

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Office of the Chief Counsel (TSA-2)
601 South 12th Street
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Transportation
Security
Administration

June 22, 2011

Mickey H. Osterreicher
General Counsel
National Press Photographers Association, Inc.
3200 Croasdaile Drive, Suite 306
Durham, NC 27705-2586

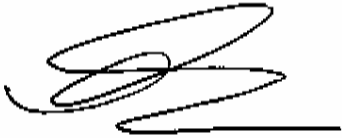
Dear Mr. Osterreicher,

Thank you for your June 9 and 10, 2011 letters concerning photography, videotaping and filming at airport security passenger screening checkpoints. TSA policy concerning photography and other recording at the checkpoint is designed both to preserve this constitutionally protected activity and to safeguard the integrity of the screening process.

As you are aware, several recent incidents involving video recording at passenger screening checkpoints have received considerable attention from the traveling public, including the incident at the Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport on May 28, 2011, which you mentioned in your June 9 letter. These incidents have prompted TSA to review its policy on the use of recording devices at the screening checkpoint. Please be assured that TSA's goal is to protect passenger's rights, including the right to record at passenger screening checkpoints, while ensuring that passenger screening operations can take place in an effective and efficient manner. We will continue to strive to meet this two-part commitment.

Sincerely,

you
Keel


Margot Bester
Principle Deputy
Office of Chief Counsel