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## IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Myrtle Beach International Airport (MYR) To Host Large-Scale Emergency Response Training**

**Myrtle Beach, SC – October 2, 2019** – Myrtle Beach International Airport (MYR) will host a large-scale emergency response training on Saturday, October 5, 2019 to evaluate and enhance the airport's emergency plans, capabilities and coordination with outside agencies.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requires the Airport to conduct a full-scale exercise every three years. This year's event will include approximately 150 people, including airport employees, firefighters, paramedics, regional medical examiners airline employees and emergency responders from surrounding jurisdictions.

The training will simulate a large-scale response to an aircraft incident on the airfield. It will test the airport and responders on incident management, firefighting operations, triage and hospital transport, reunification and communication. There will be no public access to the exercise area during the event.

Participating departments and agencies include: All Departments of Horry County Department of Airports including Airport Administration, Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF), Airport & Airfield Maintenance, Aircraft Services, and General Aviation. Mutual Aid agencies include: Horry County Emergency Management, Horry County Police – Airport Division, Horry County Fire Rescue, Myrtle Beach Fire Department, City of Myrtle Beach Citizens Fire & Police Academies, FAA Air Traffic Control, Transportation Security Administration (TSA), American Red Cross, Surfside Beach Fire Department, Coastal Carolina University, U.S. Coast Guard, multiple airlines, and Grand Strand Health.

"The airport's top priority is the safety of its passengers and employees. Conducting a comprehensive training exercise enables us to keep our response skills sharp and continuously improve our emergency response plans," said Scott Van Moppes, director of airports. "A seamless coordination of multiple agencies is vital when responding to a crisis, and we appreciate the efforts of all the first responders, volunteers, and airport employees who will participate in this exercise."

**Media Availability** Members of the media are invited to observe this year's event. Reporters must RSVP via email to [lovellk@horrycounty.org](mailto:lovellk@horrycounty.org) no later than 5p.m. Thursday, October 3, 2019, to receive instructions for access and parking. Media will be able to observe the exercise from a designated location. Interviews with airport officials and participants will be available on site.

**About the Myrtle Beach International Airport (MYR)** The Myrtle Beach International Airport is the gateway to Myrtle Beach, SC and the Grand Strand. The Myrtle Beach International Airport is owned by Horry County and operated by the Department of Airports. MYR is served by Allegiant, American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Frontier Airlines, Porter Airlines, Spirit, United Airlines and WestJet. Learn more at: [www.flymyrtlebeach.com](http://www.flymyrtlebeach.com)

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