Dear City Officials

I want to make you aware of a situation with my personal business. After over 30 years of working with the family members that make up the Aerolease entities – of which I have had an ownership interest – we are parting ways. This represents the management of LGB and VNY leaseholds for which I continue to have an ownership interest. We have been working on the terms of separation for some time, but in the midst of these conversations, the Aerolease entity's family members, unfortunately, made the situation public with a press release of their legal claims and suit.   Below is a statement specific to my continued role as the managing partner of Aeroplex Group Partners. This is a business divorce that needs to be unwound in a rational reasonable manner for which I am committed. I have no intention of stepping aside from my leadership roles locally and nationally on airport-related issues. While some in the industry may disagree,  I feel that role and leadership have resulted in clarity in communication and collaboration to improve the industry.

As this a specific, individual business matter,  it is my goal to see that this situation does not adversely affect my team, clients, and our mission. My 40-year reputation is well-regarded and I am proud of the work I have and will continue to do. At the same time, it is my sincere desire that the new Aerolease management team be successful and that their business enterprise flourishes so it may continue its proud, decades-long history of service which I oversaw. I will remain focused on these objectives and support these efforts in a rational, reasonable style. Please send any inquiries on this topic or let me know if you have any questions.   Below is the release that was delivered to the industry.

Thank you for your courtesy and understanding. I will navigate this professionally and with integrity and I look forward to speaking to any of you directly…..

Sincerely

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**CURT CASTAGNA, FORMER PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE AEROLEASE GROUP ENTITIES, ANNOUNCES PLANS TO FOCUS EXCLUSIVELY ON AVIATION CONSULTING PROJECTS AND INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION WORK**

(Van Nuys, Calif. – May 22, 2024) Curt Castagna, former president and CEO of the Aerolease Group entities, announced that he has stepped away from managing the company’s leaseholds at the Van Nuys and Long Beach Airports to focus entirely on serving as principal of the consulting firm Aeroplex Group Partners.

In this capacity, Castagna will direct his expertise on development of new aviation facilities with multiple investors, strategic project management and assisting airports in establishing balanced policies that promote diverse development and economic health. He also will continue to utilize his over three decades of experience to help airports and aviation businesses work together in navigating complex issues for their mutual benefit.

“I am extremely proud of my history of success in managing some of Southern California’s most prestigious aviation leaseholds at the Van Nuys and Long Beach Airports,” said Castagna. “This move signifies a new chapter of growth and innovation for Aeroplex Group Partners, and I am thrilled to focus my energies on taking our consulting services to new heights.”

Castagna serves as president and CEO of the National Air Transportation Association and president of the Long Beach and Van Nuys Airport Associations, where he has established multiple collaborative solutions facilitating healthy public and private partnerships. He also is a member and past chair of the Los Angeles County Airport Commission; a certified member of the American Association of Airport Executives; a certified private, sea plane and instrument-rated pilot; and an adjunct professor in aviation administration at Cypress Community College and California State University, Los Angeles.

“I look forward to working collaboratively with the ownership interests of the Aerolease Group entities to unwind long-standing business relationships in a manner that allows all parties to flourish in the future, while tenants and users receive the same exceptional service they have experienced for generations,” said Castagna.

**About Aeroplex Group Partners**

Aeroplex Group Partners is a leading aviation consulting, project and property management company. Its services include aviation and industrial facility design, business development, construction management, lease negotiation and management, airport consulting and contract management, and community and governmental affairs.

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