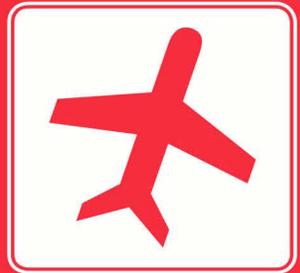# AIRPORTS SECURITY OFFICE

Aloha 2025, and Welcome to the New Year 2026! A glance at the DOT Airports website highlights some changes around the Islands as we move into the new year (see https://hidot.hawaii.gov/airports/category/news/ for full stories). These improvements reflect the ongoing commitment to making travel and daily operations smoother, safer, and more enjoyable for everyone. Recent updates include:

- A new streamlined parking system at **KOA** and **ITO**.
- Speed limit adjustments along Airport Road at **ITO**.
- Employee parking lot upgrades at **LIH**.
- Electric buses now serve as rental car shuttles at **HNL**.
- The opening of Waialua Bar & Café at **HNL Terminal 1**, bringing more local flavors to travelers.

These changes highlight the dedication of teams at every Airport—working behind the scenes to ensure safety, comfort, and a welcoming experience for tenants, employees, and travelers alike.

As we approach the Year of the Horse on February 17th, themes of high energy, growth, action, and good fortune are on the horizon. Whether or not one follows the lunar calendar, these are inspiring qualities to carry into the year ahead.

Wishing everyone across our Airports and their 'ohana a prosperous, uplifting, and safe New Year—and to all who pass through our terminals, may your travels be smooth and filled with aloha.

CYBER-BYTE

DON'T CLICK THE LINK!

Be cautious of unfamiliar and promotional emails and fake shipping updates—go directly to official websites to verify any changes. Also, avoid suspicious QR codes that could link to a scam.

CONTENTS

CLOSED*
Saturday, Sunday, and State Holidays
February 16, 2026 –Presidents' Day
March 26, 2026 – Kuhio Day
April 3, 2026 – Good Friday

***Closures may vary by office.**

Hilo (ITO) - PASS AND ID OFFICE
Phone: (808) 961-9350
Email:
dot.air.ito.pass.and.id@hawaii.gov

ITO Security Dispatch:
(808) 961-9308

Honolulu (HNL) - PASS AND ID OFFICE
Phone: (808) 836-6427
Email: dot.air.hnl.badge@hawaii.gov

HNL Security Dispatch:
(808) 836-6641/6642

Kauai (LIH) - PASS AND ID OFFICE
Phone: (808) 241-3902
Email:
dot.air.lih.pass.and.id@hawaii.gov

LIH Security Dispatch:
(808) 274-3814

Kona (KOA) - PASS AND ID OFFICE
Phone: (808) 327-9517
Email:
dot.air.koa.pass.and.id@hawaii.gov

KOA Security Dispatch:
(808) 329-1083

Maui (OGG) - PASS AND ID OFFICE
Phone: (808) 872-3874
Email:
dot.air.ogg.pass.and.id@hawaii.gov

OGG Security Dispatch:
(808) 872-3875

MERCHANDISE SCREENING: NEW LOCATION AT LOBBY 8

Effective January 19, 2026, the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport (HNL) opened a new Merchandise Inspection location site on the 2nd floor of Terminal 2 at the east end of Lobby 8.

Merchandise may be inspected at this location 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. All items intended for use, consumption, or sale in the Sterile Area must be inspected at this new location.

Previously used DAPs on the 2nd level at Terminal 2 will no longer be used for merchandise inspection.

Individuals accessing this location are required to have a valid SIDA badge or be under authorized escorted.

Anyone entering the Sterile Area may be subject to screening when the Aviation Worker Screeners are present.

PREVENT PIGGYBACKING

Keeping the airport secure requires everyone's participation. This guide outlines how to prevent piggybacking and protect restricted areas.

BEST PRACTICES:

- Only use your own valid Airport ID Badge to access a DAP. Do not let others use your Airport ID Badge.
- Only one person at a time is allowed through a DAP.
- Do not allow anyone to follow you through.
- Ensure the DAP door or gate is closed after entering or exiting.
- Notify Airport Security immediately if there is a problem.

Resource and Image: FFG Security (2023, April 17).

