



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STATEMENT OF GLOBAL GATEWAY ALLIANCE CALLING FOR ESSENTIAL FEDERAL AVIATION WORKERS IN NYC REGION TO BE PAID DURING SHUTDOWN

Global Gateway Alliance issued the following statement regarding essential Air Traffic Controllers, Transportation Security Administration Agents and Customs and Border Patrol officers who are working at New York City Metropolitan airports, but receiving no pay during the federal government shutdown.

“The Federal government is already putting critical projects like NextGen air traffic technology at risk by shutting down the government. It’s outrageous to add insult to injury by not paying the employees who are keeping our airports functioning and our skies safe.

While Members of Congress continue to collect a paycheck, despite being unable to reopen the government, thousands of essential employees from TSA, CBP and Air Traffic Control are working every day at New York City area airports without pay. That’s simply wrong when they perform such a critical life and safety function. We call on Congress and the Obama Administration to immediately reinstate their wages.

The loss of pay for so many workers not only carries a huge cost to each of them, it carries real losses to our economy. Employees of NYC area airports account for more than \$14 billion in annual wages. Every day that goes by without a paycheck is another day of workers tightening their belts and contributing less to the regional economy.

The New York region is already expensive for individuals and families alike. Hard working employees who continue to slog through this shutdown and keep airports and air traffic moving shouldn’t also have to worry about whether they can feed their families and pay their bills.”

Joseph Sitt, Chairman, Global Gateway Alliance, CEO Thor Equities

Stuart Appelbaum, Vice President, Global Gateway Alliance, President, Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union (RWDSU)

For more information on the GGA, please contact Stefan Friedman, sfriedman@mercuryllc.com or [\(646\) 241-7786](tel:6462417786).

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ABOUT GGA

Global Gateway Alliance (GGA), was established to address the major challenges facing the metropolitan region’s airports and related infrastructure that, if left unaddressed, will serve as a major impediment to the long-term growth of New York City and surrounding areas. By harnessing the expertise of leaders in business, government, academia, labor and other sectors, we seek to tackle these challenges head-on and serve as the leading advocate in an effort to improve our airports and facilitate the continued growth of the region. For more information regarding

the Global Gateway Alliance, please visit the [website www.globalgatewayalliance.org](http://www.globalgatewayalliance.org), or email info@globalgatewayalliance.org. Follow GGA on Twitter @GGA_NYNJ and 'Like' the organization on Facebook at <http://on.fb.me/UsqxGw>.

GGA's board of directors includes: **Joe Sitt** (Chairman), CEO, Thor Equities, **Kathryn Wylde**, President of the Partnership for New York City; **Joseph Spinnato**, President of the Hotel Association of New York City; **William Rudin**, CEO of Rudin Management Company, Inc. and Chairman of ABNY; **Stuart Appelbaum**, President of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union; **Dan Glickman** former Congressman and U.S. Agriculture Secretary; **Jared Kushner**, Owner of Kushner Properties and the New York Observer; **Alvin S. Trenk**, Chairman and CEO of Air Pegasus Corp; **Mitchell Moss**, Henry Hart Rice Professor of Urban Policy and Planning at the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at New York University; **Peter Ward**, President of the Hotel Trades Council on New York, and **David Hopkins**, Director of Aviation at the New York City Economic Development Corporation.