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Gary/Chicago International Airport Reaches 200th International Flight Landmark
Flight marks key milestone for airport's newest, state-of-the-art facility

(Gary, IN – November 9th, 2021) – On Tuesday, November 9th at approximately 8:30 pm, the Gary / Chicago International Airport (GCIA) welcomed the 200th international flight to its Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Facility. GCIA's permanent, first-class CBP facility expands the airport's footprint worldwide and increases its appeal to international air travelers, allowing them to visit the airport without first needing to clear customs elsewhere.

"Our CBP facility has proven to be a tremendous asset to our customers, and we are proud to celebrate this achievement today," **said GCIA Authority Chairman Timothy Fesko.** "The ease our facility provides to customers, who appreciate being able to clear customs quickly upon arrival, and the wide range of services we can provide to travelers from all destinations, grants GCIA a strong competitive advantage among general and corporate air travelers."

The CBP facility, which opened in 2018, is among the most recent infrastructure improvements at the airport. In 2015, the airport extended its main runway to nearly 9,000 feet, giving GCIA the second longest runway in the region after O'Hare International Airport. The expansion also allows the airport to service larger, heavier aircraft arriving from destinations throughout the world. Last year, the airport formally approved a long-term lease and easement access agreement with United Parcel Service (UPS), allowing the company to begin express air shipment operations at the airport. The partnership not only bolsters the airport's operations but allows GCIA to provide critical cargo and logistics support to the region.

"To record 200 international flights in three years is an incredible accomplishment for GCIA, one that highlights the success of our recent investments in, and improvements to, our airport," **said GCIA Executive Director Duane Hayden**. "This historic achievement signifies why our airport continues to be the premier mid-sized airport for the Chicago region. I look forward to welcoming more international air travelers and continuing to improve and expand upon our airport's capabilities in the coming years."

Most recently, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection announced the required clearing period for international flights has been reduced to 24 hours, down from the previous 48–72-hour notification period. This reduction was sought by GCIA to further generate international corporate and private aviation traffic at the airport.

About Gary/Chicago International Airport
Located minutes from the shores of Lake Michigan and just 25 miles from downtown Chicago, Gary/Chicago International Airport (GCIA) is a full-service airport and a premiere destination for corporate and weekend flyers in the Chicago metropolitan region and Northwest Indiana. In 2020, UPS began its Next Day Air Service operations at GCIA. To learn more, visit the airport's new website at FlyGYY.com.

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