



**T U N I C A   A I R P O R T**

## **Irregular Operations (IROPS) Contingency Plan**

**Adopted 14 May 2017**

Tunica County Airport Commission

P.O. Box 158

209 South Airport Blvd.

Tunica, MS. 38676

662-357-7320

## INTRODUCTION

The Tunica County Airport Commission has prepared this Irregular Operations (IROPS) Contingency Plan for the Tunica Airport pursuant to §42301 of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012. Questions regarding this plan can be directed to Eric Konupka, C.M. at [eric.konupka@tunicaairport.net](mailto:eric.konupka@tunicaairport.net).

The Tunica Airport is filing this plan with the Department of Transportation because (1) it is a commercial airport and/or (2) this airport may be used by an air carrier described in USC 42301(a)(1) for diversions.

This plan describes how, following excessive tarmac delays and to the extent practicable, the Tunica Airport will:

- Provide for the deplanement of passengers;
- Provide for the sharing of facilities and make gates available at the airport; and
- Provide a sterile area following excessive tarmac delays for passengers who have not yet cleared United States Customs & Border Protection (CBP).

The Tunica Airport has facility and personnel constraints that limit its ability to accommodate excessive diverted flights while maintaining the airport's safe operation. The Tunica Airport strongly encourages aircraft operators to contact the airport's FBO, The Tunica Air Center at 662-357-7330 or the Airport for prior coordination of diverted flights, except in the case of a declared in-flight emergency. If air carrier diversions are expected, the Tunica Airport requests all operators to notify the Tunica Airport so it can begin making preparations for the event(s). Specific facility constraints at the Tunica Airport (UTA) include but are not limited to:

- The absence of international processing facilities
- Limited gate parking
- Limited ramp parking positions
- Ground support equipment
- Lack of equipment to deplane passengers from aircraft with a door sill height greater than 160 inches
- Limited passenger space in sterile area
- Limited hours of operations of TSA personnel to assist with immediate rescreening of passengers

## AIRPORT INFORMATION

Name of airport: Tunica Municipal Airport

Airport Identifier: UTA

Airport address: 209 S. Airport Blvd, Tunica, MS. 38676

Name & title of person preparing the plan: Eric Konupka, C.M., Executive Director

Name & title of person who reviewed plan: Marie Warner, Airport Operations Coordinator

Preparer contact number: 662-357-7320

Preparer contact email: [eric.konupka@tunicaairport.net](mailto:eric.konupka@tunicaairport.net)

Date of submission of plan: May 9, 2017

Airport Category: Non Hub

## CONTACT INFORMATION

In the event of diversion or other irregular operations events, aircraft operators should contact the Tunica Air Center, fixed base operator (F.B.O.) at 662-357-7330 for assistance. In the event the airport operations personnel are not available, an after hours on call paging system is available 24-7.



## **PLAN TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEPLANEMENT OF PASSENGERS FOLLOWING EXCESSIVE TARMAC DELAYS**

The Tunica Airport owns and operates equipment needed to safely deplane passengers from air carrier aircraft and is able on its own to provide for the deplanement of passengers to include the operation of the one JetBridge located on gate 2. Airport personnel are trained to assist in the deplanement of passengers using its equipment or any equipment owned or operated by air carriers and/or contract service providers. Additionally, the airport has requested that each airline, ground handler and FBO operation on the airport to provide an up to date list of the equipment and resources they have for deplaning passengers and contact information. The airport will provide this inventory and contact information to airlines as soon as practicable after receiving requests from such airlines experiencing excessive tarmac delays at the contact number listed above.

## **PLAN TO PROVIDE FOR THE SHARING OF FACILITIES AND MAKE GATES AVAILABLE IN AN EMERGENCY**

Two gates at the Tunica Airport are owned and controlled by the airport. Of these gates, one has jet bridge access to the terminal. Additionally the airport has three aircraft parking areas that has access to the airport terminal. The airport, to the maximum extent practicable, will direct the users to make gates available to an air carrier seeking to deplane at a gate. If additional gates are needed, to the maximum extent practicable, the airport will direct air carriers to make gates and other facilities available to an air carrier seeking to deplane at a gate, during those time periods when the tenant airline is not using, or not scheduled to use, the gates.

## **PLAN TO PROVIDE A STERILE AREA FOR PASSENGERS WHO HAVE NOT CLEARED UNITED STATES CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION**

The Tunica Airport does not have international passenger processing facilities. We will coordinate with local CBP and law enforcement officials to identify suitable areas and procedures for establishing a temporary sterile area into which international passengers on diverted aircraft who have not yet cleared United States Customs and Border Protection can be deplaned. Once these efforts are complete, we will coordinate with local CBP officials to develop procedures that will allow international passengers who have not yet cleared United States Customs and Border Protection to be deplaned into these sterile areas to the extent practicable.

## **PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE IRREGULAR OPERATIONS (IROPS) CONTINGENCY PLAN**

The Tunica Airport will provide public access to its IROPS Contingency Plan through one or more of the following means:

- Posting in a conspicuous location on the airport website <http://www.tunicaairport.com>
- Distributing this plan to its air carrier users

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Operators who divert or plan to divert aircraft to the Tunica Airport and may require fuel should also contact the Tunica Airport FBO at 662-357-7330.