

# **Amtrak Checked Firearms Program**

June 10, 2010

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## **Executive Summary**

On December 16, 2009, the President signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111-117) into law. Section 159 of the legislation directs the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) to develop the ability to transport firearms in checked baggage, similar to the program used by the airlines.

Amtrak formed a Joint Working Group consisting of selected members of the Amtrak staff representing the departments that will be have a hand in this program, members of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and an Amtrak contractor.

The Working Group is charged with developing the process and procedures for the successful implementation of a program to provide carriage of firearms (hand guns, starter pistols, rifle and shotguns) and up to eleven pounds of ammunition. All items must be properly packaged, in accordance with Public Law guidelines and Amtrak regulations, in order to be accepted for movement via the Amtrak system.

Amtrak will accept movement of firearms at any of the rail stations within the Amtrak system that offer checked baggage service. Only those stations that accept checked baggage will participate in this program.

Amtrak and its partners have conducted a survey of the applicable stations to review process and procedures that will have to be implemented to ensure the safety and security of this program for Amtrak employees, the traveling public and the infrastructure. The information obtained from this review forms the basis for the policies and procedures that will be implemented.

Amtrak will modify its reservation system to allow passengers to indicate their desire to transport a firearm; obtain and install secure storage (cabinet/cage) to be used in both the stations and baggage cars on the trains to provide secure transport of rifles or shotguns; signage in the stations and on board the trains to indicate restricted areas and advise passengers about their responsibility to declare firearms; an education program to let the public know about this capability; and a training program for Amtrak employees to ensure they are safe in the performance of their duties.

Amtrak will also work closely with the owners / landlords of the stations where Amtrak is a tenant, as well as the local law enforcement, first responders and stakeholders to ensure that all parties are aware of the enhanced baggage services that Amtrak will be providing.

In early October of 2010, Amtrak plans to conduct a limited BETA Test to assess the proposed procedures and make program refinements as necessary prior to the implementation of the program in December 2010. Finally, Amtrak will conduct a Continuous Improvement Program. Within three to six months after the start of the program, Amtrak will conduct a survey to gauge the effectiveness of the program and any improvements that are needed moving forward.

## **1.0 Introduction**

### **1.1 Background**

Amtrak offers checked baggage services at specific rail stations throughout the country. On December 16, 2009, the President signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111-117) into law. Section 159 of the legislation directs the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) to develop and implement guidance and procedures to carry out the duties and responsibilities of firearm storage and carriage in checked baggage cars and at Amtrak stations that accept checked baggage.

In accordance with the law, no later than December 15, 2010, Amtrak is directed to develop and implement procedures to allow passengers to place an unloaded firearm in checked baggage under specified conditions, at Amtrak Stations that accept checked baggage. Specifically at the time the reservation is made, or not later than 24 hours before departure, the passenger declares to Amtrak, either orally or in writing that a firearm will be placed in his or her checked baggage and will be in compliance with regulations for carriage. The firearm presented for carriage is required to be in a hard-sided container that is locked with only the passenger retaining the key or combination. Additionally, the firearm must be unloaded (cylinder/breach clear and/or magazine removed) and any ammunition (up to eleven [11] pounds) properly packaged. Amtrak is also directed to include appropriate measures in its procedures to ensure the safety and security of Amtrak employees, passengers and infrastructure.

Amtrak passengers holding a ticket for a specific Amtrak route will also be allowed to place small arms ammunition for personal use in a checked bag provided the ammunition is securely packed in the original manufacturers container, a fiber, wood, or metal boxes or in other packaging specifically designed to carry small amounts of ammunition. Small amounts of ammunition for personal use are not to exceed 11 pounds. Ammunition can be moved independently of firearms (i.e. no firearm is required to be able to move up to eleven (11) pounds of ammunition in checked baggage).

Additionally the law allows for the temporary suspension of firearms carriage service if credible intelligence indicates a threat related to the national rail system or specific routes or trains. For purposes of the law, the term "checked baggage" refers to baggage transported that is accessible only to Amtrak employees. It must be remembered that not all Amtrak routes have checked baggage service. For example, Amtrak's Acela product line does not offer checked baggage service.

