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## PRESS RELEASE

December 15, 2014

# Mayor Appoints Interim Airport Director

Mayor Cedric Glover today appointed Bill Cooksey as Interim Director of Airports for the City of Shreveport.

The move was necessary following the resignation of former director Bryant Francis, who is assuming a similar position at the Long Beach Airport in California. Francis has served as Director of Airports since August 2012. Today was his final day.

Cooksey, was appointed Deputy Director in 2012, right after Francis took over the top position. He joined Shreveport Airports in April 1999 as Manager of Marketing/Public Relations, and served as Interim Director from early 2011 through July 2012.

“I am more than happy to serve in this capacity and I’m confident that I can provide the leadership needed as we look to continue to increase the number of passengers we have flying into and out of our airport while building on our other successful programs,” Cooksey said.

The Shreveport Airport Authority, an independent group of volunteers, will lead a search for a permanent director. Last time, ADK Executive Search was hired to identify candidates from across the country for the Board to nominate. Several were interviewed before Mayor Glover ultimately appointed Francis. The City Council then unanimously approved his appointment.

“I would expect the Board to once again engage in a comprehensive search to fill this critical position,” Mayor Glover said. “That worked well for us the last time and I believe this position will be attractive to executives seeking to join a strong and talented team of professionals. In the meantime, I have the utmost faith in Bill because he has demonstrated that he can handle these duties and responsibilities in a manner that’s both expert and seamless.”

Cooksey is a 1988 graduate of LSU-Shreveport. This year he obtained his Certified Member accreditation from the American Association of Airport Executives. He also is a past president of the Louisiana Airport Managers &

CITY OF SHREVEPORT



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**PRESS RELEASE**

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