

Preparing to Fly: Security Tips from the FAA

Following are some security tips from the FAA to keep in mind when you are preparing to fly.

Packing

The FAA has put together a partial list of items that you cannot bring on your person or in a carry-on. Their advice is that if you have any doubt, don't pack it!

- Knives, corkscrews, as well as all cutting and puncturing instruments.
- Athletic equipment that could be used as a weapon, such as baseball bats, golf clubs and pool cues.
- Weapons such as firearms, ammunition, mace, gunpowder, tear gas, or pepper spray.
- Leave gifts unwrapped. Airline security personnel will open gifts if the X-ray scan cannot determine the contents.

At the Airport

- Watch your bags and personal belongings at all times and do not accept packages from strangers.
- If you see unattended bags or packages anywhere in the airport terminal or parking area, immediately report them to a security officer or other authority.

Protecting Children Against Sexual Abuse

Start by teaching your child that his or her body is special and needs to be protected. Begin as soon as you think your child is old enough to understand. Start simple and keep it that way. Here are some of the main ideas you should convey:

- You are special and important
- Your body is your own.
- There are parts of your body that are private. You have the right to say "NO" to anyone who wants to touch your private parts. You have my permission to



- Report any suspicious activities or individuals in the airport or parking lot to airport security.
- Don't joke about having a bomb or firearm. Don't discuss terrorism, weapons, explosives, or other threats while going through security. The mere mention of words such as "gun," "bomb," etc., can compel security personnel to detain and question you. They are trained to consider all of these comments as real threats.

Checking In

- Adult passengers must bring a government-issued photo ID.
- When asked who packed your bags and if you might have left them unattended at anytime, think carefully and answer the questions honestly. Criminals may use unsuspecting passengers to carry bombs or other dangerous items onto aircraft.
- Be cooperative as screeners ask to hand-search your bags. Security personnel will search a bag if the x-ray scan cannot determine its contents.

say "NO" even if that person is an adult and even if it's a grown-up you know.

- You have the right to say "NO" if someone wants to touch you in any way that makes you feel uncomfortable, afraid or mixed up.
- Pay attention to your feelings. Trust your feelings about the way people touch you.
- If someone bothers you, I want you to tell me. I promise that I will believe you.
- If someone does touch you in a way that doesn't seem right, it's not your fault.

Protecting Your Children from Abduction

Preventing child abduction is a two-step process: educating yourself and educating your children.

Educating Yourself

- Never leave your children alone in public...not even for a second.
- Know where your children are. Know who their friends are and where they live.
- Avoid dressing your children in clothes that display his or her name. Your children may not realize that someone who knows their name is not necessarily a friend.
- Make it a habit to know what your children are wearing every day.
- Let the school know who is authorized to pick up your children.
- File a request with your children's elementary school to notify you when your children are absent without prior notification and consent.

Educating Your Children

- Teach children their full name and address.
- Teach children their full telephone number - including area code — and how to dial it. Let them know that the operator is a friend.
- Tell them to never enter anyone's home or car without your permission whether they know the person or not.
- Impress upon them not to answer the door when you're not home and never to say they are alone to anyone on the phone.
- If you are separated in a store or other public place, teach them to go directly to a clerk at a desk and ask for help. They should never leave the store or go to the parking lot.
- Teach them not to go near occupied cars. It only takes a moment for a car door to open and a child to disappear.
- Children are trusting so teach them about strangers. A stranger is anyone you and your children do not

Don't Forget

If your phone number or the phone number of someone on your Central Station call list changes, please notify us immediately.



know and trust. This includes casual acquaintances and even people dressed in a uniform such as a nurse or security guard.

■ Teach them to go places in a group, not alone.

■ Teach them what a "safe place" is. It can be a store, the police station or a firehouse.

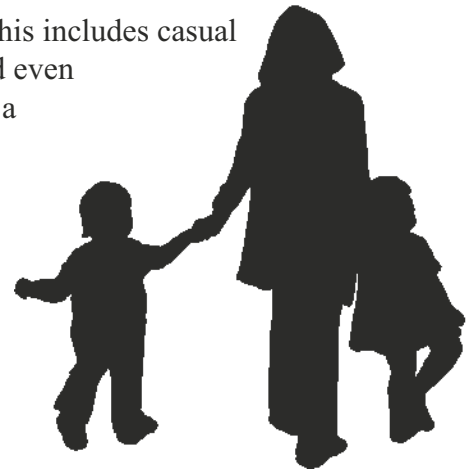
■ Teach them that if someone is following them, to run to a "safe place" and ask for help. Trying to hide just leaves them vulnerable.

■ Explain that adults rarely ask children for directions or help. If that happens, children should ignore the person and go immediately home or another safe place.

■ Have a secret family password. Teach children that it is important that they never go with anyone who doesn't voluntarily offer this word without guessing.

■ Teach children to call home if anyone tells them that you are dead or sick or that you don't love them anymore.

■ Tell them to trust their instincts. If a situation seems wrong to them, they should get away quickly.



Keep in a Safe Place...

- A recent, clear photograph of your children. School photos are ideal. Note height, weight, hair and eye color on the photo. If a child is under two years old, take new photos four times a year.
- Fingerprints of your children taken by the police, and any additional forms supplied by the police at the time of fingerprinting.
- A detailed written description of your children including height, weight, hair and eye color, skin complexion, build, any eye disorders, moles, freckles, scars, pierced ears, skin discolorations, tattoos, type of jewelry usually worn and any unusual habits.

