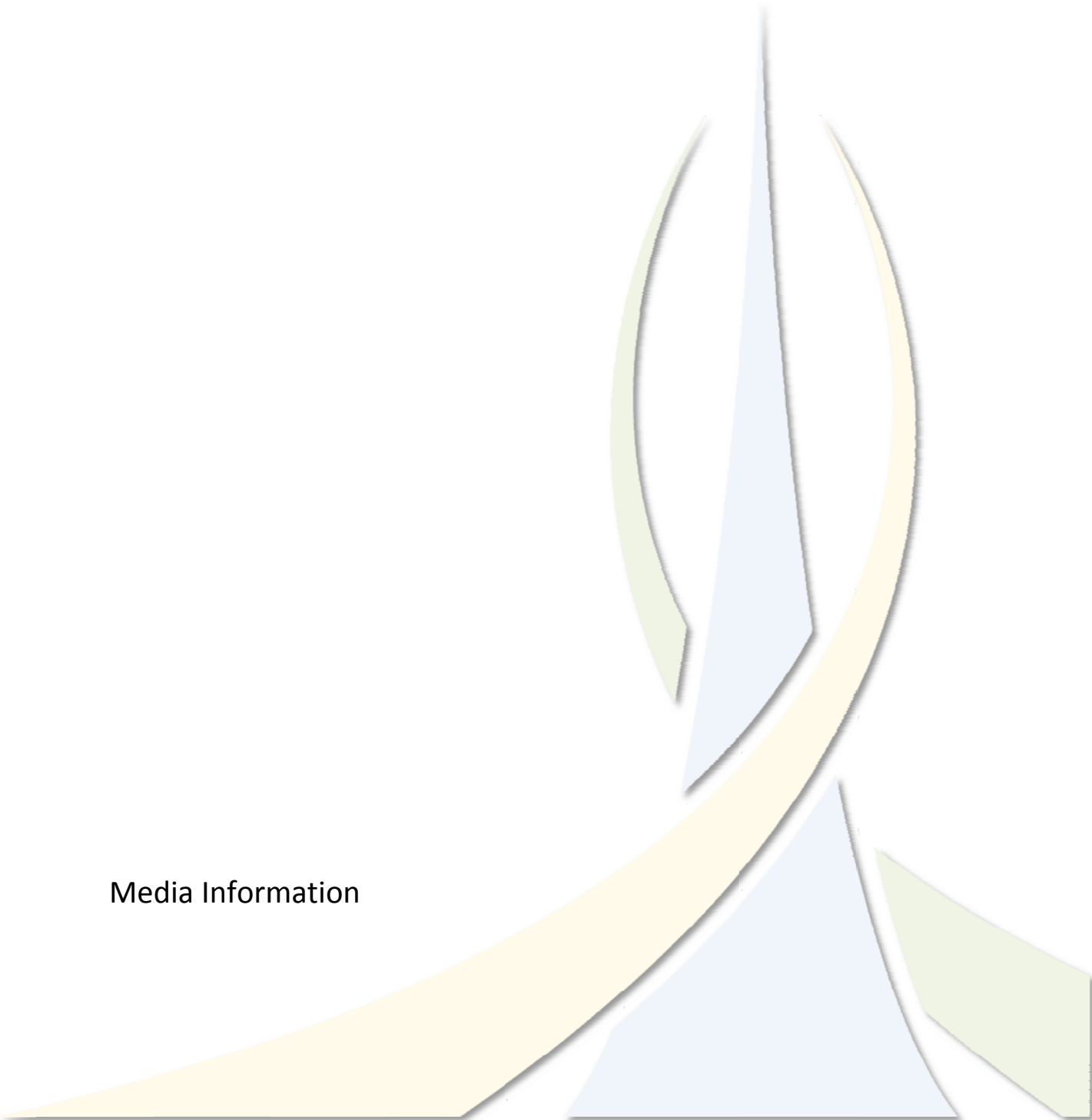


Fort Wayne Allen County Airport Authority

What to Expect When Covering an Airport Emergency



Media Information

What to Expect When Covering an Airport Emergency

During and immediately following an aircraft accident or other emergency on the Fort Wayne-Allen County Airport Authority properties, airport staff priorities will first be the safety of persons and property within the airport environment. It is the policy of the Fort Wayne-Allen County Airport Authority to cooperate with media organizations to ensure that they are capable of obtaining accurate and sufficient information to carry out their reports, including photos or video of the scene. Precedence will be given, however, to safeguarding lives and property during an emergency, and to maintaining safe and efficient aircraft operations. Media personnel and equipment will be given access to locations of the airport affected by an emergency once the scene of the emergency has been stabilized and the safety of media personnel can be assured.

