NRA LAW ENFORCEMENT QUARTERLY



BY TIM LOSE NRA LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION STAFF INSTRUCTOR

In my job as a Staff Firearms Instructor for the NRA Law Enforcement Division, I often get questions from students as to how to take their guns when they fly. I frequently fly to school locations with my own guns and generally it isn't that hard as long as you know, and follow, the rules.

There are three sets of rules and regulations that you need to be familiar with: TSA regulations, the airline regulations, and the laws of the jurisdiction you are traveling to. Being prepared will make things easier for you.

If you're new at this, you should go to the websites of the airline and the TSA and read what they have to say about transporting guns. TSA regulations are actually fairly simple and straightforward. The Code of Federal Regulations Title 49 part 1544.203 require that guns are:

- 1. Unloaded
- 2. In a locked hard side case
- 3. Declared when you check in at the counter (you cannot use curbside check in when checking guns).

If your gun case is small, like a pistol case, it may be placed inside another piece of checked luggage, but the case itself must be locked regardless of whether your luggage is locked. Make sure the gun case is accessible, because you will have to open it when checking in. On the TSA site under "Frequently Asked Questions" it states that TSA locks are acceptable for gun cases. Due to my own security concerns, I never use them on a gun case, but it's your choice.

If the case is large it may be checked as a separate piece of luggage. The TSA does not put any limit on the number of guns in checked luggage, but bear in mind your airline's weight limits. TSA also states that, "Firearms magazines and ammunition clips must be securely boxed or included within a hard-sided case containing an unloaded firearm." Gun parts, including magazines, are not allowed in your carryon and must be in your checked luggage.

Ammunition may be in the case with the guns or in your checked luggage. Using the original ammo box is probably simplest, but you may use another type of box designed to carry ammunition. The usual weight limit for ammunition is 11 lbs. Most airline regulations are fairly similar, but don't assume that an airline you've never flown on will be the same as every other one. If there's someone directing passengers when you're lining up to check in, I find it best to tell them then that I'm checking guns. It may make a difference which line you end up in, since you have to deal with an actual person, not just an automated kiosk.

When you check in there will usually be a small form to fill out on which you state that the guns are unloaded. Some include information such as your name, contact information, and where you're flying from and to. At one time the firearm card was required to be on the outside of the case, but it now goes inside.

Generally, it's best to be polite and patient with airline personnel. Realize that you may be more familiar with the rules than they are. Rather than get annoyed, look on it as an opportunity to educate them. Stand on your rights when you need to, but a smile and a kind word will help smooth your path.

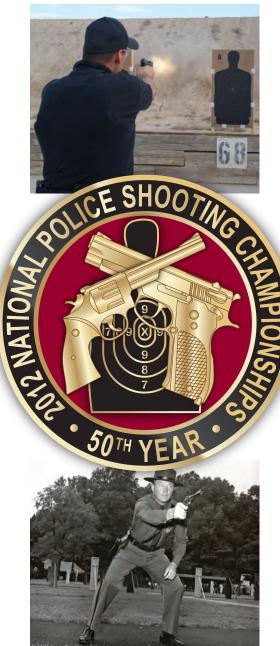
Be aware that different airports may have different ways of dealing with checked guns. Allowing a little extra time for check in is always a good idea if you're unfamiliar with the airport you're using.

If you are unsure of the gun laws where you're travelling to you can check the NRA Institute for Legislative Action web site (www.nraila.org). Click on the "Gun Laws" link. There's a wealth of information about the laws in various states.

Tim Lose has been an NRA LE Division staff instructor for 4 years. He retired from the Anne Arundel County (Maryland) Police Department in 2008, and was in the Army National Guard for 21 years.









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BY JAMES BARANOWSKI, ESQ. NRA-ILA

During a recent presentation on LEOSA at the International Law Enforcement Educators and Trainers Association Conference (ILEETA), I addressed the fact that individuals carrying under LEOSA do not qualify for the same exemptions some state permit holders benefit from in terms of carrying concealed firearms in Federal Parks and Gun Free School Zones (GFSZ). The surprised looks and concerns from the audience raised a giant red flag: if the experts out there don't know this, how many others may be unknowingly violating the law?

While LEOSA affords qualified active and retired law enforcement officers the privilege to carry a concealed firearm in all fifty states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and all other U.S. possessions (except the Canal Zone), it does contain some restrictions.

Explicitly written into the statute are several areas considered off-limits to those carrying under LEOSA, such as restrictions imposed by private persons or entities on their property and those imposed on state or local government property, installations, buildings and parks. What is not included in the statute is where problems may arise.

