

# SAN DIEGO COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY



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## Transportation Security Administration to hold explosives response training at San Diego International Airport May 18–22, 2009

**WHAT:** The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) will hold four late-night explosives response training sessions at San Diego International Airport next week, on the nights of Monday, May 18 through Thursday, May 21. Each session will last from 10 p.m. – 3:30 a.m., with the final session ending Friday, May 22 at 3:30 a.m.

The training includes a series of “real-world” response events, designed to introduce bomb technicians and their supporting K-9 teams to the unique threats and challenges faced when responding to incidents involving aircraft containing explosive devices.

The training will have minimal impact to normal airport operations. Travelers can expect to see a larger-than-normal law enforcement presence in and around San Diego International Airport during the week.

*The event will be closed to the general public and news media. However, news media are encouraged to let their audiences know about this activity to ensure that travelers are not alarmed by the increased law enforcement presence.*

**WHY:** Training participants will work in concert to learn how to resolve incidents in the cramped confines of an aircraft. The end goal is to increase public safety and minimize the impact of bomb threats to airlines.

**WHO:** The TSA is coordinating the exercise with support from the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority. 22 separate units covering 12 different agencies from across the southwest region of the United States are scheduled to come together for this event. Participants include local bomb squads, Military Explosive Ordinance Disposal units and TSA-certified explosive detection teams.

**WHEN:** Monday, May 18 to Friday, May 22 from (four nights, 10 p.m. – 3:30 a.m. each night)

**WHERE:** The training will take place on the airfield at San Diego International Airport.

*The San Diego County Regional Airport Authority was established by state law in 2003 to operate San Diego International Airport and to address the region’s long-term air transportation needs. San Diego International Airport — funded through user fees and not local taxes — served 18.1 million passengers in 2008 and generates some \$10 billion in annual economic impact for the region.*

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SAN DIEGO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT