

NEWS RELEASE 18-03

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SOUTHWEST FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT REPORTS RECORD-BREAKING DECEMBER AND YEAR-END TRAFFIC

FORT MYERS, Fla. (Jan. 19, 2018) – During December, 873,494 passengers traveled through Southwest Florida International Airport in Fort Myers, Fla., an increase of 3.9 percent compared to December 2016. Year-end passenger traffic was up 2.8 percent compared to last year.

"December 2017 was the best December in the 35-year history of the airport and our performance for the year exceeded all expectations to be a historic best with 8,842,549 passengers," said Jeff Mulder, A.A.E., executive director of the Lee County Port Authority. "Passenger growth at RSW indicates the appeal for travel to Southwest Florida and we appreciate the support of our airline partners in adding new markets and increasing flight schedules to meet this demand."

The traffic leader in December was Delta Air Lines with 149,976 passengers traveling to and from Fort Myers. Rounding out the top five airlines were Southwest (145,615), American (115,747), Spirit (108,201) and JetBlue (105,066).

Southwest Florida International Airport had 8,008 aircraft operations, a decrease of 1.2 percent compared to December 2016. Page Field saw 7,289 operations, a 16.1 percent decrease from December 2016. In addition, nearly 3.5 million pounds of air freight moved through Southwest Florida International Airport in December 2017.

Southwest Florida International Airport served more than 8.8 million passengers in 2017 and is one of the top 50 U.S. airports for passenger traffic. No ad valorem (property) taxes are used for airport operation or construction. For more information, visit www.flylcpa.com or Like Us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/flyRSW.