As the public assembly industry evolves to accommodate the ever-changing dynamic needs of security, the safety of our guests and staff is our number one priority. The Pensacola Bay Center has implemented additional security measures for arena event operations for all future events, including graduation. The new enhancements include metal detectors at every arena entrance and size restrictions on all bags brought into the building with ALL PERSONS being subject to a security screening search upon each entry to the venue.

What does that mean for those who will ATTEND graduation?

METAL DETECTORS

All PERSONS will be required to pass through metal detecting upon entry to the building

This includes all general public, venue staff, event staff, participants, contractors, vendors, volunteers, etc.

BAG & SIZES

Bags are restricted to one bag (12” x 12” x 6”) per person and one small clutch purse (6.5” x 4.5”)

Any Bags within a reasonable size variance to the 12x12 restriction are subject to a search and will be tagged clean upon each entry into the venue

GENERAL DOOR TIMES

To accommodate the additional time needed for the new security procedures, doors will be opened 90 minutes prior to most events

Patrons are encouraged to arrive early to allow extra time for ingress and Bring Only Essential Items

ACCOMODATIONS:

OUTSIDE FOOD FOR DIETARY NEEDS

PACEMAKERS (The MAGS are Certified by the American Heart Association, however, alternate screening measures are available as needed)

SIGNS OR BANNERS (Standard size, no larger than 2ft x 3ft)

STROLLERS (can be brought in and checked with Guest Services at the Gate)

UMBRELLAS (can be brought in based on the nature of the event)

DIAPER BAG/MEDICAL BAGS (provided they go through the bag check screening process)

ALL ACCESS TYPE CREDENTIALS (Subject to venue authorization and an event by event basis, those with AA IDs and a special “tag” can have access without screening)

STANDARD PROHBITED ITEMS POLICY:

Prohibited carry-in items also include, but are not limited to:

LARGE BAGS ANY WEAPONS OUTSIDE FOOD

BACKPACKS SPIKES OR CHAINS OUTSIDE DRINK

WAIST PACKS LASER POINTERS CONTAINERS

UMBRELLAS NOISEMAKERS GLASS ITEMS

WRAPPED GIFTS

ANY OTHER ITEM DEEMED INAPPROPRIATE OR CHALLENGING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

If any prohibited items are revealed during search, the patron will be permitted to return to their vehicle with the items or they can dispose of the item before entry into the venue. The Pensacola Bay Center will not store any personal belongings or items of any type.

These enhanced security procedures are becoming commonplace in the entertainment industry. Pensacola Bay Center respects the privacy of its guests and the enhanced security measures will be used to prevent hazardous and prohibited items from entering the venue. We are dedicated to working with you to incorporate such enhancements, while maintaining a limited impact to the overall event experience. We thank you for your continued support in hosting your event here at the Pensacola Bay Center.