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**OPERATIONAL DIRECTIVE NO. 02-02**

**Last Amended: November 8, 2013**

**Effective: December 6, 2018**

**SUBJECT: INTRODUCTION OF WEAPONS INTO THE AIR OPERATIONS AREA (AOA) AND OTHER SECURE AND STERILE AREAS AT MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

**PURPOSE:** To enhance security policies governing access of weapons into the Air Operations Area (AOA) as well as into the marked, secure and sterile areas of Miami International Airport (MIA).

**I. AUTHORITY:**

- A. Transportation Security Regulations, 49 CFR Parts 1500 et al. Civil Aviation Security Rules, as amended.
- B. Florida Statutes Section 790.06, License to carry concealed weapon or firearm.
- C. Florida Statutes Section 790.25, Protection of the right to keep and bear arms in motor vehicles for self-defense and other lawful purposes; prohibited acts; duty of public and private employers; immunity from liability; enforcement.
- D. Chapter 25 Section 2.4 of the Miami-Dade County Code, Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MDAD) Rules and Regulations.
- E. Chapter 25 Section 2.15 of the Miami-Dade County Code, Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MDAD) Rules and Regulations.

**II. DEFINITIONS:**

- A. **Air Operations Area (AOA):** Area of the airport designated by the Department and used for the landing, take-off, surface maneuvering and servicing of aircraft. It includes the airport's aircraft movement areas, loading aprons, and aircraft parking and servicing areas.
- B. **Security Identification Display Area (SIDA):** Areas of the airport in which each person is required to properly display on their person an airport-approved identification badge in accordance with Federal regulations.
- C. **Secured Area:** Ramp area of the airport where aircraft is parked and foreign and domestic air carriers enplane and deplane passengers, and where baggage is sorted, loaded and

unloaded (Terminal ramp area outward up to the Northeast, Tunnel and Southeast Vehicle Access Gates).

- D. **Sterile Area:** Areas within the Terminal building, such as concourses, controlled by the inspection of persons and/or property in accordance with the approved airport security plan.
- E. **Weapon:** A broad range of devices and/or instruments that could be used or perceived to be used as a physical threat to persons or property. The following are weapon sub-categories:
  - 1. Firearm – Any weapon which is designed to, or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive charge or compressed air; BB guns, and flare or starter pistols; the frame or receiver of any such weapon; any firearm suppressor or firearm silencer; any destructive device; or any machine gun. Weapons and firearm calibers and types must meet the State of Florida Statute 493.6113(3)(b) and 493.6115, along with the proper Guard License Classification.
  - 2. Knives – Includes sabers, swords, martial arts devices, and knives of any length or description, including steak knives, pocket knives, and souvenir knives.
  - 3. Cutting instruments – Includes carpet knives, box cutters and spare blades, any device with a folding or retractable blade, regardless of blade length or composition, even those less than four inches, whether metallic or non-metallic, ice picks, straight razors, elongated scissors and metal nail files.
  - 4. Explosives/Ammunition/Flammable Liquids – Any explosive or incendiary component, which by themselves or in conjunction with any other items, can result in an explosion or a fire. These include explosive materials, blasting caps, fireworks, gasoline, other flammable liquids, ammunition, etc. or any combination of these items (generally referred to as a bomb).
  - 5. Disabling or Incapacitating Items – All tear gas, mace and similar chemicals and gases whether in a pistol, canister or other container, and other disabling devices such as electronic stunning/shocking devices.
  - 6. Others – As may be determined by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) or the Transportation Security Administration (TSA).
- F. **Armored Vehicle:** A truck with strong metal reinforced doors and locks, with bullet proof glass used to transport money or valuables. Must be constructed on a heavy-duty truck chassis with an enclosed body that is protected by armor plate and bullet proof glass that is either impervious or extremely resistant to bullet penetration and must fully protect the contents.
- G. **Escort Service Companies:** Companies accompanying armored service vehicles on the AOA who carry no high value goods.



### III. POLICY:

No person shall carry any weapon, on their person or stored within their vehicle, into the AOA, SIDA, Secured Areas, or Sterile Areas of MIA as defined in this OD.

