

For more information:
Courtney Cox, PR Counsel
Northwest Florida Beaches International Airport
(850) 559-0708 or CourtneyC@MooreCommGroup.com

For Immediate Release:

NORTHWEST FLORIDA BEACHES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT RECEIVES BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARD

PANAMA CITY, FL (April 14, 2016) – <u>Northwest Florida Beaches International Airport (ECP)</u> has been awarded the Panama City Beach Chamber of Commerce's first Business Excellence Award of the year.

The Business Excellence Award recognizes businesses that greatly impact the Bay County economy.

"Northwest Florida Beaches International Airport has made significant contributions to put Bay County on the map as a tourist destination," said Kristopher McLane, Director of Operations at Panama City Beach Chamber of Commerce. "With four major airlines serving our area, the airport continues to grow and we are proud to present them with the first quarter Business in Excellence award."

In 2015, the airport saw a tremendous growth in passengers and 2016 has already started off strong, as February numbers are up 24% over 2015.

"We are honored to be recognized by our community partners as an economic driver for Bay County," said Airport Authority Board Chairman Till Bruett. "We are constantly working with our partners to continue to grow and improve our airport to ensure continued success for community."

For more information about the airport, please visit <u>www.iflybeaches.com</u>.

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About Northwest Florida Beaches International Airport

Northwest Florida Beaches International Airport (ECP) offers some of the region's lowest average airfares and is located less than 30 minutes from Panama City Beach, Panama City and the beaches of South Walton. Today, with service from Delta, Southwest, United and Silver, ECP provides daily flights to worldwide destinations, including nonstop flights to Atlanta, Baltimore, Dallas, Houston, Nashville, Orlando, St. Louis, and Tampa. The first international airport to be built in more than a decade, ECP provides Northwest Florida communities with first-class facilities and was strategically developed for major economic development opportunities. ECP is THE gateway to visitors seeking Northwest Florida's famous beaches.