

## AVIATION

# Delta asks DOJ to put unruly passengers on no-fly list

By Anne D'Innocenzio, Associated Press | Feb 08, 2022



Delta said it has put nearly 1,900 people on its own "no-fly" list for refusing to comply with masking requirements. Photo Credit: Delta Air Lines

**NEW YORK (AP) --** Any person convicted of a disruption on board a flight should be added to the national "no fly" list, Delta Air Lines told the U.S. Department of Justice.

In a letter to Justice Department attorney general Merrick Garland dated Feb. 3, Delta CEO Ed Bastian said there should be "zero tolerance" for any behavior that affects flight safety. Bastian noted that while such incidents of bad behavior represent a small fraction of overall flights on Delta, the rate of incidents on the airline has increased nearly 100% since 2019.

"This action will help prevent future incidents and serve as a strong symbol of the consequences of not complying with crew member instructions on commercial aircraft," Bastian wrote in the letter furnished to the Associated Press by Delta.

Delta, along with trade group Airlines for America, has been pushing since last year for heightened reporting, investigation and prosecution of those who interfere with onboard safety.

Delta said it has put nearly 1,900 people on its own "no-fly" list for refusing to comply with masking requirements and submitted more than 900 banned names to the Transportation Security Administration to pursue civil penalties.

A spokesperson with TSA, which enforces the FBI's "no fly" list of potential terrorist threats, referred a reporter to the FBI since that agency maintains the database. Both the FBI and the Justice Department declined to comment.

The Federal Aviation Administration cited 4.9 reported unruly incidents per 10,000 flights the week ending Jan. 23, according to its website.

In December, the TSA announced a new partnership with the FAA that would call for unruly airline passengers facing additional consequences for bad behavior under a new partnership. Under the alliance, the FAA will share information of passengers facing fines for unruly behavior with the TSA, which may remove the passenger from its pre-check screening eligibility, a privilege reserved for low-risk travelers.

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