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GERALD R. FORD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

News Release

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Ford Airport Sets New Passenger Record: 2,185,924 served in 2010

Gerald R. Ford International Airport set a new passenger record in 2010 with 2,185,924 customers served, a 23.4% increase over 2009. The 2010 total surpasses the previous record of 2,150,125 passengers set in 2004.

“We are thrilled to achieve a new all-time passenger record at Gerald R. Ford International Airport,” said James Koslosky, Executive Director. “This record is a significant milestone and reflects the positive change in market conditions that are attracting more and more passengers to the airport.”

The economic drivers for increased airport utilization are lower fares and greater flight options thanks to new and expanded service in 2010. Early in the year, Ford Airport announced partnerships with AirTran Airways and Frontier Airlines, providing new service to five destinations. Allegiant Air, which began service in 2009, expanded its operation in 2010, increasing its service to seven total destinations and establishing a base, bringing 60 new jobs to the region. Legacy carriers followed suit with increased capacity and reduced fares.

Preliminary estimates indicate that GFIA travelers saved over \$10 million on airfare in 2010, due the availability of lower fares and additional flight capacity. “Airfare reductions and increased seats, and signs of economic recovery, helped fuel our passenger growth and our effort to recapture those customers who were driving to other airports outside of our catchment area for lower cost air service,” added Koslosky.

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Passenger Appreciation Day

To celebrate its new milestone, Ford Airport will hold a passenger appreciation day February 14, 2011, to officially thank its customers. "We felt Valentine's Day would be the perfect occasion to share our gratitude with passengers," commented Koslosky. Airport staff will be on hand throughout the facility to say 'thank you' with free refreshments and a chance to win a grand prize drawing. We love our customers!

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