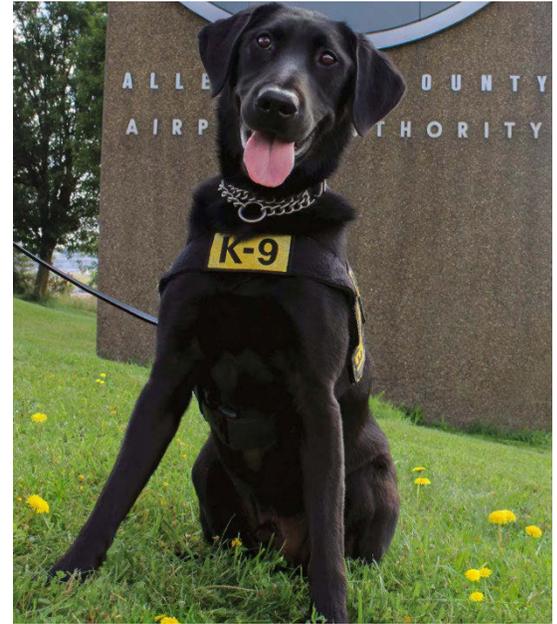# Aviation Worker Screening (AWS) REMINDERS

- Expect to be screened at any Direct Access Point (DAP) when transitioning from the public area to a restricted area.

- Prohibited Items – Visit the TSA website at: https://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/whatcanibring/all-list for the most current list of items.

- Only bring the necessities, leave tools of the trade and steel-toed shoes in an employer's secured locker or storage location in the restricted area.

- Do NOT bring any weapons, explosives, or flammable items to the airport. If caught, individuals may be subject to criminal penalties.

- Those who may alarm while being screened with a hand-held metal detector should proceed to the closest operational TSA Security Screening Checkpoint for entry.

TSA 2026 CANINE CALENDAR

The long awaited TSA 2026 Canine Calendar is now available to download on the TSA website, with Steeler gracing the cover. This soon to be 3-year-old labrador retriever from Pittsburgh International Airport (PIT) was born on Super Bowl Sunday 2023 and was chosen as TSA's 2025 Cutest Canine. His favorite treat is a jumbo hot dog from 7-11. All of the 1,000 plus canine teams across the country work hard to keep airports, transit, and maritime systems safe.

Check out the full article and calendar link on the TSA website:
https://www.tsa.gov/news/press/releases/2025/12/31/totally-paw-some-2026-tsa-canine-calendar-now-available-for-download.

January 2026: Stalking Awareness Month

January was National Stalking Awareness Month, and January 28 marked Data Privacy Day. Experts urge continued vigilance as workplace stalking concerns grow.

Workplace safety specialists continue to raise awareness about stalking behaviors that can occur on the job, noting that these situations often go unnoticed until they escalate. Stalking in the workplace can stem from personal issues, professional conflicts, or interactions with coworkers and travelers.

Employees are encouraged to stay alert to repeated unwanted contact, unusual behavior, or anything that feels intrusive. Safety professionals stress that concerns should be reported quickly to a supervisor or law enforcement so appropriate steps can be taken.

Organizations are also being urged to promote situational awareness and create an environment where employees feel comfortable speaking up. Early reporting, experts say, is key to maintaining a safe and supportive workplace.

In addition to physical and behavioral safety concerns, protecting personal information is important. Data privacy plays a key role in preventing misuse of employee details that could enable a stalking or unwanted attention. Limiting the sharing of personal and sensitive information helps to reduce risk.

If you suspect stalking—whether involving yourself or a coworker—notify a supervisor and consider contacting law enforcement. Early action helps protect everyone. (Resources: https://www.stalkingawareness.org/stalking-awareness-month-2026/ and the State of Hawaii Enterprise Technology Services.)

Stalkerware: Preventive Measures

Stalkerware can be an app, program, or software that someone uses to covertly spy on an unsuspecting person. It can be via cellular device, web searches, global position, to name a few. It is often marketed as "parental monitoring tools" that someone uses to stalk a person. Be aware of large battery drain on your device that is characteristic of stalkerware running in the background. Some ways to combat stalkerware:

- Use strong passwords and multi-factor authentications.

- Restrict permissions for cameras and microphones.

- Block third-part app installs (Android) and avoid jailbreaking iOS devices.

- Avoid public Wi-Fi for sensitive tasks or use a trusted VPN.