Through its partnership with the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and its contractor, Amtrak has analyzed existing baggage handling procedures, conducted a system wide security evaluation / assessment, of small, medium, and large passenger rail stations that handle checked baggage throughout Amtrak's five Divisions nationwide. A survey sheet was developed by our contractor, based on checked baggage capabilities and the new public law requirements for the carriage of firearms (handguns, rifle and shotguns, as well as small amounts of ammunition) as checked baggage. The survey

teams conducted a security review of all of the checked baggage stations across the Amtrak system, using the developed survey sheet as the primary evaluation tool. Each station was visited to inspect the station layout and facilities, discuss the new process with the Amtrak employees and to walk through the process from check-in at the counter, placing luggage into the Amtrak Checked Baggage process, storage of the checked baggage within the station, transport of the baggage to the baggage car on the applicable train and storage of the checked items within the baggage car. In addition, the teams looked at the reverse process (i.e. the baggage coming off of a train and into the station to the baggage claim area). The information obtained from this security review forms the basis for the policies and procedures that will be implemented, as well as modifications to equipment and baggage storage areas, public awareness campaign and an employee training program. This report will provide information on each of these areas which will enable Amtrak to implement a firearm in Checked Baggage program that will ensure the safety and security of Amtrak employees, passengers and infrastructure.

## **2.0 Solution**

The following sections outline modifications required to the existing baggage handling procedures in order to accommodate firearm storage and carriage in checked baggage service.

### **2.1 Process Overview**

Passengers wanting to transport firearms (handguns, starter pistols, rifles or shotguns) through the Amtrak checked baggage system will use the following procedures:

- Make a ticket reservation.
- At the time the reservation is made, but not less than 24 hours in advance, declare the intent to transport a firearm in checked baggage.

#### **2.1.1 Handguns and Starter Pistols**

At the station of departure, the passenger can only obtain their ticket from an Amtrak ticket agent at the ticket counter (kiosk or automated processing is not permitted).

- When the Amtrak ticket agent accesses the passengers reservation record, there will be a notification the passenger has indicated they will be transporting a firearm in checked baggage.
  - The Amtrak ticket agent will issue the passenger a firearms checked baggage ticket and will also be responsible for issuing a Firearms Declaration form for each checked firearm. A ticket will be generated for each firearm to provide a confirmation tool for baggage agents that reservations and space exists on the train that the passenger is checking the firearm.
  - The passenger will complete the Declaration form and return it to the Amtrak agent
  - The Amtrak agent will separate the two part Declaration form, retaining one copy for Amtrak records
  - The baggage agent (or ticket agent where they perform both functions) will lift the ticket and place a baggage tag on the suitcase for handguns. The ticket for the firearm, the station copies of the Firearms Declaration form, and baggage tag will be maintained at the station of origin
  - The agent will then ask the passenger to open their baggage containing the firearm and place a hard copy of the declaration form inside the baggage and visually verify that the firearm is in an acceptable hard-sided, locked container
- If the container is not hard-sided, locked, or acceptable the Amtrak agent will deny transportation to the passenger until such time as the firearm is compliant with Amtrak movement requirements.
- Once the passenger has secured their baggage, the Amtrak agent will take charge of the baggage and it will be moved through the normal Amtrak checked baggage process.

- When checked baggage (with a handgun inside) arrives at the destination, the process is reversed.
  - Checked baggage is unloaded from the train baggage car/area by the conductor or employee assigned and transported by the Amtrak agent to the passenger baggage retrieval area or baggage carousel.
  - Amtrak agents will follow standard procedures to verify passenger baggage claim check stubs with the applicable baggage destination tag(s).

Amtrak does not permit passengers to transport black powder or percussion caps used in connection with black powder firearms in their checked or carry-on baggage.

### **2.1.2 Rifles and Shotguns**

At the station of departure, the passenger can only obtain their train ticket from an Amtrak ticket agent at the ticket counter (kiosk or automated processing is not permitted). At the time the passenger presents a rifle or shotgun to an Amtrak agent for carriage, the agent verifies through the Amtrak's ARROW reservation system that a separate firearms reservation has been made for each rifle or shotgun (ARROW is Amtrak's reservation system). Variances in baggage car types, size, configuration, and ownership will differ by train potentially impacting secure storage capacity for rifle or shotgun .