#### Exceptions:

- A. Federal, State and local law enforcement and Wildlife personnel who have complied with access control procedures.
- B. Employees or agents of any airport employer or government agency, who have complied with access control procedures, may use and possess employer authorized tools necessary for the performance of their assigned duties, even if they are considered by TSA as a prohibited item. These employees may not take these items through the passenger screening checkpoints but may access alternate routes to enter certain sterile areas.
- C. Licensed and permitted armored service companies transferring high value goods on the AOA. Employees must be in company uniform with company identification and badge. Weapons and firearms must be stored and secured in a lockable gun safe located in the rear and/or driver cab of the armored vehicle at all times while operating on the AOA/SIDA/Secured Areas as described in Section IV, paragraphs E and F of this OD.
- D. Companies providing escort services for high value shipments on the AOA/SIDA/Secured Areas. Employees must be in full company supplied uniforms with badges. All weapons and firearms must be stored and secured in a lockable gun safe located inside the vehicle. Vehicles must have lockable doors and windows. If the vehicle is a pickup truck, the gun safe must be securely installed inside the passenger compartment or the bed of the truck. Lockable camper and bed covers are permitted. Gun safes will be permitted in the vehicle glove box and/or center consoles or behind or under the seats.

### IV. ARMORED VEHICLE ACCESS TO SECURE AREAS AND THE AOA AT MIA:

- A. All occupants of armored vehicles, including those in the secured portion, must have valid access identification media and present it, or cause it to be presented, for processing in the card reader before entering or leaving the AOA/SIDA/Secured Areas and must be in a company supplied uniform. All vehicle occupants must present their faces to access control personnel for comparison with the identification media and all weapons and firearms must be secured in a lockable gun safe as stated above. According to regulations, when on the AOA/SIDA/Secured Area, personnel in the secured portion of the armored vehicle must take possession of and display their access identification media at their first opportunity; whenever the secure portion of the vehicle is open; or whenever they are the only occupants of the vehicle.

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- B. The driver of the armored vehicle must also have a valid AOA driving permit.
- C. Failure to abide by these procedures is a violation of Chapter 25 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, and may result in arrest and prosecution.
- D. Armored Vehicles that have separate driver and cargo compartments will be permitted to have a separate gun safe for both the driver compartment and the cargo (rear) compartments.
- E. Armored Vehicle Company and High Value Escort personnel, in uniform and with airport-issued IDs and company badges, performing the loading and unloading of high value shipments in the Cargo Warehouse area (Buildings 700 through 716, Building 805, 807, 844 and 916), will only be permitted to have their weapons in holsters within 10' of the armored vehicle, while the armored vehicle is within 10' of cargo warehouse door and while the Armored Vehicle is within a 10' radius of the Cargo aircraft, that is parked at the Cargo Warehouse buildings listed above. Once inside the cargo warehouse, the armed security guards will be permitted to move within the warehouse with their duty weapons.
- F. Armored Vehicle Company and High Value Escort personnel will NOT be permitted to leave the Armored or High Value Escort Vehicle with a weapon in any other area of the AOA or within the Secured, Sterile or anywhere in the Passenger Terminal Area, including ramp, hardstand or remote areas of the airfield at MIA.
- G. High Value Escort Companies using a pick-up truck type vehicle, without a rear deck cover, will be permitted to bolt or weld a gun lock box (gun safe), to the rear bulkhead of the vehicle, inside the cab.

**V. PERMIT REQUIREMENTS:**

- A. All armored vehicle service companies doing business at MIA must obtain a proper permit from the MDAD Real Estate Division.
- B. Companies wishing to operate in the AOA must also obtain a Vehicle Decal Permit from the Airside Division. Refer to OD 01-02 AOA Decal and Vehicle Permit Requirements.
- C. Companies wishing to operate in Landside areas refer to OD 90-24, Ground Transportation Service Permits, for pertinent information and permit application.

**VI. EFFECTIVE DATE:**

This OD shall become effective 15 days after having been filed/recorded with the Clerk of the Circuit Court as Clerk of the County Commission. The OD shall remain in effect until revoked or modified.



**VII. AMENDMENTS:**

The Department reserves the right to amend ODs at any time and from time to time.

**VIII. REVOCATION:**

Revocations and removal of established Operational Policies requires written justification by requesting division management for review and concurrence by the MDAD Professional Compliance Division. Upon written concurrence, the revocation request will be submitted, by Professional Compliance, for approval by the Aviation Director. Should the written directive be an Operational Directive, the authorized revocation justification will be sent to the Clerk of the Board for filing with the original Operational Directive under revocation. All approved revocation justification memoranda shall be posted to the Written Directives Log to identify why the directive has been revoked to maintain ongoing operational accountability.

**IX. SEVERABILITY:**

If any court of competent jurisdiction determines that a provision in this OD is illegal or void, the remainder of this OD shall continue in full force and effect.

**X. CROSS REFERENCE:**

OD 01-02 AOA Decal and Vehicle Permit Requirements  
OD 90-24 Ground Transportation Service Permits

  
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Lester Sola, Aviation Director

Date: 11-19-18