Per 18 U.S.C. § 930(a) an individual is prohibited from possessing or attempting to possess a firearm in a Federal facility, which is broadly defined in the statute to include "a building or part thereof owned or leased by the Federal Government, where Federal employees are regularly present for the purpose of performing their official duties."

While the ban on possession in Federal facilities appears to be well understood and recognized by those carrying under LEOSA, the exemptions which allow individuals with a state issued permit to carry concealed firearms in Federal park lands and through GF-SZ's are not.

The exemptions for these areas (36 C.F.R. §§ 2.4(e) & (h), 18 U.S.C. § 922(q)) allow for individuals carrying concealed in accordance with the laws of the state in which the federal park or GFSZ is located to carry concealed in them*; however, an individual carrying under LEOSA is carrying under FEDERAL LAW and not in accordance with the laws of the state they are in. What this means is that you are **NOT** exempted from carrying a concealed firearm in these areas UNLESS you are on official duty or posses a valid and qualifying state issued concealed carry permit.

Don't think this applies to you? Think again. Go check out your local Planning Department's website or take a quick look at San Francisco Planning Department's GFSZ map (http://www.sf-planning.org/index.aspx?page=2337). Most cities are so laden with GFSZ's that it is virtually impossible to travel anywhere without inadvertently passing through one of them.

So what does this mean for you? While there have been no known prosecutions of individuals violating these laws while carrying under LEOSA (one must assume that professional courtesy and the lack of knowledge on the issue has prevented this), you should always protect yourself by obtaining a state issued concealed carry permit in addition to your LEOSA credentials. Most states have reciprocity laws and agreements which allow for vast recognition of their permits throughout the country and some even allow you to apply as a non-resident.** Bottom line: always be aware of your surroundings, as ignorance is not a defense to the law.

*Federal buildings located on the property are still prohibited places per 18 U.S.C. § 930(a)

**More information about state reciprocity and recognition agreements can be found at http://www.nraila.org/gun-laws.aspx.

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*Parent, commissioned peace officer, must also be a current member of the NRA.

Submission deadline: November 15th

For more information, visit http://www.nrahq.org/law/lebenefits.asp or call 800-554-9498.

Visit the National Firearms Museum

If you happen to be in the Washington D.C. area this summer, be sure to visit the National Firearms Museum. The museum is located at the National Rifle Association headquarters, at 11250 Waples Mill Road, Fairfax, Virginia 22030.

The museum tells the compelling story of Americans and their guns, and features some of the rarest and most historically significant firearms related artifacts on public display. Numerous displays graphically illustrate the history of law enforcement in America, from the earliest flintlock pistols of the colonial militias to the newest police issued sidearms of modern day, such as this commemorative Remington 870 Police shotgun (pictured below); Dirty Harry's original 29 Smith & Wesson magnum, to a tragically twisted police service revolver recovered from the ashes of the World Trade Center – all these and many, many more are prominently displayed in the museum's "Long Arm of the Law" gallery.

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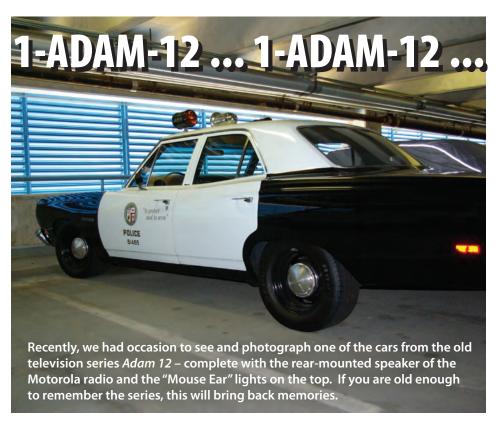
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New schools are added often. Check website frequently for current Training Schedule.

Range fee, if any, is payable to some hosting agencies; amount varies.

