

Via Email

[Airline Counsel]
[Address]

Dear [Airline Counsel]:

The Office of Aviation Enforcement and Proceedings (Enforcement Office) has concluded its investigation into allegations of pricing irregularities in the Northeast Corridor following the derailment of Amtrak Regional Train 188 on May 12, 2015. I want to thank you for your cooperation with our inquiry and to inform you of the outcome.

As part of our investigation, the Enforcement Office requested and reviewed a large amount of information provided by [Airline] and other carriers, including information on pricing mechanisms. Further, the Enforcement Office, supported by an independent analysis from the Department's Bureau of Transportation Statistics, analyzed over 5000 pages of data submitted by [Airline] and other carriers. The data covered 76 flight segments¹ on five carriers, including the # segments for which [Airline] submitted data. Based on this analysis, the Enforcement Office finds that, although fares did increase on many routes in the aftermath of the derailment, fares also decreased on some routes. More importantly, there was no evidence of unfair manipulation of airfares or capacity, nor evidence of unconscionable increases in fares beyond normal pricing levels, in the aftermath of the derailment. As such, the Enforcement Office concludes that no violation of 49 U.S.C. § 41712 occurred.

Thank you again for your cooperation with our investigation.

Sincerely,

Blane A. Workie
Assistant General Counsel
Aviation Enforcement and Proceedings

¹ The data involved 62 routes, some of which were flown by multiple carriers.