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## Charleston airport, others across state, recognized for diversity efforts



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Charleston International and other metro-area airports across South Carolina were recognized Tuesday for efforts at diversity.

The Outstanding Business Award was presented as part of the 2016 Upstate Diversity Leadership Awards by the Greenville Chamber of Commerce and the Riley Institute at Furman University.

The award is given to a business that exhibits leadership in promoting diversity and inclusion internally and serves as an example for others to follow.

The South Carolina Airports Coalition, which consists of airports in Charleston, Columbia, Myrtle Beach and Greenville-Spartanburg, was recognized for a first-in-the-nation program designed to help small-, minority-, and women-owned businesses understand how to do



and women owned businesses understand how to do business with airports.

### Photos



[https://www.charleston-airport.com/~/media/Charleston-Airport/2019/05/16/60519498/EP/1/1/EP-MyrtleBeach.jpg?maxw=5120&maxh=35160519498/EP/1/1/EP-](#)

The program, the

Sharon McGhee, director of community affairs for Charleston County Aviation Authority, displays the diversity award the agency shared with other metro airports across South Carolina. Provided

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Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Fly-In, invites businesses from across the state to the airports where they learn about required state and federal certifications, vendor list selections and have the opportunity to network with airport representatives responsible for buying various goods and services.

More than 300 businesses have attended three of the four fly-ins to date. The final fly-in for the year is scheduled June 23 at Myrtle Beach International Airport.

"We are proud that this program has been recognized for its innovation and for setting an example that airports nationwide can follow," said Paul Campbell, CEO of Charleston County Aviation Authority, which oversees the state's largest airport. "We hope this outreach will help build successful partnerships that encourage entrepreneurship and spur economic vitality in our local community and the state."

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