



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

August 26, 2013

### **Wilmington Chamber President to be Interviewed on FOX Business**

Wilmington, N.C. — Wilmington Chamber of Commerce President & CEO Connie Majure-Rhett will speak today (Monday, August 26) about the Chamber's support for the proposed merger between US Airways Group and American Airlines on FOX Business. The interview on the *Market Now* segment will be conducted by co-anchors Lori Rothman and Adam Shapiro and will be aired live at 1:20 pm.

The invitation to appear on the show stems from the news release regarding the merger distributed last week (shown below), which was also picked up by Reuters and quoted in the *Chicago Tribune*.

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

August 16, 2013

### **Wilmington Chamber Expresses Support for Airline Merger**

Wilmington, NC — In the wake of a federal antitrust lawsuit filed this week against the merger of US Airways Group and American Airlines, the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce is reiterating its support for the merger.

“We believe that this merger will be a boost to the Wilmington economy and will lead to improved service, choice, and competition for travelers throughout North Carolina,” said Chamber President & CEO Connie Majure-Rhett. “With more than 700 daily departures leaving North Carolina daily, our state will be a major hub of operations for the newly combined American Airlines. This has a tremendous impact on local economies that rely on travel and tourism and on the jobs supported by this industry.”

The Chamber sent a letter of support for the merger to Ray LaHood, Secretary of the US Department of Transportation, on June 11, 2013. It stated that US Airways offers 13 daily flights out of the Wilmington airport that support local tourism, commerce, and economic activity by making it easier for travelers and vacationers to visit. The new American Airlines would also employ more than 9,000 North Carolinians.

One of the most important services expected to continue under the new airline is nonstop direct service to Washington's DCA Reagan National Airport. As the only airline with the network and connectivity out of Reagan National Airport to support service to regional markets like Wilmington, the Chamber believes the new American Airlines will improve reliability for local travelers and open opportunities for our business community. It is also important to attracting new companies and creating jobs in the region.

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