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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**TSA raising aviation security baseline with stronger domestic security measures**  
*New screening procedures for carry-on bags to better focus on threats*

WILMINGTON, N.C. – To ensure the security of airline passengers and the nation’s airports, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) will begin implementing new, stronger screening procedures for carry-on items at Wilmington International Airport (ILM) on April 14<sup>th</sup>. The new procedures, which were [announced last year](#), require travelers to place all electronics larger than a cell phone in bins for X-ray screening in standard lanes. TSA recommends that all travelers arrive at the airport up to two hours in advance of their flight departure time to ensure they have enough time to check in with their airline and go through security.

TSA officers will begin to ask travelers to remove electronics larger than a cell phone from their carry-on bags and place them in a bin with nothing on top or below, similarly to how laptops have been screened for years. This simple step helps TSA officers obtain a clearer X-ray image.

It is possible that passengers may experience more bag checks, however, through extensive testing, TSA identified ways to improve screening procedures with quicker and more targeted measures to clear the bags.

In standard screening lanes, TSA officers will be stationed in front of the checkpoint X-ray machines to guide passengers through the screening process and recommend how best to arrange their carry-on items for X-ray screening. Travelers are encouraged to organize their carry-on bags and keep them uncluttered to ease the screening process and keep the lines moving. There are no changes to what travelers can bring through the checkpoint; food and liquid items that comply with the [3-1-1 liquids rule, electronics, and books](#) continue to be allowed in carry-on bags.

The new security measures do not apply to passengers enrolled in [TSA Pre✓®](#) who are using TSA Pre✓® lanes. TSA also marked another milestone earlier this month with TSA Pre✓® now available at more than 200 airports nationwide. Travelers enrolled in TSA Pre✓® do not need to remove shoes, 3-1-1 liquids, laptops, electronics, light outerwear, or belts. The program allows TSA to focus resources on passengers who may pose a high risk to security while providing expedited screening to those travelers who have been identified as low-risk, trusted travelers.

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*The Transportation Security Administration was created to strengthen the security of the nation’s transportation systems and ensure the freedom of movement for people and commerce. TSA uses a risk-based strategy and works closely with transportation, law enforcement and intelligence communities to*

*set the standard for excellence in transportation security. For more information about TSA, please visit our website at [tsa.gov](http://tsa.gov).*