a) MEDIA GATHERING LOCATION & PARKING

i) Fort Wayne International Airport

The designated location for the media to report to when undertaking a story relevant to an aircraft accident or other emergency situation at Fort Wayne International Airport is the Airport Terminal. The terminal is located at 3801 W. Ferguson Rd. Fort Wayne, IN. Media personnel may park vehicles along the curb by the grass area prior to the terminal building. However, if these parking spaces are not available, vehicles, including remote live broadcast vehicles, should be parked in the long term lot along the curb by Ferguson Rd. Under no circumstances should any vehicle be parked in the driving lane in front of the terminal building or in areas where there are only two driving lanes as this will limit accesses for responding emergency vehicles.

ii) Smith Field Airport

The designated location for the media to report to when undertaking a story relevant to an aircraft accident or other emergency situation at Smith Field Airport is the Airport Terminal. The terminal is located at 426 West Ludwig Road Fort Wayne, IN. Media personnel may park vehicles in the terminal parking lot. If parking is not available in the terminal lot, media may park alongside Ludwig Road as long as the entire vehicle is off of the road so as not to limit access for

responding emergency vehicles.

b) ACCESS TO AN EMERGENCY SCENE OR BRIEFING

- i) Only members of recognized media organizations with appropriate visible identification will be permitted at media briefings and on the Air Operations Area (AOA) or transported to the scene of the emergency. At times, it may be necessary to pool media resources.
- ii) Until the arrival of the Community & Government Affairs Manager, questions regarding the emergency or access to the site will be decided by the Airport Authority Public Safety Department Officer in Charge.
- iii) Based on the nature of the situation at hand, the official in charge will determine any restrictions on the movement of the media that may be necessary to allow a safe and orderly response to an incident.
 - (1) Photographs and videotapes may be taken from any area where access has been permitted; however, Public Safety and Airport Operations personnel may restrict the use of flash, strobes, and other high intensity lighting that might affect the response to the situation.
 - (2) Media representatives are expected not to resist, obstruct, oppose or interfere with any law enforcement officer in the lawful execution of his or her duties, and are not exempt from any federal, state or local laws and will be treated in the same manner as any violator if arrested.
- iv) Depending on the nature of the incident, other agencies may assume jurisdiction and therefore authority over access to the site. These agencies include, but are not limited to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), and Transportation Security Administration (TSA).
- v) The Airport Authority will make every effort to provide a working area for media representatives. Credentials must be displayed in order to access this area.

c) BRIEFINGS AND INTERVIEWS

i) Briefings may be conducted by the Executive Director of Airports or Community & Government Affairs Manager as the situation warrants. They are the only individuals who officially represent the Fort Wayne-Allen County Airport Authority, Fort Wayne International Airport, or Smith Field Airport in a briefing. Other individuals, including pilots, airport tenants, tenant employees, or other witnesses, do not officially represent the Fort Wayne-Allen County Airport Authority, Fort Wayne International Airport, or Smith Field Airport.

(1) Airport officials will conduct interviews (including on-air and on-camera) with media personnel when requested, after those duties that take precedence have been fulfilled.

(a) Airport officials will not speculate on the cause of any accident, but will provide facts concerning date and time of incident, name of airline, type of aircraft and flight number, number of souls on board (if confirmed by the airline), runway affected, general description of the incident, conditions at the scene of the incident, and impact on airport operations. All other information will be released by the airline, FAA, FBI, NTSB, or TSA.

ii) The media will not arbitrarily be denied access to victims or other persons involved in an accident, but airport officials will support the decision of any such person who chooses not be interviewed or photographed

(1) Access to any victim or other individual involved in an aircraft accident may be subject to approval by the FAA, FBI, NTSB, TSA or other agencies with appropriate jurisdiction.

iii) In a non-aircraft emergency situation, the Community & Government Affairs Manager will coordinate the release of information with the Public Safety Officials or Operations Officer in Charge of the emergency response.