

## Fact Sheet: International Travel with Firearms on Commercial Airlines Departing the United States

- Pursuant to 22 C.F.R. § 123.17, a traveler may export temporarily up to three non-automatic firearms and 1,000 cartridges of ammunition without an export license for personal use and not for sale. This includes travelers transporting firearms in their checked baggage on outbound commercial airliners.
- DHS enforces these regulations on behalf of the U.S. Department of State at the ports of entry: U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) websites offer additional information on the requirements for U.S. persons traveling outside of the United States with firearms and/or ammunition at <http://www.ice.gov/cpi/faq>.
- The existing regulation also requires travelers to submit Electronic Export Information (EEI) into the Automated Export System (AES) to obtain an Internal Transaction Number (ITN) prior to departure. The U.S. Department of Commerce's U.S. Census Bureau administers AES, which is in the process of being migrated to CBP's Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) platform as part of the development and implementation of the Single Window.
- Prior to international travel, travelers must declare the items and present them for inspection to a CBP Officer at the point of departure.
  - For assistance completing the AES filing, travelers may call 1-800-549-0595 and press option 1 or email [itmd.askaes@census.gov](mailto:itmd.askaes@census.gov).
  - To file EEI in AES, travelers will need on a one-time basis to obtain an Employer Identification Number (EIN) issued by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). EINs are available for individuals in addition to business entities. Instructions for obtaining an EIN for the purposes of filing in AES can be found at: <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/regulations/>. Scroll midway down the page to the "Resource" box and click on the instructions in English and Spanish.
- Separate from export requirements, travelers remain responsible for complying with U.S. aviation security requirements when transporting firearms in their checked baggage on commercial airliners. The Transportation Security Administration website provides these requirements at <http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/firearms-and-ammunition>.
- Travelers should also be aware of import requirements, advance authorizations, and any other requirements of the countries that they may be traveling through or visiting.
- Upon return to the United States, travelers must declare personal effects and goods, including any firearms and ammunition.
- CBP continues to explore ways to simplify these processes while ensuring that travelers comply with U.S. export laws. As CBP continues to incorporate AES into the ACE platform, CBP may further refine the process for traveling with firearms and look for additional technology solutions to streamline the process.
- CBP will continue to assist travelers at ports of exit and entry in complying with both the export and re-import requirements. For the re-import of firearms CBP will continue to make available Customs Form 4457 to exempt travelers from the payment of duties on returning items. CBP will do everything possible to ensure that travelers attempting to comply with the regulations do not miss booked travel.
- Travelers should continue to consult CBP's website for updates, and are always free to contact a CBP Port of Entry with questions:
  - [https://help.cbp.gov/app/answers/detail/a\\_id/323/kw/temporary%20export%20of%20firearm/session/L3RpbWUvMTQyNzk2OTI5MS9zaWQvTmlQM21SaW0%3D/suggested/1](https://help.cbp.gov/app/answers/detail/a_id/323/kw/temporary%20export%20of%20firearm/session/L3RpbWUvMTQyNzk2OTI5MS9zaWQvTmlQM21SaW0%3D/suggested/1)
  - <http://www.ice.gov/cpi/faq>.
  - <http://www.cbp.gov/contact/ports>