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Airport Authority offers Independence Day travel tips

SAN DIEGO – July 2, 2010 – For many, the Fourth of July means special getaways or vacations with family and friends. The Airport Authority has some important information for those using San Diego International Airport (SDIA) during this busy summer holiday.

No Fireworks

They may be an American tradition, but fireworks and incendiary devices are dangerous explosives that have no place onboard aircraft. Here's a simple reminder: ALL fireworks and incendiary devices are prohibited — whether they are on your person, in carry-on bags or checked luggage — on every aircraft and at every airport across the country. To avoid a hefty fine of up to \$10,000, possible arrest and imprisonment, leave all fireworks and other explosives at home.

Independence Day Festivities

- **Fireworks display.** On Sunday, July 4, at 9:00 p.m., the “Big Bay Boom” fireworks show will be held in the harbor. Expect severe traffic delays on Harbor Island and North Harbor Drive due to the nighttime fireworks display.

Plan Ahead

Arrive at least two hours before departure for domestic flights and three hours for international flights. Flight status can be checked at www.san.org/flights. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) website provides helpful tips on how to reduce wait times at security checkpoints, such as how to pack and what items are permitted and prohibited. These tips are available at www.tsa.gov.

- **Follow 3-1-1 for liquids in carry-ons:**
 - 3-ounce bottles or less for all liquids, gels and aerosols placed in
 - 1 quart-sized, clear, plastic, zip-top bag
 - 1 bag per passenger, placed separately in a security bin for X-ray screeningThe liquid restriction applies only to carry-on bags. Passengers can pack larger quantities of liquids and gels in checked baggage. At SDIA, passengers who forget to bring a 1-quart plastic zip-top bag can receive one at the checkpoint, courtesy of the Airport Authority.
- **Be prepared for screening.** Removing footwear for X-ray screening is required. Footwear that can be easily removed helps speed the process. At SDIA, passengers may request foot protectors to wear while their shoes are off, courtesy of the Airport Authority.

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Parking

- **Valet Parking.** The valet service was created to aid travelers in situations where time, convenience and parking availability are a concern. When coming to the airport, drive into the designated valet areas marked in front of Terminal 1 and Terminal 2. When arriving back in San Diego, pick up your luggage first on the way to the valet cashier. Take the receipt to curbside valet and your vehicle will be brought to you. Or send a text to 619-888-6675 with your ticket information once your plane lands, and your car will meet you curbside (please specify which terminal). The cost is \$30 per 24-hour period.
- **Short- and Long-Term Parking.** The parking options available at SDIA include color-coded short- and long-term SAN Park lots:
 - **Orange** is for SAN Park NTC, located west of the airport
 - **Green** is for SAN Park Harbor Drive, located east of the airport
 - **Blue** is for SAN Park Pacific Highway, located north of the airfieldFree shuttle buses from long-term lots to all airport terminals are also color-coded and sport scenes of popular San Diego County destinations.
- **Cell Phone Lot.** Located at 2701 North Harbor Drive. Motorists can wait in this parking lot for up to 60 minutes free of charge. Once cell phone contact is made between the driver and incoming passenger, the motorist can drive over to the terminal for quick, convenient traveler pick-up.

In 2009, passengers rated San Diego International Airport 88% in overall passenger satisfaction, the highest in six years of surveying.

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