- The Amtrak ticket agent will issue the passenger a firearms checked baggage ticket and will also be responsible for issuing a Firearms Declaration form for each checked firearm. A ticket will be generated for each firearm to provide a confirmation tool for baggage agents that reservations and space exists on the train that the passenger is checking the firearm.
- The passenger will complete the Declaration form and return to the Amtrak agent.
- The Amtrak agent will separate the two part form, retaining one copy for Amtrak records. The baggage agent (or ticket agent where they perform both functions) will lift the ticket and place a baggage tag on the gun case for long guns. The ticket for the firearm, the station copies of the Firearms Declaration form, and baggage tag will be maintained at the station of origin.
- The agent will ask the passenger to open the hard-sided gun container and place a hard copy of the declaration form inside the container. The agent will visually verify that the firearm is inside an acceptable hard-sided and locked container.
- If the container is not hard-sided, locked, or acceptable the Amtrak agent will deny transportation to the passenger until such time as the firearm is compliant with Amtrak movement requirements.
- A gun container with the rifle or shotgun will be individually tagged as checked baggage and a receipt will provided to the passenger.
- A notification will be generated through the Arrow reservation system alerting the destination station that a rifle or shotgun is being stored inside the secured storage (cabinet/cage) of an incoming train's baggage car that would need to be off loaded.
- The Amtrak agent will take control of the hard-sided gun container and will place it in a secure storage (cabinet/cage) in the baggage storage area.
- At the time baggage is to be loaded onto the train, the Amtrak employee will ensure the rifle or shotgun is removed from the secure storage (cabinet/cage), transported in

a secure manner to the baggage car/area of the train, and turned over to the conductor or employee assigned.

- The conductor or employee assigned places the rifle or shotgun container in the secured storage (cabinet/cage) inside the baggage car/area.
- Long guns reservations will be noted on the manifest for each specific train. The report will include the origin and destination stations for each rifle/shotgun booked on the train and the passenger information traveling with the firearm.
- Upon arrival at the applicable destination, the rifle or shotgun container will be removed from the secure storage (cabinet/cage) in the baggage car by the conductor or employee assigned.
  - The conductor or employee assigned will give the rifle or shotgun container to the Amtrak employee for secure transport from the train to the passenger baggage retrieval area
  - Amtrak agents will follow standard procedures to verify passenger baggage claim check stubs with applicable baggage destination tags

Amtrak does not permit passengers to transport black powder or percussion caps used in connection with black powder firearms in their checked or carry-on baggage.

## **2.2 Firearm Storage and Carriage in Checked Baggage**

Ticketed passengers wishing to transport firearms in checked luggage may only do so at rail stations where Amtrak offers checked baggage service. At the time the reservation is made or not less than 24 hours in advance of the trip, the ticketed passenger provides notification to Amtrak either orally or in writing, that they will be bringing a firearm and declaring it for checked baggage.

The Amtrak employee will determine if the firearm to be checked is a handgun, starter pistol, rifle, or shotgun. The passenger reservation record will be flagged and an applicable firearms reservation may be issued. Passengers making travel reservations and planning to declare firearms for checked baggage service will be unable to obtain a ticket via the internet, kiosk other travel services and must obtain their passenger ticket at the Amtrak station ticket window at their station of departure.

When the passenger presents the firearm to the Amtrak agent they must complete and sign a two part Firearms Declaration form certifying they are in compliance with the Amtrak requirements for movement of the firearm. Amtrak requires all firearms be unloaded, in an acceptable hard-sided locked container, and presented to the appropriate ticket or baggage window agent subject to movement requirements.

Amtrak does not permit passengers to transport black powder or percussion caps used in connection with black powder firearms in their checked or carry-on baggage.



### **2.2.1 Handguns and Starter Pistols**

Passengers presenting handguns or starter pistols will be required to open their baggage containing the handgun or starter pistol. The Amtrak agent will verify the firearm is being transported in an acceptable hard-sided and locked container. If the firearm is not in an acceptable hard-sided firearms container and locked, the Amtrak agent will deny transportation to the passenger until such time as the firearm is compliant with movement requirements.

The Amtrak agent will place one copy of the two-part declaration form inside the bag containing the firearm. The baggage agent (or ticket agent where they perform both functions) will lift the ticket and place a baggage tag on the suitcase for handguns. The ticket for the firearm, the station copies of the Firearms Declaration form, and baggage tag will be maintained at the origin station.

The Amtrak agent will accept the checked baggage containing the firearm and move it to the baggage collection point to await carriage.

