Biometric Exit Process

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is collecting facial images from all travelers departing the United States on this flight. CBP will use the images to verify each traveler's identity. CBP is authorized to collect this information by the 2002 Enhanced Border Security and Visa Entry Reform Act (Pub. L. 107-173), the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (Pub. L. 108-458), and the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (Pub. L. 110-53). CBP is required to verify the identity of all travelers. All travelers are required to submit to CBP inspection upon exit. Facial images will be matched and then stored for no more than two weeks in secure data systems managed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in order to further evaluate the technology, ensure its accuracy, and for auditing purposes. In lieu of facial images, travelers may be asked to present travel documents or other proof of identification, and in some cases provide fingerprints. CBP may share traveler entry and exit data with other government agencies, only if the situation warrants, for law enforcement purposes.

Q: Who will be participating in the exit process? Is it mandatory?
A: CBP is required to verify the identities of all travelers, and is required to biometrically verify all non-U.S. citizens. CBP will ensure that all legal and privacy requirements are met.

Q: What information will CBP collect during the exit process?
A: A biometric facial photograph provided by the traveler.

Q: Will my personal data be shared or stored? How is my privacy protected if I give my information?
A: The digital photographs of travelers will be stored and matched in secure CBP data systems. CBP is dedicated to protecting the privacy of all travelers. More information is available at www.dhs.gov/privacy. See “Traveler Verification Service” under “Privacy Compliance.”

Q: Where can I receive more information about the biometric exit process and other CBP programs?

Q: What options are available if I experience difficulties during the test?
A: Travelers who experience delays in airline boarding can seek redress through the DHS Traveler Redress Inquiry Program (TRIP) at trip@dhs.gov.