

## DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



Division of Measurement Standards  
8500 Fruitridge Road  
Sacramento, CA 95826

DMS NOTICE  
D - 03 - 4

June 13, 2003

Discard: Retain

TO WEIGHTS AND MEASURES OFFICIALS

**Subject: Airline Baggage Scales**

We have noticed an increase in the number of inquiries and complaints concerning airlines charging for excess baggage weight. To our knowledge, this practice is a recent development and officials may not have been routinely testing the scale systems. When systems are being used commercially to charge weight fees to passengers, they are required to comply with all weights and measures requirements. Counties are advised to verify the use of these scales and to take appropriate enforcement action.

If you have any questions, please contact your Device Area Specialist or Ken Lake, Program Supervisor, at (916) 229-3047 or [klake@cfda.ca.gov](mailto:klake@cfda.ca.gov)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Cleary".

Mike Cleary  
Director  
(916) 229-3000