Firearms presented for checked baggage service will be additionally subject to the following conditions:

- The checked baggage containing the firearm will be subject to the provisions and conditions of Amtrak checked baggage service.
- The baggage will not exceed 50 pounds.
- Passengers will be required to show acceptable identification when checking baggage.
- Baggage must have identification tags attached that include passenger name and address. Amtrak provides free baggage identification tags at all stations accepting checked baggage.
- Check all firearms at least 30 minutes prior to departure. Allow additional time at large stations and during busy travel period. Firearms presented for checked baggage less than 30 minutes prior to departure may result in passenger being denied travel on that train.

### **2.2.2 Rifles and Shotguns**

Passengers presenting rifles or shotguns for checked baggage service will be required to open the hard-sided container with the firearm. The Amtrak agent will place one copy of the two-part declaration form inside the container and retain one copy of the Firearms Declaration form for Amtrak records. The Amtrak agent will accept the locked hard-sided container and place it inside a secured firearms storage area (cabinet/cage) to await carriage.

Upon arrival of the train at the station, the Amtrak agent securely transfers the hard side container from the secured storage area to the conductor or employee assigned for

placement inside the secured storage area (cabinet/cage) on the train for carriage to destination.

Rifles/shotguns presented for checked baggage service will be additionally subject to the following conditions:

- A separate reservation for secure storage space will have had to been made. Variances in baggage car types, size, configuration, and ownership will differ by train thereby impacting secure storage capacity for rifle/shotguns.
- The hard-sided container with the rifle/shotgun will be subject to the provisions and conditions of Amtrak checked baggage service.
- The hard-sided container with the rifle/shotgun will not exceed 50 pounds.
- Passengers will be required to show acceptable identification when checking the hard-sided container with the rifle/shotgun.
- Rifle/shotgun containers must have identification tags attached that include passenger name and address. Amtrak provides free baggage identification tags at all stations accepting checked baggage.
- Check all firearms at least 30 minutes prior to departure. Allow additional time at large stations and during busy travel period. Firearms presented for checked baggage less than 30 minutes prior to departure may result in passenger being denied travel on that train.

## **2.3 Passengers Traveling to and from Canada**

### **2.3.1 Traveling from the United States to Canada**

Amtrak will seek to become a licensed transportation business authorized to transport firearms into, within and across Canadian borders.

Ticketed passengers traveling to and from Canada, wishing to carry firearms in checked baggage, on board Amtrak trains will be required and responsible for knowing and complying with the provisions as described in the *Firearms Act of Canada*.

Weapons in Canada are strictly controlled and passengers bringing firearms into Canada are required to declare the firearms in writing, using a Non-Resident Firearm Declaration Form (RCMP GRC 5589 EFW) available from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police at <http://www.cfc-cafc.gc.ca>.

In all cases, travelers (resident/non-resident Canadian citizens) must declare to Canadian Customs authorities any firearms and weapons in their possession when entering Canada.

### **2.3.2 Traveling from Canada to the United States**

Non residents traveling to the United States from Canada wanting to carry firearms in checked baggage on board Amtrak trains will be required to comply with the requirements of 18 USC 925 and Section 38 of the Arms Export Control Act of 1976

and be required to obtain a permit for Importation of Firearms, Ammunition and Implements of War. Additionally a passenger must complete a United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Tobacco and Firearms, Application and Permit for Importation of Firearms, Ammunition and Implements of War (ATF Form 6NIA 5330.3D) Passengers are advised to submit Form 5330.3D at least six to eight weeks for processing prior to intended importation. Further information can be obtained at <http://www.atf.gov>

In all cases passengers traveling on Amtrak to and from the United States and Canada are responsible for knowing and following the firearms laws of the Country's, Provinces, and State(s) to and through which they will be travelling.

## **2.4 Baggage Car Firearm Handling Process**

### **2.4.1 Firearms - Handgun or Starter Pistol**

The Amtrak employee takes charge of checked baggage while in transit. Upon arrival at a transfer point or final destination the conductor or employee assigned securely transfers baggage to Amtrak station employees for further handling.

### **2.4.2 Firearms - Rifles or Shotguns**

The Amtrak employee takes charge of placing a checked firearm in the secure firearms storage cabinet for carriage to the appropriate transfer point or final destination.

