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**Gary / Chicago International Airport Hosts U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds and U.S. Army Parachute Team Golden Knights**

*Airport Served as Staging Area for 2023 Chicago Air and Water Show, Once Again*

**(Gary, IN – August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023)** – This past weekend, August 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, the Gary / Chicago International Airport (GCIAG) once again served as a staging area for the various acts performing in the [2023 Chicago Air and Water Show](#). The lineup included [notable performances by a variety of aerial acts](#), including the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds and the U.S. Army Parachute Team Golden Knights, who headlined the Air Show. GCIAG has served as the staging location annually for the Chicago Air and Water Show since 1999.

“The Chicago Air and Water Show is one of Chicago’s greatest summer events and we are proud of our continued, critical support in making this big weekend a success,” **said GCIAG Executive Director Dan Vicari**. “This is just one example of how the airport continues to support various Chicagoland area events, servicing an incredibly important cog in Chicago’s air traffic system as Chicago’s third official airport.”

Northwest Indiana residents had the opportunity to view the 2023 Chicago Air and Water Show from the GCIAG parking lot, as in years past. Due to the airport’s role in staging the event, onlookers got a behind-the-scenes look at the takeoff and landing of the aerial acts participating in the weekend’s festivities. The airport also offered a variety of vendors serving food and drink.

This was the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds’ first appearance in the Chicago Air and Water Show since 2018. Other featured military performers for the event included: US Air Force F-16 Viper Demo Team, US Air Force Heritage Flight Demo Team (P-51 Mustang), US Air Force C-17 Globemaster III Demo Team, US Air Force/Air National Guard A-10 Thunderbolt II (x4), US Air Force/Air National Guard KC-135E Stratotanker, US Navy F/A-18F Super Hornet “Rhino” Demo Team, US Navy Legacy Flight Demo Team (A-4B Skyhawk & FG-1D Corsair) and US Coast Guard MH-65D Dolphin Search & Rescue Demo.

Civilian performers at the Air Show included Susan Dacy, Bill Stein, Kevin Coleman, Edward Hamill, Rob Holland, Triple Time Team, The Chicago Fire Department Air/Sea Rescue and the Chicago Police Department helicopter.

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**About Gary/Chicago International Airport**

*Located minutes from the shores of Lake Michigan and just 25 miles from downtown Chicago, Gary/Chicago International Airport (GCIAG) is a full-service airport and a premiere destination for corporate and weekend flyers in the Chicago metropolitan region and Northwest Indiana. To learn more, visit the airport’s new website at [FlyGYY.com](http://FlyGYY.com).*