



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

800 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20591

FEB 16 2000

Mr. James R. Knight II
Aviation Technical Specialist
Aviation Services Department
Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association
421 Aviation Way
Frederick, MD 21701-4798

Dear Mr. Knight:

This is in response to your letter dated November 8, 1999, to the Office of the Chief Counsel, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), regarding section 61.59(a)(4) (14 CFR section 61.59(a)(4)). Specifically, you ask whether the lamination of a certificate issued by the FAA would be considered an alteration.

Section 61.59(a)(4) states, in pertinent part, that a person may not make or cause to be made any alteration of any certificate, rating, or authorization under this part.

The lamination of a certificate issued under part 61 (14 CFR part 61) is not considered an alteration. A person may laminate his or her pilot certificate, after he or she signs the pilot certificate, without violating section 61.59(a)(4).

I hope this satisfactorily answers your question.

Sincerely,

Krista M. Fox
Donald P. Byrne
Assistant Chief Counsel
Regulations Division