Statements from Commercial Airlines Contacted

We do have overwater (OW) flights, but we absolutely cannot operate OW flights without adhering to the FAA rules and there are very specific rules. And, the waiver doesn't allow you to fly across the Atlantic or even to Hawaii; it's very limited and even specific in different geographic areas. Crews must also be trained and an announcement made about life vests. (These are not all the specifics, just some of them.)

If we are flying to Hawaii or even Miami to Brazil, we must use an aircraft that is certified for OW use and that has life rafts. NO WAIVER CAN BE USED FOR THIS FLIGHT.

American Airlines abides by all required FAA safety rules, life raft rules, and regulations about where each aircraft can fly in relationship to land.  Passengers can be assured the aircraft they are traveling on meets all safety regulations including life raft regulations.

**American Airlines**

“We do not have life rafts on all planes. No aircraft that fly over bodies of water fly without life rafts. However, if an aircraft operates between two points i.e. NYC to Miami… it stays within the 50 mile rule and isn’t required to have a life raft.”

“Delta doesn’t exercise the FAA exemption (life raft waiver) that’s been put into place for certain types of aircraft.”

“If you want to know if a plane carries life rafts, ask the flight attendant… they have to know if life rafts are onboard and that information is conveyed in the safety announcement. A copy of Delta’s recent safety instructions are on You Tube.

**Delta**

All of our aircraft are equipped with rafts and are over water certified.

**Spirit Airlines**

“United Airlines complies with all FAA regulations.”

**United Airlines**

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No response from Southwest, Continental, US Airways, Virgin Atlantic