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EXECUTIVE OFFICER

April 1, 2013

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to express our opposition to the Federal Aviation Administration's decision to close air traffic control towers, which are operated under contract, at Whiteman Airport and Fox Airfield in Los Angeles County. Closing them would imperil the public's safety in the nation's most populous county. Whiteman Airport's air traffic controllers coordinate numerous flights with controllers at nearby Burbank Airport where over four million passengers land each year. The increased risk of mid-air collisions, therefore, would extend beyond aircraft landing at Whiteman and also affect commercial flights in and out of Burbank Airport. Controllers at Fox Airfield also perform a critically important air safety role, especially when they coordinate hundreds of flights each year of aircraft which fight wildfires with aerial drops over the nearby Angeles National Forest.

Your leadership and efforts to keep these control towers open would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Chairman of the Board
Supervisor, Second District

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