MEDIA ADVISORY

SAN DIEGO COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Honoring a canine hero

Airport's first Harbor Police explosive detection dog being honored at opening of newest assistance animal/pet relief area at SDIA

What: Ceremony to honor first Harbor Police explosive detection dog at San Diego International Airport and officially open airport's second assistance animal/pet relief area.

When: **Wednesday, May 14, 2008, 10:00 a.m.**

Where: San Diego International Airport
Commuter Terminal – west curb-front
3225 North Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101

Who:

- Lots of friendly dogs (Harbor Police dogs & assistance dogs) with their human companions
- Thella F. Bowens, President/CEO, Airport Authority
- Kirk Sanfilippo, Chief, Harbor Police
- Kim Gibbens, Executive Director, San Diego Center for the Blind

What else: The airport is officially opening its second assistance animal/pet relief area and dedicating it, with a special plaque unveiling, to Cid, the first Harbor Police explosive detection dog at the airport. Cid passed away from natural causes last year and was a beloved member of the airport family. A beautiful black German Shepherd, Cid bravely helped ensure the safety of passengers at Lindbergh Field for 11 years. In 2003, SDIA became one of the first airports in the nation to offer an assistance animal/pet relief area. Featuring a unique and convenient design, it is the second of three such areas the airport will eventually have.

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

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SAN DIEGO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT