

CONFISCATED GUNS GO UP AS AIRLINE TRAVEL GOES DOWN





TSA Checkpoint

Flying with a Firearm

It is probably no surprise to most, that air travel has declined significantly since the COVID-19 pandemic started. However, according to the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), those who are still traveling by air have one thing in common. Which is, many of them are forgetting their guns in carry-on luggage at security checkpoints. Even though this is something that has happened periodically in the past, now the problem is at an all-time high.

According to a National Press Release from Washington, TSA Officers detected firearms in carry-on bags at a rate three times higher this past July. When compared to the same month in 2019, was lower even though passenger volume was significantly higher.

TSA Information

TSA Officers found 15.3 guns for every million people screened in July 2020, compared to 5.1 per million people in July of the previous year.

"There has been a significant increase in loaded guns at checkpoints" said TSA Dav<u>id Pekoske</u>

According to Pekoske...

"Screeners are already working on conditions of heightened risks and that no one should be introducing new ones"

"Even more concerning is that 80% of the firearms coming into the checkpoint are loaded, and it's just an accident waiting to happen"

The potential Federal civil penalty for bringing a firearm into a secured area starts at \$2,050 (\$4,100 if the firearm is loaded). In addition, individuals who violate firearm travel rules could have Trust Traveler Status and TSA PreCheck expedited screening benefits revoked for some duration of time. The duration of the disqualification depends upon the seriousness of the offense.

Now you ask, what's going on? While the airlines have seen a huge decline in travelers the exact opposite is true for the firearms industry. Gun sales are surging by the millions in reaction to the pandemic. This means millions of guns are being sold to first time gun owners and the majority aren't familiar with the rules. Ignorance is never an excuse for breaking a gun law, but that's what could be occurring.

Additional TSA Travel Info

TIPS FOR FLYING WITH FIREARMS

In John Correia's video titled "Flying with Firearms is Simple if You Know How", he outlines some of the simple but useful tips on how to travel while exercising your Second Amendment rights. Some of the tips he mentioned includes:

- Review regulation of your airline before traveling, different carriers have different rules
- Print the carrier/TSA regulation pages so you can refer to it quickly
- Hang by checking counter in case TSA officer wants to open your case, this might save a trip through checkpoint
- Firearms must be unloaded and secured in a hard-sided case
- Keep your license and firearms in compliance with local laws at origin and destination spot

Watch Active Self Protection Video on Flying with Firearms



As we gear up for holiday travel, we urge you to be aware of all local laws pertaining to both air travel and your destination. Between 2014 and 2019, close to 500 people have been arrested at JFK and LaGuardia airports, according to the Queens District Attorney's Office. Many of the defendants were unaware that they were breaking the law by bringing their guns to New York City. The last thing you would want for a NYC getaway trip is to be handcuffed at the airport. Probably not the Christmas present you wanted for you or your family...

FLP BENEFITS

All Premium FLP Members have access to the My FLP App! A very useful guide to assisting you with travel plans. My FLP App gives you information that you need when traveling to different states with a firearm. My FLP App provides all this information with an easy-to-use User Interface. Laws are updated frequently!

If you have use of weapons incident and you are a premium member you are covered in all 50 states. Firearms Legal Protection is just a call away. If you are one of our basic individual members and plan to travel outside your home state, please call Customer Service at [844] 357-9400 to discuss upgrading your plan to make sure you are protected as you travel.

Travel safe with Firearms Legal Protection



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