The wording in a lease has very little relevance to the safety of Part 135 on-demand operations. The FAA should focus on the things that are important to safety: ensuring that the carrier is in fact complying with operational and maintenance requirements in the FAR's. The regs are written to promote safety, not management contracts.

The few bad apples that are flaunting the rules need to be stopped. The legitimate operators shouldn't be tarred with the same brush.

The FAA's actions following recent accidents appear to be knee-jerk responses that show little understanding or appreciation of the on-demand air carrier industry - which by and large is devoted to providing the traveler the highest level of safety and service. Focusing on leases is short sighted and puts too much power in the hands of the legal eagles at FAA. The power needs to be given to qualified operations and airworthiness inspectors in the field. It is they who can best determine if an on-demand air carrier is operating safely.