



# National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, DC 20594

## Safety Recommendation

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**Date:** July 14, 2016

**In reply refer to:** A-16-15 and -16

The Honorable Michael P. Huerta  
Administrator  
Federal Aviation Administration  
Washington, DC 20591

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On July 11, 2016, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) adopted our safety recommendation report concerning the flight safety of pilots who develop cataracts, which is based on the NTSB's investigation of a December 26, 2013, fatal aircraft accident in Fresno, California. Additional information about this accident, NTSB accident number WPR14FA078, and the findings that led to our recommendations may be found, respectively, in the report of the investigation and the safety recommendation report, both of which can be accessed at our website, [www.nts.gov](http://www.nts.gov).

As a result of this investigation, we issued three new recommendations, including one recommendation to the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association and the following two recommendations to the Federal Aviation Administration:

### A-16-15

Develop and disseminate educational information for pilots regarding the December 26, 2013, aircraft accident in Fresno, California, and the risks cataracts may pose to flight safety including a discussion of degraded vision at night, and encourage pilots with cataracts to communicate with their eye care professionals regarding diagnosis and treatment options.

### A-16-16

Develop and disseminate educational information for aviation medical examiners regarding the December 26, 2013, aircraft accident in Fresno, California; the risks cataracts may pose to flight safety including a discussion of degraded vision at night; and referral of pilots with cataracts to eye care professionals.

Chairman HART, Vice Chairman DINH-ZARR, and Members SUMWALT and WEENER concurred in these recommendations.

The NTSB is vitally interested in these recommendations because they are designed to prevent accidents and save lives. We would appreciate receiving a response from you within 90 days, as required by 49 *United States Code* section 1135, detailing the actions you have taken or intend to take to implement them. When replying, please refer to the safety recommendations by number and submit your response electronically to [correspondence@ntsb.gov](mailto:correspondence@ntsb.gov).

[Original Signed]

By: Christopher A. Hart,  
Chairman