# STATEHOUSE SECURITY FAQs

**Q. Where can I enter the Statehouse?**
A. The Ohio Statehouse has three public entrances located at Third Street, State Street and the southwest sliding-glass doors from the underground parking garage.

**Q. Does the Ohio Statehouse have ADA compliant entrances?**
A. Yes, the Third Street and underground parking garage south sliding-glass doors entrances are ADA compliant.

**Q. What items are subject to inspection?**
A. All items brought into the Ohio Statehouse are subject to inspection.

**Q. What items are prohibited that I will not be permitted to bring into the Ohio Statehouse?**
A. Any device deemed unsafe or dangerous by the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) or Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board (CSRAB) will not be permitted. This includes, but is not limited to, weapons, knives, explosives, signs on poles and chemical mace.

**Q. What items will be screened by the x-ray machine?**
A. All bags, packages or personal items carried into the Statehouse are subject to inspection or X-ray.

**Q. Is it safe to stand or walk near an x-ray machine while it is producing x-rays?**
A. The X-ray machines used to check bags and packages entering the Statehouse have safety mechanisms to prevent radiation from leaving the X-ray chamber inside the machine. The machines are inspected by the Ohio Department of Health to ensure these mechanisms are working properly, and there is no exposure to radiation outside the sampling chamber.

**Q. Do I have to empty my pockets prior to going through the metal detector?**
A. Yes, all personal belongings (i.e. car keys, pocket change, mobile phone, etc.) must be removed from pockets prior to going through the metal detector.

**Q. Can I bring a backpack into the Statehouse?**
A. Yes; backpacks/book bags are permitted inside the Ohio Statehouse after being inspected or X-rayed at one three public entrances.

**Q. If I bring a prohibited item into the Ohio Statehouse, can I leave it with the OSHP and gain entrance?**
A. No; an individual will have to secure any and all items not permitted inside the Ohio Statehouse off site or in the individual's vehicle. The CSRAB and the OSHP **will not store/hold prohibited items.**

**Q. Can I avoid having to go through security screening (metal detector and bag check) when I enter the Ohio Statehouse?**

A. All visitors to the Statehouse must go through security screening. If you are a Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board employee, employee of a State of Ohio agency with offices in the Ohio Statehouse, State of Ohio elected official, State of Ohio agency director, Governor's cabinet member, OLCA press member or JLEC registered lobbyist you may request electronic ingress to the access control turnstiles at each entry. Call the Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board, Security at 614-728-9796 with any access control questions.

**Q. If I have an Ohio Statehouse issued ID badge and I forgot my ID badge, do I have to go through the metal detector?**

A. Yes, any individual without an Ohio Statehouse ID on their person must go through the metal detector.

**Q. Are tour groups required to go through the metal detectors?**

A. Yes, all visitors are required to go through the metal detectors. Tours scheduled with the Ohio Statehouse Museum and Education Center will be provided with specific information about where to enter the building and what security procedures will apply.

**Q. How long will it take me to go through the metal detector?**

A. As long as you remove any metal objects from your person before walking into the metal detector, as instructed, the process takes only as long as it takes you to walk through detector. Detection of metal on your person will require additional screening that may delay your entry.

**Q. What are the hours of operation for the Ohio Statehouse?**

A. Hours of operation for the Ohio Statehouse are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

*Remember, security starts with you.*
Please wear your identification badge at all times and be prepared to show it to security.