

BEFORE THE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Application of)
)
ENVOY AIR, INC.) Docket DOT-OST-2026-____
)
for exemption authority under 49 U.S.C. § 40109)
(Miami–Caracas and Miami–Maracaibo))
)
)
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**APPLICATION OF ENVOY AIR, INC. FOR EXEMPTION AUTHORITY
(MIAMI–CARACAS AND MIAMI–MARACAIBO)**

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Airlines, Inc.*

February 13, 2026

NOTICE: Envoy Air, Inc. requests expedited approval of this application. Envoy Air, Inc. will poll the U.S. carrier representatives on the service list and advise the Department of the results.

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Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 40109 and Subpart C of the Department’s Rules of practice (14 CFR § 302.301, et seq.), Envoy Air, Inc. (“Envoy”) requests exemption authority authorizing it to engage in scheduled foreign air transportation of persons, property, and mail between Miami, Florida (MIA)–Caracas, Venezuela (CCS) and Miami, Florida (MIA)–Maracaibo, Venezuela (MAR). Consistent with Department practice, Envoy requests that the exemption authority be approved for a period of at least two years.

On January 29, 2026, the Department issued Order 2026-1-24 rescinding its previous Order 2019-5-5, which had suspended the authority of U.S. and foreign airlines to provide foreign air transportation between the United States and Venezuela. The Department noted in Order 2026-1-24 that, earlier that day, “the President of the United States directed the Department and other concerned parties to take steps necessary to reopen air service to Venezuela.”

Also on January 29, 2026, American Airlines, Inc. (“American”) announced that it “plans to reinstate nonstop service between the United States and Venezuela” and “is ready to commence flights to Venezuela, pending government approval and security

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assessments.”¹ Subject to the Department’s approval, and other necessary government approvals, Envoy will operate the initially planned service for American. Envoy is a wholly-owned subsidiary of American Airlines Group and an affiliate of American Airlines, Inc. that operates under the American Eagle brand and livery. American itself already holds certificate authority for foreign air transportation between MIA–CCS and MIA–MAR. See DOT Order 90-5-5, as amended by DOT Order 92-10-58 (Route 543).²

In support of this application, Envoy respectfully states as follows:

1. Envoy is a Delaware corporation with its principal office at 4301 Regent Boulevard, Irving, Texas 75063.

2. Envoy is a citizen of the United States within the meaning of 49 U.S.C. § 40102(a)(15)(C) and is fit, willing, and able to provide the services contemplated by this application. Envoy, formerly known as American Eagle Airlines, Inc. (“American Eagle”),³ has long held various certificates of public convenience and necessity and exemption authorities. See, e.g., DOT Order 98-4-24 (scheduled air transportation of persons, property, and mail between and among points in the United States); DOT Order 2011-8-9 (blanket Open Skies route authority); DOT Order 2020-10-11 (scheduled foreign air transportation of persons, property, and mail between points in the United States and points in Mexico). Pursuant to Rule 24 of the Department’s Rules of Practice (14 CFR §

¹ See Press Release, *American Airlines Becomes the First Airline to Reconnect Venezuela with the United States* (Jan. 29, 2026), <https://news.aa.com/news/news-details/2026/American-Airlines-becomes-the-first-airline-to-reconnect-Venezuela-with-the-United-States-NET-RTS-01/default.aspx>.

² Route 543 authorizes American to serve between the coterminal points Miami, Florida, and New York, New York/Newark, New Jersey, and the coterminal points Caracas and Maracaibo, Venezuela.

³ The Department granted American Eagle Airlines, Inc.’s Application for Registration of Name Change and Reissuance of Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity in the Name of “Envoy Air, Inc.” on April 15, 2014. See DOT Order 2014-4-13.

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302.24(g)), Envoy requests that the Department take official notice of all information previously filed to establish its fitness.

3. Under the U.S.-Venezuela Air Transport Agreement of August 14, 1953, as amended, U.S. carriers may be designated to serve from the Eastern Zone of the United States to Maracaibo and Caracas.⁴ Further, the Department has previously determined that the exemption authority sought is consistent with the bilateral agreement between the United States and Venezuela and principles of comity and reciprocity. See, e.g., Notices of Action Taken, Docket DOT-OST-1997-2527 (granting American exemption authority to operate scheduled foreign air transportation between Dallas/Fort Worth and Caracas); Notice of Action Taken (Dec. 20, 2013), Docket DOT-OST-2013-0207 (granting US Airways exemption authority to codeshare with American on various U.S.–Venezuela routes).

4. Approval of this application will further President Trump’s goal of reopening air service to Venezuela and serve the public interest by providing an opportunity for business, leisure, and humanitarian travel to the region. American started operating in Venezuela in 1987 and served as the largest U.S. airline in Venezuela before the suspension of service in 2019. American, through flights operated by Envoy, looks forward to renewing that relationship and offering customers the opportunity to reunite with families and create new business and commerce with the United States.

5. Envoy submits that this application raises no environmental or energy issues, and anticipates no difficulty in obtaining fuel for its Miami–Caracas and Miami–Maracaibo services.

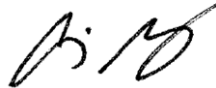
⁴ See U.S.-Venezuela Air Transport Agreement of August 14, 1953, as amended, at Schedule 1 (the Eastern Zone refers to all territory east of the Mississippi River except New Orleans).

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6. Envoy will accept and abide by the terms and conditions that the Department normally attaches to exemption authority for scheduled foreign air transportation.

WHEREFORE, Envoy respectfully requests that the Department grant Envoy's application for exemption authority to engage in scheduled foreign air transportation of persons, property, and mail between Miami, Florida (MIA)–Caracas, Venezuela (CCS) and Miami, Florida (MIA)–Maracaibo, Venezuela (MAR), as discussed herein, and grant Envoy such further and additional relief as the Department deems warranted and consistent with the public interest.

Respectfully submitted,



Arjun Garg
Laura Jennings Ochoa

*Counsel for Envoy Air, Inc. and American
Airlines, Inc.*

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Application of Envoy Air, Inc. for Exemption Authority has been served this February 13, 2026, upon the following addressees:

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