

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION:
QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD**

**NOMINATIONS HEARING
AUGUST 6, 2020**

**Written Questions Submitted to Eric Soskin, Nominee to be Inspector General for the
Department of Transportation**

Submitted by Senator Blackburn

Question: Mr. Soskin, unmanned Aircraft Systems, also known as UAS, are a vital part to the future of transportation in America. This year's report detailing the significant challenges DOT faces includes safely integrating Unmanned Aircraft Systems.

- How can this committee work with DOT to overcome this challenge? I know this is a concern our nation's airports share, and we need to make sure they are prepared to face any and all challenges they may encounter with drones.

Response: *I am not currently serving at the Department of Transportation (DOT) or the DOT Office of Inspector General (OIG). I appreciate your interest in having DOT and this committee work together to overcome the challenges involved in safely integrating UAS, including those associated with safety data, remote UAS identification, unmanned system traffic management (UTM), and compliance with requirements in the FAA's 5-year reauthorization act and other statutes. If I am fortunate enough to be confirmed, I will work with my team of career professionals to prioritize staff and resources, including by reviewing this issue and examining ways for this committee to work together with DOT on the challenges of integrating UAS safely.*