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Birmingham Airport Authority Board Elects New Chair

New Officers to Serve for the Coming Year

BIRMINGHAM, AL (September 18, 2024) – The Birmingham Airport Authority (BAA) has elected new officers for 2024-2025. At its regular meeting on Tuesday, September 17th, 2024, the BAA Board elected Ashby Pate as Chair for the coming year.

Pate is a trial lawyer and partner in the firm of Lightfoot Franklin & White LLC, and his practice focuses on complex government investigations, commercial plaintiffs litigation, appellate work, and catastrophic injury. He is one of fifty distinguished lawyers and judges in Alabama currently serving on the American Law Institute and was inducted as a Fellow into the Alabama Law Foundation in 2020. His unique background includes serving as a former justice on the Supreme Court of the island of Palau and as a judicial clerk for U.S. District Court Judge U.W. Clemon, one of Alabama’s civil rights pioneers. Pate was first appointed to the BAA Board in 2020 and has served as Board Secretary since 2022. He has also served on various committees during his time on the board, and with his 2023 Leadership Birmingham class and world-renowned artist, Rico Gatson, was responsible for spearheading the recent Fred Shuttlesworth mural installation in the airport concourse, which has already received national attention.

“This is an exciting time for the airport,” said Pate. “Passenger traffic is nearing record levels, having fully recovered from the pandemic, and we are preparing to welcome a new airline to BHM in October,” said Pate. “It’s an honor to serve as Chair and I look forward to continuing our work growing the airport and serving this community.”

Board members also elected Darlene Wilson Gallien to serve as Vice-Chair for the next year. Tommy Spina will serve as Secretary and David Germany, as Treasurer.

About Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport

As Alabama's largest commercial airport, Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport has served as a gateway to the sky for more than 90 years. Governed by the Birmingham Airport Authority, the airport continues to be a catalyst for growth and economic development for the entire region. For more information, visit flybhm.com or follow BHM on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

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