



7915 S. Emerson Ave, Suite 192 Indianapolis, IN 46237-9708

877-450-8774

WILLIAM A. LIESS

OBJECTIVE

Provide aviation consulting and expert advisory services in flight operations, safety audits, aircraft maintenance, regulatory compliance, and standards of care. Support consulting engagements and litigation matters through operational analysis, safety assessment, technical evaluation, expert reporting, deposition, and testimony.

EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Aviation executive, airline transport pilot, and attorney with 30+ years of experience across commercial aviation, military aviation leadership, aircraft maintenance leadership, and related law.

Retired U.S. Air Force Colonel with senior aviation leadership experience directing and transforming multi-mission aviation organizations encompassing flight operations, maintenance, training systems, and integrated support functions. Extensive background in organizational stand-up, restructuring, aircraft transition, and force integration to improve readiness, safety, and operational performance.

Current Airbus A320 airline captain with prior experience on MD-80 and Boeing 727. Former large law firm associate and federal appellate law clerk with litigation, government contracts, national security, and regulatory experience to leverage in support of aviation consulting and expert advisory work.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Aviation Leadership & Organizational Transformation
- Flight Operations & Safety Audits
- Aircraft Maintenance Leadership & Airworthiness Programs
- Aviation Safety Management Systems (SMS)
- Threat and Error Management (TEM), Crew Resource Management (CRM) & Human Factors
- Operational Risk Advisory & Decision-Making Frameworks
- FAA Regulatory Compliance & Standards of Care
- Military Aviation Operations & Total Force Integration
- Aviation System Design, Stand-Up & Restructuring
- Technical Aviation Analysis for Consulting & Expert Advisory Engagements

AVIATION LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Commander, 108th Operations Group, NJ Air National Guard | JBMDL, NJ 2022 – 2024

- Led 400+ personnel across flight operations, intelligence, cyber operations, and operations support functions
- Directed multi-unit aviation operations with two air refueling squadrons and one special operations airlift squadron



7915 S. Emerson Ave, Suite 192 Indianapolis, IN 46237-9708

877-450-8774

WILLIAM A. LIESS

- Spearheaded the activation, initial organization and integration of the 170th Air Refueling Squadron
- Managed KC-135 to KC-46 transition and integrated unit operations into a new association with an active duty wing
Commander, 108th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, NJ Air National Guard | JBMDL, NJ 2009 – 2015
- Directed flightline maintenance of nine KC-135s, ensuring timely generation of airworthy and mission-ready aircraft
- Supervised inspections, logistics, and technical order compliance
- Oversaw maintenance risk, reliability, and operational support systems

COMMERCIAL & MILITARY FLIGHT EXPERIENCE

Flight Experience Summary

Airline Transport Pilot | Airbus A320 Captain, American Airlines

USAF Command Pilot | KC-46 Instructor Pilot, KC-135 Evaluator & Instructor Pilot

Total Time: 9,461 | Pilot-in-Command: 4,607

Aircraft Piloted: A320 family, MD-80, KC-46A (B-767), C-32B (B-757), KC-135, C-12F, T-34B, PA-28, AA-5, C-172, C-152

American Airlines 2001–2003; 2015–Present

• Airbus A320 Captain & First Officer / MD-80 First Officer / Boeing 727 Flight Engineer

Military Pilot Experience 1991 – 2024 United States Air Force

Air National Guard | Colonel (O-6)

- KC-135 formal training school instructor and evaluator pilot, Altus AFB, OK
- Chief of Standardization and Evaluation, 108th Operations Group, JBMDL, NJ
- Executed 146 combat and combat support missions during numerous contingency deployments

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Pepper Hamilton LLP | Philadelphia, PA 2009 – 2015

- Litigation and investigations involving complex regulatory frameworks, compliance and enforcement actions

Arnold & Porter LLP | Washington, DC 2007 – 2008

- Government contracts litigation and representations involving national security regulatory regimes
- Represented and advised aircraft manufacturers in design defect litigation and export control matters

United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit 2008 – 2009

Law Clerk to the Honorable Marjorie O. Rendell

EDUCATION

Rutgers School of Law, Camden

J.D., 2004–2007 | Highest Honors | Editor-in-Chief, Rutgers Law Journal

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Master of Aeronautical Science (M.A.S.), 1995 – 1997 | Distinction

United States Air Force Academy

B.S., 1987–1991 | Honors and Academic Distinction



7915 S. Emerson Ave, Suite 192 Indianapolis, IN 46237-9708

877-450-8774

WILLIAM A. LIESS

SELECTED RATINGS, CERTIFICATES, AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Airline Transport Pilot (ATP), Commercial single engine land, Certified Flight Instructor - Instrument (CFII, pending)
- Remote Pilot Certificate, Part 107 Small Unmanned Aircraft System (sUAS)
- USAF Aircraft Maintenance Officer Course (Accelerated)
- USAF Safety and Accident Investigation Board President Course
- Bar Admissions: District of Columbia and Pennsylvania (inactive status)
- Security Clearance: Top Secret / SCI (inactive / expired)