



RECORD 67 PEOPLE TRY AND BRING GUNS WITH THEM ONTO U.S. AIRCRAFT DURING 9/11 ANNIVERSARY WEEK

News / Airlines



The Transportation Security Administration intercepted 67 firearms in passengers' carry-on bags as they attempted to board flights during the anniversary week of 9/11.

The TSA said the passengers were ignoring regulations which prevent them from bringing firearms and explosives into the cabins of aircraft.

Of the guns intercepted, 56 were loaded and 26 had a round chambered. Officials did not say whether the loaded weapons with a round in their chambers had their safety catches engaged, although some handguns such as the popular Glock do not have an additional safety switch.

TSA agents also intercepted 19 stun guns, while one passenger wanted to bring 16 ounces of black powder -- which is a form of explosive -- with him in the cabin.

Passengers are not allowed to bring black powder onto an aircraft, whether on their carry-on or checked-in baggage.

Two passengers were found to have concealed belt buckle knives and one individual thought he could carry his ninja death throwing stars with him in the aircraft.

On the anniversary of 9/11, TSA agents found two firearms in Denver International Airport, with another in Colorado Springs.

Other guns were found in Minneapolis, Indianapolis, Knoxville, Nashville, Phoenix, Dallas Fort Worth and one in Anchorage.

All of the ten weapons recovered on the 9/11 anniversary were loaded.

According to the TSA, passengers can bring their firearms with them onto commercial flights as long as they declare the weapons beforehand, and check them into the cargo luggage in an appropriate hardened carry case.

According to the TSA: "When packed properly, ammunition can be transported in your checked baggage, but it is never permissible to pack ammo in your carry-on bag."

"You can travel with your firearms in checked baggage, but they must first be declared to the airline."

"Firearm possession laws vary by state and locality. Travelers should familiarize themselves with state and local firearm laws for each point of travel prior to departure."

"The passenger can face a penalty as high as US\$11,000. This is a friendly reminder to please leave these items at home."

"Just because we find a prohibited item on an individual does not mean they had bad intentions; that's for the law enforcement officer to decide."

"In many cases, people simply forgot they had these items."

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