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Hartsfield-Jackson Airport and TSA Officials Remind Passengers Not to Bring Firearms through Security Checkpoints

ATLANTA – Hartsfield-Jackson Airport and Transportation Security Administration (TSA) officials reminded passengers today about federal laws pertaining to guns at security checkpoints and proper procedures for traveling with guns through the world’s busiest passenger airport.

“If you attempt to bring a gun through these checkpoints, you will be breaking federal law, and you will be arrested,” said Hartsfield-Jackson General Manager Louis Miller, who explained that violators will miss their flight, be taken to jail and be subject to prosecution and fines up to \$7,500.

In 2012, 100 guns were discovered at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, more than at any other airport in the United States. To date this year, there have been 67 firearms found in carry-on luggage. Recently, Airport officials installed signs at all security checkpoints across Hartsfield-Jackson warning passengers not to bring firearms through the security areas.

"TSA takes the discovery of prohibited items seriously and urges all passengers to check the contents of their bags before leaving home to ensure they are not bringing any prohibited items to the checkpoint,

including firearms, firearm parts, and ammunition," said Mary Leftridge Byrd, TSA Federal Security Director.

Airport officials also informed travelers that they should declare any weapons stored within their checked luggage to the airline at check-in.

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Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport

Hartsfield-Jackson is the world's busiest airport, serving more than 95 million passengers annually with nonstop service to 160 U.S. destinations and nearly 70 international destinations in more than 45 countries. The Airport is a frequent recipient of awards of excellence for concessions, operations, architectural engineering and construction – including the 2013 Global Efficiency Excellence Award from the Air Transport Research Society (for more information, go to www.atrsworld.org), 2013 Project of the Year, Architectural Category for the Maynard H. Jackson Jr. International Terminal from the American Association of Airport Executives Southeast chapter (for more information, go to www.secaaae.org) and the 2012 Best Airport in North America, Business Travel Award from the Business Traveler Magazine (for more information, go to www.businesstravelerusa.com). ATL is undergoing more than \$6 billion worth of capital improvements, which include a new, energy-efficient rental car center, a gold LEED certified international terminal which opened to the general public on May 16, 2012 (for more information, go to www.atlanta-airport.com/internationalterminal/) and aesthetic and functional upgrades to its concourses, people movers and parking services. For more information, go to www.atlanta-airport.com. Check out the Airport's YouTube channel by visiting <http://www.youtube.com/AtlantaHartsfield>, follow us on Twitter (@Atlanta_Airport) and become a fan on Facebook (Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport).