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MEDIA RELEASE

November 3, 2026

St. Pete-Clearwater Int'l Airport (PIE) & Allegiant Air Celebrating 20 Years of Partnership

St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport (PIE) is celebrating 20 years of service with Allegiant Air with a special anniversary celebration Monday, November 16th from Noon- 4 PM in the airport's baggage claim area. The event brings together representatives from Allegiant and the airport, arriving passengers, airport employees and volunteers, tenant businesses, and community partners to commemorate two decades of partnership.

Event Highlights

Noon	Unveiling of Sand Sculpture, Cake, Wrapped bus
Noon – 4 pm	DJ entertainment, 3 Daughters and Andy's Frozen Custard tastings, Photo Opps
3 PM	Celebration Program with remarks from Airport, Pinellas County and Allegiant Air leadership

Since Allegiant launched service at PIE in late 2006 with just 12 nonstop routes, the airline has grown its presence significantly, helping transform the airport into a major gateway for leisure travelers visiting the Tampa Bay area. Over the past 20 years, this partnership has expanded travel options, supported tourism, and contributed to the region's economic growth.

"Allegiant continues to fuel PIE's growth and the strength of our regional economy" said St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport Director Mark Sprague. "With our award-winning beaches, vibrant culture, and so much more, Tampa Bay continues to attract visitors from across the country. Allegiant's investment in our airport and tourism industry, coupled with its extensive network of affordable, nonstop destinations, benefits both our visitors and our local residents.

"We're proud to celebrate 20 years with PIE and thankful for the strong partnership we've built together," said Kristen Schilling-Gonzales, vice president of planning, network, and charters at Allegiant. "We're grateful to our passengers, team members and airport partners for helping make 20 years of success at PIE possible."

Highlights of PIE and Allegiant's 20-Year Partnership

- **Expanded air service:**
  - Allegiant began service at PIE in late 2006 with 12 nonstop routes and has grown to serve 66 destinations, giving Tampa Bay travelers more convenient and affordable options for leisure travel.
  - #1 in Non-stop Destinations in Allegiant airports
  - With Allegiant's acquisition of Sun Country Airlines in 2026, an air carrier at PIE, the future of air service domestically and internationally is even brighter.
- **Passenger growth:**
  - PIE has experienced an overall **616%** increase in passenger growth over the past two decades, with a record breaking 2.8 million passengers in 2025 with Allegiant as its primary air carrier!
  - Allegiant is the 4th largest airline in Tampa Bay

- **Economic impact:**
  Allegiant's expanded service has helped support tourism, hospitality, and jobs throughout Pinellas County and the greater Tampa Bay region. PIE's estimated economic impact is over 3.4 billion (FDOT 2022).
- **Investment in infrastructure:**
  PIE has completed significant capital improvements over the past two decades to accommodate passenger growth and enhance the airport experience with our most significant projects on the horizon. Our first parking garage will break ground in early 2027 and our Terminal Modernization Project will begin design this year.
- **Honoring veterans:** Allegiant has helped support 57 Honor Flight missions at PIE, providing charter service for veterans traveling to Washington, D.C., to visit memorials honoring their service and sacrifice. Allegiant also provides Active Military and Veterans' flight benefits.
- **Community support:** Allegiant has supported local nonprofit organizations through airline voucher donations and other community initiatives focused on STEM.

As PIE and Allegiant celebrate this milestone, both organizations remain focused on expanding travel opportunities, supporting the region's tourism industry, and delivering a convenient travel experience for passengers throughout the Tampa Bay area.

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