

September Skies

Late September-2011 on Board USM's Beechcraft King Air

Official documents involving multiple subjects are piling up anew in the news bureau of USMNEWS.net. One of the subjects covered in these new documents is the USM airplane. These documents, and particularly those involving the USM plane, will be covered extensively in the near future. This report examines only a snippet of what we now know about the cost of the Martha Saunders administration's extravagance; it examines some of the ancillary airplane expenses that were incurred in just the final week of September-2011. Those are inserted below:

9/23/2011	JULIAN D ALLEN	GUMBO JEAUXS	\$23.08
9/23/2011	JULIAN D ALLEN	BEST BUY 00006619	\$79.99
9/23/2011	JULIAN D ALLEN	WM SUPERCENTER	\$14.02
9/27/2011	JULIAN D ALLEN	UNIV OF SOUTHERN MIS#0450	\$32.98
9/28/2011	JULIAN D ALLEN	BEST BUY 00011742	\$79.99
9/28/2011	JULIAN D ALLEN	KIRKLAND'S #469	\$3.98
9/29/2011	JULIAN D ALLEN	CAFE EAST HUMBLE	\$24.10
9/28/2011	JULIAN D ALLEN	WM SUPERCENTER	\$9.88

The pilot associated with these expenses from 23-Sept-2011 through 29-Sept-2011 is Julian Allen, the former associate vice president of research at USM. The insert above shows that Allen spent \$14.02 at Wal-Mart on 23-Sept-2011. Previous reports here at USMNEWS.net have shown that pilots in the USM airplane auxiliary often purchase items for the plane from Wal-Mart. A second visit by Allen to Wal-Mart, ostensibly for incidentals, occurred on 28-Sept-2011, this time resulting in \$9.88 in expenses. Thus, the two visits to Wal-Mart covered here cost USM \$23.90. On 28-Sept-2011, Allen also visited Kirkland's (for scented candles?), where he spent \$3.98 on unknown items (again, scented candles?). Assuming this expenditure was for plane incidentals, the total incidentals expenses for the last week of September-2011 comes to \$27.88.

A 23-Sept-2011 trip to Best Buy resulted in Allen spending \$79.99 in USM funds, while a mystery trip to some division of the USM campus on 27-Sept-2011 resulted in Allen spending another \$32.98 in USM funds. Interestingly, on 28-Sept-2011 Allen visited Best Buy once again – the second trip there with the USM credit card in less than one week. Once again, Allen spent \$79.99 on unknown items. These expenditures create a mystery items total of \$192.96. The airplane incidentals-mystery items sum is \$220.84. Finally, prior reports here at USMNEWS.net have shown that the pilots in USM's Airplane Operations will eat nice meals when given the opportunity. Allen did just that, both on 23-Sept-2011 and 29-Sept-2011. On 23-Sept-2011, Allen visited Gumbo Jeaux's for a \$23.08 meal, while on 29-Sept-2011 he visited Café East Humble for a \$24.10 meal. These two meals, which reveal that Saunders traveled to the Houston area in late September-2011, totaled \$47.18.

The total tab for the last week of September-2011 comes to \$268.02, representing what sources tell USMNEWS.net is a sizable chunk of the typical USM liberal arts faculty's annual travel allowance. In this case the chunk was spent by a *USM pilot*, whose job has little to do with the educational mission of the institution.