Additional baggage car responsibilities:

- The conductor or employee assigned takes charge of checked rifle/shotgun transfer from Amtrak employees.
- The conductor or employee assigned places the checked rifle/shotgun in the secured storage area (cabinet/cage).
- The conductor or employee assigned securely stores checked rifle/shotgun while in transit.
- The conductor or employee assigned will document that a checked rifle/shotgun has been placed inside the secure storage (cabinet/cage).

Upon arrival at transfer point or final destination the conductor or employee assigned removes the hard-sided container from the secure storage (cabinet/cage) on board the baggage car and transfers the container to another Amtrak employee for further handling and disposition.

Rifle or shotgun hard-side containers require special handling and will be limited to the capacity of the secure storage area (cabinet/cage) at the station or on board baggage cars.

### **2.4.3 Return of Checked Firearm in Baggage Reverse Process**

The conductor or employee assigned transfers baggage and checked firearms to an Amtrak employee who places baggage on secured float for transport to baggage claim area. The employee verifies the passengers claim check and exchanges the claim check stub for checked baggage or hard-sided firearms container.

Checked firearm baggage will be available for claim generally within 30 minutes of arrival at destination. Passengers will identify baggage by presenting their claim check to an Amtrak employee. Amtrak employees will verify and collect passenger claim checks before checked firearm baggage is returned to the passenger. If passengers do not possess a claim check, the Amtrak employee will follow Amtrak's lost claim check policy and complete NRPC Form 319.

## **3.0 Changes to Reservation System**

The effective implementation of the firearms in checked baggage program requires modifications to the Amtrak Arrow reservations system. Because of security requirements, transport of rifles/shotguns in secure storage is available on a limited space basis. Variances in baggage car types, size, configuration, and ownership will differ by train thereby impacting secure storage capacity for rifle/shotguns. The system will also need to be modified to allow for:

- Passengers to make reservations for firearms to be placed in checked baggage not less than 24 hours in advance of the trip.
- Requiring passengers to obtain tickets only from an Amtrak agent at the station of departure and not from the internet, kiosk other travel services.
- To identify available secure storage (cabinet/cage) space and maximum firearm checked baggage capacity.
- Due to secure storage space limitations, Amtrak agents will reserve secured space and issue a firearms checked baggage for each rifle/shotgun and to reserve available space in the secure storage area (cabinet/cage) used to transport rifles and shotguns.
- A notation on the passenger reservation record indicating they will be transporting a firearm in checked baggage service.
- The Amtrak ticket agent will issue the passenger a firearms checked baggage ticket and will also be responsible for issuing a Firearms Declaration form for each checked firearm.
- A notification system to advise the destination station of long guns scheduled to arrive at their station. The system would also lists the origin and destination stations on each train manifest along with the passenger information traveling with the firearm.
- A ticket will be generated for each firearm to provide a confirmation tool for baggage agents that reservations and space exists on the train that the passenger is checking the firearm. The baggage agent (or ticket agent where they perform both functions) will lift the ticket and place a baggage tag on the suitcase for handguns, or on the gun

case for long guns. The ticket for the firearm, the station copies of the Firearms Declaration form, and baggage tag will be maintained at the origin station

## **4.0 Signage**

Areas within the Amtrak system where checked baggage is processed and stored will need to display security related signage defining these areas as restricted or no trespass areas. Signage will be developed and posted identifying restricted and no trespass areas accessible only to Amtrak employees within baggage handling areas, as well as those areas on the train (baggage car doors / areas).

In addition, Amtrak will develop and display signage similar to that used in the airport to alert passengers to the statutory requirements of transporting firearms that will be displayed in the station area and at all ticket windows.

In Stations that accept checked baggage and have posted Rules of Conduct, revision to the Rules of Conduct will be made to comply with this program.

### **4.1 Station Signage - Passenger Areas**

Each ticket counter and applicable baggage areas at stations where Amtrak offers checked baggage services will display the following notification:

“Public law requires that firearms in checked baggage must be declared and unloaded. Passengers failing to declare firearms or transporting loaded firearms will be subjected to applicable law and will be denied access to trains and refused carriage.”

### **4.2 Station Signage - Checked Baggage Holding Area**

Restricted area signage will be posted in areas where checked baggage is stored. Signage will indicate it is a restricted area accessible only to Amtrak employees.

### **4.3 Baggage Car - Signage**

The baggage car or secure baggage storage area where checked baggage is located will have signage posted indicating it is a restricted area accessible only to Amtrak employees.

