

Revised HQ 10-79E
#4 Secretariat
Contact Person: Makoto Terada

To: All Kamikumite
From: NARHQ, Regional Director, Masaaki Fujisaki
Date: February 1, 2011
Re: **Omitama and Airport Security**

Thank you very much for your daily service to God.

Due to recent events worldwide, security at airports has been strengthened once again. More and more airports have started using “body scanners” instead of the traditional metal detectors. Recently a member was forced to open her Omitama after a “body scan” and now needs to apply for a new Omitama. In light of this, we would like to once again review the process of going through security and make a recommendation.

We are now recommending that you “opt out” if you are being directed to have a body scan. We are still legally permitted to not have the scan and request a physical “pat down” of our bodies. This is perfectly acceptable by the TSA and we should not hesitate to request this. The problem with body scans (besides all that we hear about in the media), is that they ask us to take everything out of our pockets, even our white handkerchief, which we must carry in case we need to have our Omitama X-rayed. It is much better to go ahead and have the Omitama X-rayed rather than the possibility of having to open it. In this way we would like to avoid having to ask Oshienushisama to prepare new Omitamas for us due to this situation.

If you are asked to go through a body scanner, please do the following:

1. Respectfully decline – the term they are using is that you want to “opt out.” They don’t normally ask why, but if asked, you can say you are concerned about radiation or privacy issues, etc. You will normally then receive a pat down or they may use a hand wand. Most often during pat downs, they don’t feel it, however, if they use a hand wand, it most likely will beep.
2. If they do ask you what it is, please say that it is a “religious medal” on a chain. They will then normally just let you go on through.
3. If they say they need to see it or inspect it further, then please volunteer to have it X-rayed.
4. Wrap your Omitama in the purified white handkerchief that must be carried with you (in an upper pocket if possible) when you go through security. Place the wrapped Omitama in a small circular bin that is usually used for keys or coins. If there are no small bins then, you will have to use a large one.

5. Please make sure not to place the bin with Omitama in it on a chair, the floor, or anywhere else our feet touch because this would be an Omitama accident.
6. Please note the time, location, and circumstances of exactly what happened and report this to the staff at your center as soon as possible.
7. When you have a private and secure place to do so, please purify your own Omitama as follows:
 - a. Wash you hands with purified soap, rinse your mouth, and dry your hands with a purified towel (purified wipes may be substituted).
 - b. Offer a prayer to Su God and Izunome sama of apology for having to have Omitama X-rayed and ask for permission to purify your Omitama. After the prayer, clap your hands three times and recite the Amatsu Norigoto prayer from beginning to end (just like we are going to give Light to someone).
 - c. Then, take off the safety pin and lift the Omitama out of the sewn-in pocket while keeping the chain around your neck.
 - d. Purify the front and back of your Omitama for three minutes each.
 - e. Place your Omitama back into the sewn-in pocket and secure with the safety pin.
 - f. Offer a prayer of gratitude to conclude.

If for some reason, you do have to have a body scan, please follow the exact procedure as listed above.

Please also note that one of our staff members who travels quite often, notices that in some airports the body scanners are not used in each lane or location as you go through security. Therefore, it is a good idea to observe the situation well and try to go through a lane or location that has only metal detectors, if at all possible.

Please ask your staff members if you have any questions. Thank you very much.