NEWS RELEASE

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Veterans Employer of the Year Award goes to Airport Authority

Airport Authority honored by California Employer Advisory Council for "providing outstanding employment services to veterans"

SAN DIEGO – May 5, 2008 The San Diego County Regional Airport Authority has been named Veterans Employee of the Year by the California Employer Advisory Council (CEAC) in recognition of the employment services it provides to veterans. The Airport Authority will receive the award May 9 in Redding, CA.

According to the CEAC, the award is given to employers who consistently demonstrate positive policies toward U.S. veterans in hiring, promotion, employee retention efforts, ongoing training and benefits. The Airport Authority was nominated for the award by the State of California Employment Development Department's San Diego Field Office 146.

"We are proud to support employees and prospective employees drawn from the ranks of those who have served, and are serving, our nation in uniform," said Thella F. Bowens, President/CEO of the Airport Authority. "We view it not as a duty but a privilege. We're glad our efforts in this regard have benefited current and former service members, who in turn benefit the Airport Authority as valuable employees."

A significant component of the Airport Authority's outreach to prospective employees is to the large veteran and military population in the San Diego region. The agency is an active member of the following veteran-focused organizations:

- San Diego Veterans Employment Committee
- Annual Veterans Job Fair
- Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise
- Transition Assistance Program Employer Panel
- San Diego Employer Advisory Council
- Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

Airport Authority policy ensures that:

- Employment will not be denied because of service in the Guard or Reserve
- Employee job and career opportunities will not be limited or reduced because of service in the Guard or Reserve
- Employees will be granted leaves of absence for military service in the Guard or Reserve, consistent with existing laws, without sacrifice of vacation

Those interested in learning more about the Airport Authority's policies regarding veterans may call (619) 400-2515.

The San Diego County Regional Airport Authority was established by state law in 2003 to operate San Diego International Airport and to address the region's long-term air transportation needs. San Diego International Airport — funded through user fees and not local taxes — served some 18.3 million passengers in 2007.

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