## **5.0 Public Awareness Campaign**

Amtrak will initiate a public awareness campaign announcing that passengers will be offered the ability to transport an unloaded firearm and ammunition in checked baggage service under specified conditions where the Amtrak Station accepts checked baggage for such route. Information will be provided to inform passengers how the firearms in checked baggage process works and what they must do to be compliant.

An awareness campaign will be rolled out to the public through various media including, but not limited to printed material, Amtrak internet web page, and through their internal reservation system. The awareness campaign will provide customers with the requirements for transporting firearms and ammunition at stations where Amtrak offers checked baggage service.

## **6.0 Station and Stakeholder Notification**

Amtrak will work closely with property owners at rail stations not owned by Amtrak, local law enforcement officials, security contractors, first responders, and other stakeholders advising them of changes in the law requiring Amtrak's implementation of firearms in checked baggage service beginning December 15, 2010. The objective of this effort is to share information in advance with the local station owners / property managers, so they can implement any changes necessary to comply with the requirements of the new law and firearms in checked baggage handling procedures. This will also provide an opportunity to alert the local first responders to the fact that Amtrak will be providing carriage to firearms and limited amounts of ammunition. In the event of train derailment or fire, local first responders will need to be aware of the fact that small ammunition may be in the baggage area of the train and could pose a potential hazard.

## **7.0 Training**

Amtrak employees impacted by the changes in the law requiring Amtrak's implementation of firearms in checked baggage service will be provided with a formalized training program. The training program shall include guidance and procedures for performing their duties and responsibilities for the safe and secure handling, storing and carriage of firearms in checked baggage.

## **8.0 Constant Improvement Process (CIP)**

As with any new process, there will always be improvements that can be made based on lessons learned. Amtrak will collect lessons learned / recommendations for improvement within three to six months of the implementation date. This information will be reviewed and applicable adjustments made and communicated to all effected parties. Thereafter, Amtrak will conduct an annual review of the process and make adjustments as necessary to ensure the continued safety of passengers, employees and equipment and the secure transportation of firearms to meet the needs of Amtrak's customers.

### **8.1 Beta Test**

In early October of 2010, Amtrak plans to test the efficacy of the firearms in checked baggage program service in advance of the system wide implantation date to ensure that all requirements of the law have been met. This will allow Amtrak sufficient time to complete any corrective actions identified during the Beta Test.

## **ANNEX 1 - Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111-117) Section 159**

### **SEC. 159. AMTRAK SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS.**

(a) **AMTRAK SECURITY EVALUATION.**-No later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, Amtrak, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration), shall submit a report to Congress that contains-

- (1) a comprehensive, system-wide, security evaluation; and
- (2) proposed guidance and procedures necessary to implement a new checked firearms program.

### (b) **DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF GUIDANCE AND PROCEDURES-**

(1) **IN GENERAL.**-Not later than one year after the enactment of this Act, Amtrak, will in consultation with the Assistant Secretary, shall develop and implement guidance and procedures to carry out the duties and responsibilities of firearm storage and carriage in checked baggage cars and at Amtrak stations that accept checked baggage.

(2) **SCOPE.**-The guidance and procedures developed under paragraph (1) shall-

(A) permit Amtrak passengers holding a ticket for a specific Amtrak route to place an unloaded firearm or starter pistol in a checked bag on such route if-

- (i) the Amtrak station accepts checked baggage for such route,
- (ii) the passenger declares to Amtrak, either orally or in writing, at the time the reservation is made or not later than 24 hours before departure, that the firearm will be placed in his or her bag and will be unloaded;
- (iii) the firearm is in a hard-sided container;
- (iv) such container is locked; and
- (v) only the passenger has the key or combination for such container;

(B) permit Amtrak passengers holding a ticket for a specific Amtrak route to place small arms ammunition for personal use in a checked bag on such route if the ammunition is securely packed-

- (i) in fiber, wood, or metal boxes; or
- (ii) in other packaging specifically designed to carry small amounts of ammunition; and

(C) include any other measures needed to ensure the safety and security of Amtrak employees, passengers, and infrastructure, including-

- (i) requiring inspections of any container that carries a firearm or ammunition; and
- (ii) the temporary suspension of firearm carriage service if credible intelligence information indicates a threat related to the national rail system or specific routes or trains.

### (c) **DEFINITIONS.**-

(1) For purposes of this section, the term "checked baggage" refers to baggage transported that is accessible only to select Amtrak employees.