



January 9, 2008

PO Box 18018

Jacksonville, FL

32229-0018

The Honorable Mary Peters
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

www.jaa.aero

RE: AirTran Airways application for DCA-JAX service, Docket OST-2000-7182

Dear Ms. Peters;

As you know, AirTran Airways has submitted an application to obtain available departure and arrival slots at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA) to permit AirTran to operate a roundtrip flight between DCA and JAX.

A low-fare, non-stop flight from Washington to Jacksonville would be an important step in aligning the markets. When AirTran added Atlanta - Jacksonville service in 1993, the market saw approximately 253 passengers daily each way with an average fare of \$147.00. Today, the passengers daily each way is up 53% to approximately 387 and the average fare is \$128 (a reduction of 13%).

The Baltimore - Jacksonville market has grown dramatically as well, due to the introduction of low fare competition. The fare from DCA - JAX is 23% higher than from BWI - JAX.

An introduction of low fare service will certainly provide more reasonable fares and transportation options for the residents and businesses of Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia. We would welcome the low fare competition and encourage you to award the route to AirTran Airways.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John D. Clark, III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

John D. Clark, III, A.A.E.
Executive Director/CEO
Jacksonville Aviation Authority

JDC/bh