

TRAVEL COMMUNICATION CARD

COMPLIMENTS OF THE UNITED OSTOMY ASSOCIATIONS OF AMERICA, INC.

This is provided to travelers in order to simplify communication with federal Transportation Security personnel and airline flight attendants, at those times when you wish or need to communicate in a non-verbal way, as is your legal right.

This is not a “certificate” and it is not a “pass” to help you avoid screening.

Please print out on any weight of paper you wish, trim to wallet-size and laminate if desired. The blue color is important, as it is a “flash-card” developed by the TSA so their own officers will recognize it and be guided to treat the traveler with discretion and sensitivity.

If laminated in a double-side manner, it can be used ‘blue side out’ during security screening, and the white side out when communicating non-verbally with airline personnel.

JUST PRINT, CUT OUT, FOLD, AND PUT WITH TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

- NEWS:** As of January 2011 - You may always have a travel companion with you during a private screening
- TSA officers should NOT ask you to show your pouch—you may be asked to rub over your pouch outside your clothing so they can test your hand to rule out explosive residue.
 - To file a complaint, send an email to TSA.ODPO@dhs.gov (with a copy to advocacy@uoaa.org, please)

OUTSIDE LEFT—for use during screening before boarding. Intended for the passenger to show the TSO at the beginning of personal screening - before being patted-down or entering a full-body scanner. The TSO may not take it from you to read, since the distinctive blue color makes it like a ‘flash card’.

OUTSIDE RIGHT

Notification Card

I have the following health condition, disability or medical device that may affect my screening:

(Optional)

I understand that presenting this card does not exempt me from screening.

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TSA respects the privacy concerns of all members of the traveling public. This card allows you to describe your health condition, disability or medical device to the TSA officer in a discreet manner. Alternate procedures which provide an equivalent level of security screening are available and can be done in private.

Presenting this card does not exempt you from screening.

~ ~ GOTTA GO NOW ~ ~

RESTROOM ACCESS

The cardholder contains body waste in an **OSTOMY POUCH** (stool/urine) and/or carries pouches and related supplies and/or a catheter to manage personal hygiene. S/he needs access to the restroom **now** in order to empty the pouch — this is **critical** for the cardholder’s well-being and for public sanitation.

 **TRAVELER’S COMMUNICATION CARD**

Provided by the UOAA, a volunteer-based health organization dedicated to providing education, support and advocacy for people who have or will have intestinal or urinary diversions.

United Ostomy Associations of America
www.ostomy.org 1-800-826-0826

INSIDE LEFT - this is designed to show in the event it is needed **while in flight** and the pilot has chosen to limit restroom access—or when passengers are supposed to be belted in during turbulence. You might wish to show it to a flight attendant during boarding and/or getting settled, so he or she will be mindful of your situation. Before laminating, you may wish to rotate the bottom half so all text is in one direction when it is folded/unfolded.

INSIDE RIGHT