



For Immediate Release
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*JULY 4th HOLIDAY TRAVEL REMINDERS FROM THE
LOS ANGELES AIRPORT PEACE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION*

TOPIC: LASER STRIKES AND FIREWORKS

LOS ANGELES - The Los Angeles Airport Peace Officers' Association (LAAPOA), which represents the sworn men and women police officers protecting Los Angeles International Airport, Ontario International Airport and Van Nuys Airport, would like to remind everyone as the July 4th holiday weekend nears that it is **illegal** to point lasers at aircraft and to bring fireworks to the airport.

"This may seem like common sense, but sometimes people just don't think about it and they end up bringing what they consider to be 'safe' fireworks with them when they travel. In the City of Los Angeles, all fireworks are illegal and **under no circumstances** should any fireworks be brought to the airport, packed in a carry-on or in luggage," said Marshall McClain, LAAPOA President.

It's also important to note that pointing a laser at an aircraft is a **felony**. Doing so can distract or even temporarily blind pilots. According to the Federal Aviation Administration, in 2010 pilots reported 2,836 laser strikes nationally with 102 of those occurring in local airspace.

In addition, to help avoid delays in their travels, travelers should check to confirm that their flight's departing on time and plan accordingly, providing themselves with plenty of time to arrive to the airport early – especially if checking luggage.

On behalf of the members of LAAPOA, we'd like to wish everyone a safe July 4th weekend. We look forward to seeing you at the airport.

The Los Angeles Airport Peace Officers Association (LAAPOA) represents the more than 425 sworn police officers and firefighters of the Los Angeles Airport Police Department assigned to protect and serve Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), LA/Ontario International Airport (ONT) and Van Nuys Airport (VNY).

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