General Aviation Passenger Screening Procedures
at Howard Hamilton International Airport (PLS/MBPV)

In Accordance with the United Kingdom's Overseas Territories Aviation Requirements (OTARs), beginning November 1, 2026, departing Tier 1 commercial General Aviation (GA) flights will be required to go through a passenger and baggage security screening process. Passengers who are required to undergo screening must successfully complete the screening process before boarding the aircraft.

Operations Affected and Crew Exemptions

Operations Subject to Required Screening

Tier 1: Departing commercial aircraft operations with Maximum Take-Off Mass (MTOM) above 10,000kg which is subject to applicable Air Safety Support International (ASSI) / Overseas Territories Aviation Requirements (OTARs) Tier 1 security screening requirements.

Operations Generally Not Subject to Tier 1 Screening

- **Tier 2**: Commercial aircraft operations with MTOM below 10,000kg.
- **Tier 3**: exempted operations: Govt, military, police and customs flights, medical, fire and rescue flights, flights carrying no passengers, baggage, cargo, mail. Helicopters of any max take off mass are also exempt, as are flights when privately owned and operated.
- **Quick-turning same-day crew members** who remain under operator control, unless otherwise directed by security personnel or regulatory authorities.

Screening Procedures and Process

What to Expect During Screening

- Identity verification
- Screening of carry-on baggage and personal items
- Walk-through metal detector screening
- Manual pat down screening where necessary
- Random explosive trace detection screening
- Inspection of checked baggage where applicable

Preparing for Screening

- Follow directions provided by screening personnel at all times
- Remove items from pockets before screening
- Present laptops, tablets, and large electonic devices separately if requested
- Remove belts, outer jackets, and bulky items if instructed

Prohibited Items

Prohibited Under OTARs Regulations

- Firearms, ammunition, and replica weapons
- Knives, blades, swords, and other sharp objects
- Explosives, fireworks, flares, and incendiary devices
- Pepper spray, mace, stun guns, and incapacitating devices
- Crowbars, drills, saws, and other tools capable of causing serious injury
- Baseball bats, clubs, and other blunt instruments

Prohibited Under Turks and Caicos Islands Law

- Illegal drugs and narcotics
- Prohibited offensive weapons, including certain knives and knuckledusters
- Pepper sprays and noxious gas devices
- Stun guns and electrical incapacitating weapons
- Obscene or prohibited materials
- Firearms, ammunition, explosives, animals, plants, and other restricted goods without the required permits or licenses

Questions?

Please contact your aircraft operator before travelling if you have questions regarding security screening requirements or restricted items.