Tips to Avoid Road Rage

■ Make every attempt to steer clear of other drivers who are showing signs of road rage.

■ Don't challenge them by speeding up or attempting to hold your own in your lane.

■ Avoid eye contact and ignore gestures.

■ Report aggressive drivers to the authorities by providing a vehicle description, licence number, location and, if possible, direction of travel.

Source: The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration



Fraudulent Telemarketers

Beware if an unknown caller:

- Says you've won a prize but asks you to send money first.
- Says you have to act right away.
- Instructs you to wire money
- Offers to have someone pick up a payment from your home.
- Says he or she is a law enforcement officer who will help you – for a fee.



Follow these guidelines:

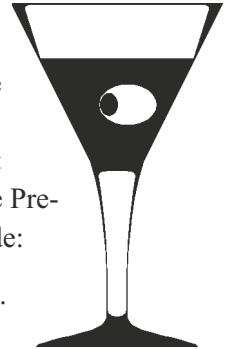
- Check all unsolicited offers with your Better Business Bureau.
- Don't assume a friendly voice belongs to a friend.
- Never give your credit card, checking account or social security number to an unknown caller.

Don't Fall For It!

**Ask for a financial report before you donate.
A reputable charity will always send you one.**

Signs of Alcohol and Drug Abuse On the Job

You are not helping a fellow employee who has a drug or alcohol problem if you ignore the problem, lie or cover up, do his or her job, or lend them money. Instead, help them to get help. According to the National Crime Prevention Council, signs of abuse include:



- Frequent tardiness or absenteeism.
- Abrupt changes in mood or attitude.
- Frequent complaints of not feeling well.
- Poor relationships with co-workers
- Uncharacteristic errors in judgement and poor concentration.
- Unusual flare-ups of temper.
- Deterioration of personal appearance and hygiene.
- Repeated or unusual accidents.
- Deteriorating job performance.
- Borrowing money from co-workers or frequently requesting advances on paychecks.
- Using a company credit card for personal business.

DON'T DRINK & DRIVE!

Public Restroom Safety



TIP!



Be careful of public restrooms. When you first go in, look around. If you see a suspicious person who looks out of place or is behaving in a strange or threatening way, leave and come back later or find a more protected facility.

Use the same kind of safe and secure type of thinking when entering an elevator.

Repair People Can Be a Security Risk

Repair people such as carpenters, painters, movers and others who work in your home, may be a security risk. Because most are employed by others, you have virtually no control over who will be coming into your home. Plus, their work involves a lot of inward and outward traffic of both people and things, which usually results in confusion.



Before workers show up, move jewelry, furs, valuable documents and other portable valuable items to your safe deposit box, safe or a neighbor's home, preferably someone you trust and who has an alarm system.

Deal only with reputable companies or individuals and afterwards, make an inventory check.

Safe Rules to Prevent Playground Falls

Unintentional falls are the leading cause of nonfatal injuries, resulting in more than three million emergency room visits. Many playground injuries can be prevented with safe play rules. Here are some basic safe play rules for children to learn and practice:



- Take turns on playground equipment.
- Play gently – pushing and roughhousing can lead to falls.
- Never wear jackets with drawstrings, jewelry or scarves around the neck. They can get caught on playground equipment.

Play areas should be covered with at least 12 inches of shredded mulch, wood chips, pea gravel, fine sand or covered with rubber or rubberlike material designed for use under playground materials. Dirt, grass and sand does not provide proper fall protection.

NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW...

- **Clients ... Don't forget to use the "Gift Certificate"** we gave you with our Holiday card. You'll get 10% off your next purchase of any product that we carry. If you misplaced your Gift Certificate, call us at 518-523-1600 (or stop by Mon. - Fri. 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM).
- **Thanks for over 20 Years of Business...since 1982!** We couldn't have done it without You! To show our appreciation you can still receive 20% (up to \$ 500.) off any new security system (or on any upgrades or additions to your existing system) anytime up to 5/31/03! Call or see us for details.
- **Our Security Associates (SAI) Central Station is now consolidated.** Up to recently, the monitoring operations were staged from six separate central stations, including the one we used in Cleveland, OH. As of this past summer, those six have now been consolidated to two fully redundant, technically advanced "host" centers in Arlington Heights, Illinois and Pompano Beach, Florida. COMSEC'S founder, Lee Borland, was an original investor (and SAI Board Member) and was instrumental in starting the SAI Command Center over ten years ago. In fact, COMSEC SECURITY was its first member client company. Today, over 3000 alarm companies call it "home" for their central monitoring!
- **COMSEC has upgraded its Accounting /Business software to Quick Books Pro.** It has been a major project for us, but hopefully a "seamless" one for you. You may have noticed your Invoices/ Statements look somewhat different, so call us if you have any questions. Thanks again for your business!

Well, that's about it for this issue. We would like to hear from our readers comments, suggestions, criticisms, whatever. We want to reflect the feelings of not only our Company, but of our clients and friends as well. Send your comments, letters and suggestions to us at : 43 Saranac Avenue, Lake Placid, New York 12946
OR call us at 518-523-1600 (8:30 AM-4:30PM Weekdays). Thank You!