



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Cigar City Brings Unique Brew to Tampa International Airport**

(TAMPA, FL) - Cigar City Brewing is set to bring its brewing capabilities to Tampa International Airport.

On the menu: an exclusive beer for the airport.

"We want to create something really special, something that will be found nowhere else," said Cigar City founder Joey Redner. "It will be the only place in the world to try it."

The pub will sell Cigar City's other brews including its most popular choices, Jai Alai IPA and Maduro Brown Ale, but the new brew is promised to be something unique.

Although Redner hasn't decided on a name for the new beer, he anticipates that it will have an aeronautical theme to reflect Tampa Bay's rich aviation history that includes pilots Tony Jannus and Dale Mabry.

Tony Jannus is a worldwide legend recognized for being the pilot of the first scheduled commercial airline flight. Jannus' flight between St. Petersburg and Tampa was on January 1, 1914. Dale Mabry, a native of Florida, was a World War I aviator and U.S. Army Captain. The roadway named in his honor was initially constructed to connect MacDill Air Force Base to Drew Field Municipal Airport, later site of Tampa International Airport.

Redner is working with the airport's master concessionaire HMS Host on the design of the space to incorporate as many beer options as possible. "We're really excited", said Redner. "Being in the airport puts our name out there and opens the way for millions of people to try our products."

The store will also sell Cigar City apparel featuring the labels of the most popular brews.

Beers created by Cigar City often incorporate elements that reflect Tampa's heritage, such as brewing with guava or aging the beer on cigar box cedar.

The Cigar City Brewing pub is part of an initiative unveiled in December that brings several local concepts to the airport. Other restaurants on the way are Mise En Place, Green Iguana and Columbia Café.

The goal of the \$5.8 million program, developed in partnership with HMS Host, is to improve customer service and increase revenues for the airport.

"Cigar City Brewing has a strong local image in the Tampa marketplace and is a brand that is receiving a lot of national attention," said Bhavesh Patel, director of airport concessions. "We are excited to add the menu diversity Cigar City Brewing brings to the airport's food and beverage program.

The new pub is expected to be open in March and will be located in Airside C, home to Southwest Airlines, the airport's largest carrier.

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The Aviation Authority began in 1945 as an independent special district governed by the Hillsborough County Aviation Authority Act. The act provides the Authority with exclusive jurisdiction, control, supervision, and management over all public airports in Hillsborough County. Although empowered to levy ad valorem property taxes, the authority has not collected any tax funds since 1973. Recognized as an industry leader in efficiency and convenience, Tampa International Airport continues to earn the most prestigious awards and honors and ranks among the top airports in the United States. With 200 daily departures and service to over 70 nonstop destinations, Tampa International Airport is the Gateway to Florida's West Coast and your next great vacation.