NRA Tuition = \$525 per person

HAN	IDGUN & SHOTGUN	<u>HANDGUN</u>		
Aug 6-10	Manchester, NJ	Aug 6-10	Fort Wayne, IN	Sep 10-1
Aug 13-17	Statesboro, GA	Sep 10-14	Fort Wayne, IN	Sep 10-
Aug 20-24	Richland, MS	Sep 24-28	Prescott Valley, AZ	Oct 1-5
Aug 27-31	Athens, AL	Oct 15-19	Lusby, MD	Oct 8-12
Aug 27-31	Lake View Terr., CA	Oct 29-Nov 2	Palm Bay, FL	Oct 22-2
Sep 17-21	Boise, ID			Oct 29-N
Sep 17-21	Goddard, KS (public LE)		PATROL RIFLE	Nov 12-
Sep 24-28	Bethlehem, PA	Aug 6-10	Rochester, MN	Dec 3-7
Sep 24-28	Dahlonega, GA	Aug 13-17	Canon City, CO	Oct 21-2
Sep 24-28	Winchester, VA	Aug 20-24	Grain Valley, MO	
Oct 1-5	Littleton, CO	Aug 27-31	Bethlehem, PA	
Oct 8-12	Epping, NH	Aug 27-31	Pearl, MS	Aug 13-
Oct 15-19	Defiance, MO (public LE)	Sep 17-21	Charleston, SC	Sep 10-1
Oct 15-19	Las Vegas, NV (public LE)	Sep 17-21	Jackson, NJ	Sep 17-2
Oct 15-19	Pearl, MS	Sep 24-28	Florence, AL	Sep 24-2
Oct 22-26	Kankakee, IL	Oct 1-5	Wright City, MO	Oct 8-12
Oct 29-Nov 2	Florence AL	Oct 8-12	Mineral Point, PA	Mar 25-2
Nov 5-9	Pittsburgh, PA	Oct 15-19	Chino, CA	
Nov 26-30	Humble, TX	Oct 22-26	Lusby, MD	
Feb 11-15 '13	Tupelo, MS	Oct 29- Nov 2	North Chicago, IL (public LE)	Aug 6-1
Feb 25-Mar 1 '13 Florence, AL		Nov 5-9	Elizabethtown, PA	Aug 6-1
May 13-17'13	Gunnison, CO	Nov 5-9	Las Vegas, NV (public LE)	Aug 13-
Sep 23-27'13	Alton, VA	Dec 3-7	Franklin, TN	Sep 17-2
Sep 23-27'13	Canton, MI	Mar 11-15 '13	Florence, AL	Sep 17-2
Sep 23-27'13	Florence, AL	Apr 8-12 '13	Columbus, GA	Sep 17-2
		Oct 7-11'13	Florence, AL	Sep 24-2

Sep 10-14	San Antonio, TX
Sep 10-14	Shreveport, LA
Oct 1-5	Littleton, CO (public LE)
Oct 8-12	Fort Wayne, IN
Oct 22-26	Langhorne, PA
Oct 29-Nov 2	Las Vegas, NV (public LE)
Nov 12-16	Pearl, MS
Dec 3-7	Garden Plain, KS
Oct 21-25 '13	Florence, AL
	SELECT-FIRE
Aug 13-17	Stapleton, AL
Sep 10-14	Richland, MS
Sep 17-21	Bethlehem, PA
Sep 24-28	Spokane, WA
Oct 8-12	Memphis, TN
Mar 25-29'13	Florence, AL

PRECISION RIFLE

TACTICAL SHOOTING

Aug 6-10	Chino, CA
Aug 6-10	Egg Harbor Twp, NJ
Aug 13-17	Cottonport, LA
Sep 17-21	Las Vegas, NV
Sep 17-21	Smithton, PA
Sep 17-21	Spokane, WA
Sep 24-28	Lake View Terr., CA
Oct 1-5	Griffith, IN
Oct 1-5	Las Vegas, NV (public LE)
Oct 8-12	Camdenton, MO
Oct 15-19	Florence, AL
Oct 22-26	Alton, VA
Oct 29- Nov 2	Charleston, SC
Oct 29- Nov 2	Jackson, NJ
Apr 15-19'13	Florence, AL
Sep 9-13'13	Tupelo, MS
Nov 4-8 '13	Florence AI

TACTICAL SHOTGUN

Jul 30-Aug 3	Egg Harbor Twp, NJ
Aug 20-24	Littleton, CO (public LE)
Sep 10-14	East Camden, AR
Oct 1-5	Bethlehem, PA
Nov 5-9	Franklin, TN
Nov 26-30	Las Vegas, NV (public LE)
Jun 24-28'13	Alamosa, CO

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The NRA Endorsed Insurance Program is proud to recognize the sacrifices made by law enforcement officers. To show their appreciation, the program is offering a discounted self-defense coverage for retired law enforcement officers and off-duty police officers who are NRA members. The coverage starts at only \$50 annually and is designed to affordably protect retired and off-duty officers. With limits up to \$250,000, officers can receive coverage for criminal and civil defense costs, the cost of civil suit defense, and criminal defense reimbursement.

Purchasing this coverage is easy! Simply visit www. lawenforcementselfdefense.com and select the option to purchase coverage on the right. For more information or to speak directly to a representative call the NRA Endorsed Insurance Program toll-free at 877.672.3006.

Program Administered by Lockton Risk Services







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To order printed manuals: http://materials.nrahq.org/go





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. Scan this code with your smartphone or tablet to get more information about the NRA Law Enforcement Division.



Law Enforcement website: www.nrahq.org/law

For information on NRA programs or membership, please call (800) NRA-3888

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