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Philadelphia International Airport Remembers September 11th

Mayor Nutter joins Airport community in remembering the tragic events of 9-11-01

PHILADELPHIA — Mayor Michael A. Nutter joined the Philadelphia International Airport (PHL) community in its 14th annual solemn observance to remember the thousands who perished in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in New York City, Washington, DC and Shanksville, Pa., and to pay tribute to the bravery of the first responders.

“This is the day we remember the victims who lost their lives and the bravery of the first responders, hundreds of whom also perished on that tragic day,” the Mayor said. “September 11 will forever be a reminder that we must remain vigilant and never forget the events of 14 years ago or the innocent lives that were senselessly ended.”

The solemn event in the International Arrivals Hall in Terminal A-West was attended by Airport Police and Fire Rescue personnel and employees from the City’s Division of Aviation, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), airlines and tenants. Many of the attendees displayed small American flags that were distributed at the Airport today. The annual ceremony included a TSA-CBP Honor Guard posting the Colors, the lowering of the American flag and a moment of silence.

Airport CEO Mark Gale and Cedric Rockamore, American Airlines Vice President of Hub Operations at PHL, also spoke during the somber ceremony.

“No amount of time will diminish what we felt that day or fill the void left in so many hearts. For this reason, every September 11 we pause to remember, reflect and pay homage to the lives that tragically ended that day,” Gale said.

Philadelphia native and 11th grader Jhayda Washington performed a dramatic rendition of *The Star Spangled Banner* and *God Bless America*.

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The American flag is saluted during the September 11th Annual Observance at Philadelphia International Airport.

Philadelphia International Airport is owned and operated by the City of Philadelphia. The Airport is a self-sustaining entity that operates without the use of local tax dollars. It is one of the largest economic engines in Pennsylvania, generating an estimated \$14.4 billion in spending to the regional economy and accounting for more than 141,000 jobs.