “which may from time to time be situated at the designated location or locations and only while so situated” for clarity and to eliminate unnecessary words.

In subsection (c)(1), the words “conveyance, lease, or” are added for consistency in this subchapter. The words “the conveyance, lease, or instrument” are substituted for “therein”, and the words “it is presumed” are substituted for “it shall constitute presumptive evidence”, for clarity.

In subsection (d)(2), the words “lease or instrument” are substituted for “instrument” for clarity and consistency in this subchapter.

AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 108-297 inserted “or the Cape Town Treaty, as applicable” before period at end.

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§ 44109. Reporting transfer of ownership

(a) FILING NOTICES.—A person having an ownership interest in an aircraft for which a certificate of registration was issued under section 44103 of this title shall file a notice with the Secretary of the Treasury that the Secretary requires by regulation, not later than 15 days after a sale, conditional sale, transfer, or conveyance of the interest.

(b) EXEMPTIONS.—The Secretary—

(1) shall prescribe regulations that establish guidelines for exempting a person or class from subsection (a) of this section; and

(2) may exempt a person or class under the regulations.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1166.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
44109(a)	49 App.:1509(f).	Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85-726, 72 Stat. 731, §1109(f); added Oct. 27, 1986, Pub. L. 99-570, §3401(d)(1), 100 Stat. 3207-101.
44109(b)	49 App.:1509 (note).	Oct. 27, 1986, Pub. L. 99-570, §3401(d)(2), 100 Stat. 3207-102.

In subsection (a), the text of 49 App.:1509(f) (last sentence) is omitted as unnecessary.

In subsection (b)(1), the words “Within 30 days after the date of enactment of subsection (f) of section 1109 of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 as added by this subsection” are omitted as obsolete.

§ 44110. Information about aircraft ownership and rights

The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration may provide by regulation for—

(1) endorsing information on each certificate of registration issued under section 44103 of this title and each certificate issued under section 44704 of this title about ownership of the aircraft for which each certificate is issued; and

(2) recording transactions affecting an interest in, and for other records, proceedings, and details necessary to decide the rights of a party related to, a civil aircraft of the United States, aircraft engine, propeller, appliance, or spare part.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1166.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
44110	49 App.:1403(g). 49 App.:1655(c)(1).	Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85-726, §503(g), 72 Stat. 774. Oct. 15, 1966, Pub. L. 89-670, §6(c)(1), 80 Stat. 938; Jan. 12, 1983, Pub. L. 97-449, §7(b), 96 Stat. 2444.

In clause (1), the words “each certificate of registration issued under section 44103 of this title and each certificate issued under section 44704 of this title” are substituted for “certificates of registration, or aircraft certificates” for clarity and because of the restatement.

In clause (2), the words “recording transactions” are substituted for “recording of discharges and satisfactions of recorded instruments, and other transactions” to eliminate unnecessary words. The words “title to” are omitted as being included in “interest in”. The words “to decide” are substituted for “to facilitate the determination” to eliminate unnecessary words. The words “related to” are substituted for “dealing with” for clarity. The word “spare” is added for consistency in this section.

§ 44111. Modifications in registration and recordation system for aircraft not providing air transportation

(a) APPLICATION.—This section applies only to aircraft not used to provide air transportation.

(b) AUTHORITY TO MAKE MODIFICATIONS.—The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall make modifications in the system for registering and recording aircraft necessary to make the system more effective in serving the needs of—

- (1) buyers and sellers of aircraft;
- (2) officials responsible for enforcing laws related to the regulation of controlled substances (as defined in section 102 of the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1970 (21 U.S.C. 802)); and
- (3) other users of the system.

(c) NATURE OF MODIFICATIONS.—Modifications made under subsection (b) of this section—

(1) may include a system of titling aircraft or registering all aircraft, even aircraft not operated;

(2) shall ensure positive, verifiable, and timely identification of the true owner; and

(3) shall address at least each of the following deficiencies in and abuses of the existing system:

- (A) the registration of aircraft to fictitious persons.
- (B) the use of false or nonexistent addresses by persons registering aircraft.
- (C) the use by a person registering an aircraft of a post office box or “mail drop” as a return address to evade identification of the person’s address.
- (D) the registration of aircraft to entities established to facilitate unlawful activities.
- (E) the submission of names of individuals on applications for registration of aircraft that are not identifiable.
- (F) the ability to make frequent legal changes in the registration markings assigned to aircraft.
- (G) the use of false registration markings on aircraft.
- (H) the illegal use of “reserved” registration markings on aircraft.
- (I) the large number of aircraft classified as being in “self-reported status”.
- (J) the lack of a system to ensure timely and adequate notice of the transfer of ownership of aircraft.
- (K) the practice of allowing temporary operation and navigation of aircraft without the issuance of a certificate of registration.

(d) REGULATIONS.—(1) The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall prescribe regulations to carry out this section and provide a written explanation of how the regulations address each of the deficiencies and abuses described in subsection (c) of this section. In prescribing the regulations, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall consult with the Administrator of Drug Enforcement, the Commissioner of Customs, other law enforcement officials of the United States Government, representatives of State and local law enforcement officials, representatives of the general aviation aircraft industry, representa-