

Broadcasting (BRO): Breaking News

This artifact is practice only to prepare for a Breaking News round at the next tournament.

Directions: *you have 2 minutes to read and take notes (you may take notes on this copy; each competitor will receive a clean copy). You then have to read the script as if “breaking news” from a prompter in a 2-minute timeframe.*

Remember:

- Include a **sign-on/sign-off** with a call sign.
- Read **ALL** of the script between the start and stop cues.
- Target performance time: **2 minutes**.
- You will be evaluated on pacing, clarity, pronunciation, and transitions.

[START] (Insert Sign-On)

→ We interrupt your regularly scheduled programming with breaking news affecting travelers nationwide.

The Federal Aviation Administration has announced new reductions in air traffic as the government shutdown continues into its fourth week. More than **1,000 flights** were canceled again today across major U.S. airports, including Atlanta, Chicago, and New York City.

Officials say the cancellations stem from **staffing shortages** among air traffic controllers, many of whom have gone **nearly a month without pay**. Some controllers are reportedly working mandatory overtime while others have called in sick, adding to mounting delays.

Passengers traveling this weekend described scenes of frustration and uncertainty. One traveler in Miami said, *“Travel is stressful enough – then you put these disruptions in place and it really makes everything more challenging.”*

Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy warned that cancellations could rise to **10 percent of all flights** by next Friday if the shutdown continues. Analysts say the economic ripple effects could hit **tourism, manufacturing, and even holiday shipping**, since nearly half of U.S. air freight travels in passenger planes.

Despite the disruptions, the FAA says it is doing everything possible to maintain safety while minimizing travel chaos. Still, travelers are being urged to **check flight status frequently** and prepare for potential delays in the days ahead.

(Insert Sign-Off)