



**FRESNO YOSEMITE**  
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

**For Immediate Release**  
City of Fresno - Airports

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***FYI Opens New Service Animal Area***

**FRESNO, CA** (July 31, 2009) - Fresno Yosemite International Airport is pleased to announce the opening of the new Service Animal Relief Area. The new service animal area provides a convenience for passengers traveling with service animals and complies with the recent implementation of the Department of Transportation's Air Carrier Access Act Rule that requires these designated areas for service animals.

Passengers accompanied by service animals simply request an escort from an authorized airline representative to and from the animal relief area. The relief area was designed to provide a humane and secure location for special needs passengers to care for the needs of their travelling companions. The relief area consists of synthetic grass footing, fencing for animal safety, and a fire hydrant for a touch of authenticity.

The new Service Animal Relief Area has received the support of Dr. Ed Eames, President of the International Association of Assistance

Dog Partners and a Board member of Disability Rights California. Dr. Eames stated, "When arriving home in Fresno after traveling cross-country, it's a relief to know my guide dog Latrell can relieve himself in a comfortable and safe environment. I congratulate Fresno Yosemite International Airport for collaborating with the disabled community in establishing a model facility."

Vikkie Calderon, FYI Airport Public Information Officer commented, "We're pleased with the staff at FYI for their commitment to collaborate with the disabled community to create something unique to their needs while meeting the mandatory regulation."