



Alfred S. Austin *Chairman*  
Steven G. Burton *Vice Chairman*  
Joseph F. Diaco, M.D. *Secretary*  
Hillsborough County Commissioner Ken Hagan *Treasurer*  
City of Tampa Mayor Pam Iorio *Assistant Secretary/Assistant Treasurer*

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## NEWS RELEASE

### Spencer Stuart recommends Airport CEO candidates

**TAMPA, Fla. (August 27, 2010)** – The recruitment firm of Spencer Stuart has recommended an impressive slate of candidates to participate in interviews for the position of executive director for the Hillsborough County Aviation Authority at Tampa International Airport.

“The short list of four candidates to be interviewed for the executive director’s role is the product of a thorough and comprehensive review of the airport industry in North America. In these four short-listed candidates, the Authority has a strong slate of senior and proven airport leaders from which to select the next executive director. Each of the individuals has a strong track record of achievement across one or more large hub airports and brings a high degree of industry expertise and credibility. The slate also provides the Authority with a good degree of diversity on a number of different dimensions, all while meeting the criteria laid out at the outset of the search process,” stated Industry insider Michael Bell for Spencer Stuart.

In alphabetical order by last name the finalists are:

- Kevin A. Dillon, President and CEO, Rhode Island Airport Corporation
- Kent G. George, Director of Aviation, Ft. Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport
- Joseph W. Lopano, Executive Vice President, Dallas Fort Worth International Airport
- Lester W. Robinson, former Chief Executive Officer, Detroit Metropolitan Airport

Airport Chairman Al Austin explained, “We started the search in July and it has been a very good process working with Spencer Stuart. This course has provided great results. I am very pleased because these candidates all have broad experience in airport management from the top airports in the country.”

The one-on-one interviews with the Airport board of directors will be completed in September and they will select the final candidate at the October 7<sup>th</sup> board meeting,

The strength of the candidate slate is a testament to the strong reputation and the future potential held by the Aviation Authority. Spencer Stuart looks forward to working with the board of directors to bring the search to a successful outcome in the near future.

-TPA-

John Wheat *Interim Executive Director*  
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