



Odor Incident Timeline

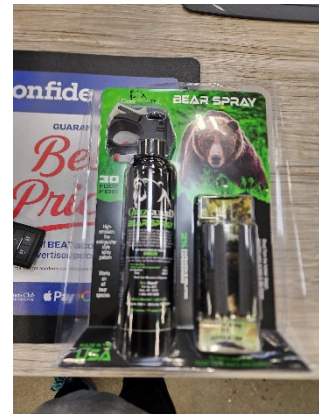
Sunday, April 16:

- 2:44 p.m.: Airport Communications Center (ACC) received the initial call about a smell on Concourse C near Tootsies. Multiple callers were reporting an unpleasant odor.
- 2:45 p.m.: Airport Operations and Department of Public Safety (DPS) began evacuating Concourse C of all passengers and employees.
- 2:55 p.m.: Metropolitan Nashville Fire Department (MNFD) was dispatched by ACC to respond to Nashville International Airport® (BNA®).
- 3:11 p.m.: BNA's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated. (The EOC is the centralized communications center for leadership to convene in emergency situations.) BNA leadership in the EOC worked to identify the location of the odor.
- 3:45 p.m.: Ongoing communication between the MNFD HAZMAT team and DPS to receive updates on air quality testing and findings.
- 3:58 p.m.: MNFD found no hazardous substance in the air and determined it was safe for people to go back down Concourse C.
- 4:10 p.m.: DPS reported a brown liquid sprayed onto the dust wall at the trash across from the InMotion at the beginning of Concourse C.
- 4:16 p.m.: MNFD and DPS allowed passengers to return to Concourse C.
- 4:35 p.m.: BNA releases initial statement:
 - ***Today at approximately 2:42 p.m., Nashville International Airport evacuated Concourse C due to the presence of a noxious odor. The Metropolitan Nashville Fire Department conducted air quality testing and determined there are no air contaminants. The FAA has issued a ground stop to facilitate the safe resumption of operations. Concourse C has been reopened, and we will continue to monitor the situation. We encourage travelers to check with the airlines for the status of arriving and departing flights.***

- 4:50 p.m.: BNA releases additional statement.
 - ***The FAA has lifted the ground stop at BNA, and flights are resuming. We continue to encourage passengers to check directly with their airline for updates regarding scheduled flights.***
- 7:46 p.m.: BNA releases additional statement after learning the results of the MNFD sampling:
 - ***Chemical samples were taken during the incident by the Metropolitan Nashville Fire Department. Test results indicate that the sample was a solvent, Butoxyethyl Acetate, commonly used in lacquers, varnishes, enamels and resins. Additional air quality testing was also completed, and no contaminants were discovered. Concourse C was deemed safe by incident commander and restored to full operational status at 4:16 p.m.***

Monday, April 17:

- 6:46 p.m.: After reviewing security camera footage DPS identified the irritant source and the individuals involved. A passenger realized bear spray was in their backpack after leaving the TSA security checkpoint and discarded it in a trash can prior to boarding their plane. Video footage shows the custodian going through the trash, locating the bear spray, and inadvertently activating the canister.



Nashville International Airport is committed to the safety of its passengers, staff, and airline partners. We take these matters seriously. Research was a critical component of this incident to understand the full scale of the situation to keep the public informed – as details unfolded. We will continue our efforts to provide an optimal experience for all travelers.

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TSA issued the following statement:

TSA officials at Nashville International Airport were made aware of noxious fumes that were the cause of a temporary evacuation of Concourse C on Sunday, April 16. After initiating an internal investigation and discussing with BNA, we learned on April 17 that the item was bear spray missed during the security screening of a passenger's carry-on bag and was later disposed of by the passenger in a concourse trash bin. TSA takes its role in transportation security and this situation very seriously and is continuing to review details with our airport partners to ensure appropriate corrective actions are taken.