

Governor O'Malley Announces New All-Time Passenger Record at BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport

21.9 Million Fly BWI Marshall in 2010

Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley today announced that 21,936,461 commercial passengers flew through Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport in 2010. This figure, an increase of 4.7% over 2009, is a new all-time record for annual passenger traffic at BWI Marshall.

BWI Marshall marked a number of traffic milestones in 2010. The Airport has seen consistent passenger growth since the spring of 2009, with increases in 18 of the past 19 months. As of December, the Airport recorded eight consecutive monthly records, including July 2010, the busiest month ever at BWI Marshall. The previous annual traffic record at BWI Marshall was 21,044,384 passengers, set in 2007.

"This new record is an important milestone that reflects the strength and the success of Maryland," said Governor Martin O'Malley. "BWI Marshall Airport is a valuable transportation and economic development asset for the State of Maryland and the entire National Capital region. This record passenger traffic demonstrates that our investments in airport facilities and our focus on customer service continue to produce substantial dividends for Maryland."

Southwest Airlines, BWI Marshall Airport's leading carrier, served more than 11.7 million passengers in 2010, a 7.4% increase over 2009. That figure represented 53.5% of the Airport's passenger market share for 2010. Southwest provided 182 daily departures from BWI Marshall during the peak summer months of 2010, a new record. Southwest offered new markets during 2010 including Los Angeles, Panama City (FL), and Seattle.

AirTran Airways, the second leading carrier at BWI Marshall Airport, reported nearly 3.6 million passengers for the year, an increase of 7.4% from 2009. AirTran's market share increased to 16.2% of the Airport's total passengers. The airline added several new destinations from BWI Marshall, including Montego Bay, Grand Rapids, Jacksonville, and Huntsville.

"BWI Marshall Airport continues to attract passengers by offering excellent customer service, affordable airfares, and the benefits of an efficient travel experience," said Paul J. Wiedefeld, Executive Director of BWI Marshall. "We remain committed to serving our travelers with outstanding service and friendly facilities."

Other airlines at BWI Marshall Airport that had significant increases in passenger traffic for 2010 included Air Canada, American Airlines, JetBlue Airways, and US Airways.

Cargo shipments at BWI Marshall Airport also increased in 2010. Total cargo rose 2.0% to 225,706,183 pounds.

In February 2010, BWI Marshall Airport was recognized by Airports Council International (ACI) as the top performing airport in the Airport Service Quality (ASQ) survey program among worldwide airports with 15-25 million passengers. In November 2010, BWI Marshall Airport received a second place award in the "Best Food and Beverage Program" category at the Excellence in Airport Concessions Contest, sponsored by Airports Council International-North America (ACI-NA).

In 2011, Southwest Airlines will provide increased service at BWI Marshall Airport. In March, the airline will introduce service between BWI Marshall and both Charleston and Greenville/Spartanburg, South Carolina. The airline will begin service to Newark in June, and the airline will increase service in other markets over the summer. Southwest currently plans to provide 195 daily departures from BWI over the peak summer months, the most ever offered by the airline.

AirTran Airways will also increase service at BWI Marshall in 2011. The airline will start seasonal service to Bermuda in April, and the airline recently announced that seasonal service to San Francisco will begin in May.

Contact:

Jonathan Dean

410-859-7027