



## PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **LEE COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY DIRECTOR OF GENERAL AVIATION RECEIVES TOP AVIATION AWARD**

FORT MYERS, Fla. (Nov. 10, 2008) – Coleen Baker was honored as the *2008 Aviation Professional of the Year* by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). This award is given to an active aviation professional in Florida who has made a significant and continued contribution to Florida aviation during the year and throughout their career. The award was presented during the Florida Airports Council Annual Conference in Palm Beach, Fla.

“Coleen has had an exceptional career in aviation and we are proud that she has been part of the development and success of Page Field,” said Robert M. Ball, A.A.E., executive director of the Lee County Port Authority. “Under her leadership, Page Field has become an award-winning general aviation facility focused on safety and customer service.”

Baker is the director of general aviation at Page Field General Aviation Airport (FMY). She is responsible for managing a staff of 31 professionals and for overseeing the day-to-day operation of the entire airport, including the operation of The Aviation Center. She also adds valuable input and oversight on all construction and planning projects at Page Field, in addition to working with the business development department to lease available airport property. She joined the Lee County Port Authority (LCPA) as manager of Page Field in 1998, was promoted to senior manager in 2003 and then to director in 2007.

Baker began her career in the aviation industry in 1983 at Charlotte-Douglas International Airport. In 1986, she joined the Jacksonville Port Authority where she worked in the properties department for over 11 years.

Baker earned an associate’s degree in science, business administration and management from Florida Community College in Jacksonville, Fla. and was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Baker is a certified member of the American Association of Airport Executives, is the Port Authority representative on the board of Consortium for Aviation System Advancement and is the general aviation representative for the Florida Airports Council on the SAFE Council (Secure Airports for Florida’s Economy).

(more)

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She has served as a board member on the Florida Aviation Trades Association for five years and is currently the secretary/treasurer. Baker currently resides in Fort Myers, Fla.

The Lee County Port Authority operates Southwest Florida International Airport and Page Field General Aviation Airport in Fort Myers, Fla. No ad valorem (property) taxes are used for the operation or improvement of either airport. For more information, please visit [www.flylcpa.com](http://www.flylcpa.com).