



## PRESS RELEASE

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JUNE WICHITA AERO CLUB LUNCHEON WILL FEATURE AIRTRAN CEO BOB FORNARO

Wichita, KS—One of the key players in securing competitive airfares for passengers flying out of Wichita's Midcontinent Airport will be the speaker at the Tuesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> luncheon of the Wichita Aero Club. Bob Fornaro, chief executive officer of AirTran Airways, will address the 12-noon gathering at the Wichita Airport Hilton. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.WichitaAeroClub.org](http://www.WichitaAeroClub.org) or can be reserved by calling 316.641.5962.

As president and CEO of AirTran Airways, Inc., Mr. Fornaro was among the architects of the agreement between AirTran and Wichita, which brought the low-fare airline to the Air Capital in May of 2002. Since then, airlines flying to eastward destinations that had felt little pressure to price their service competitively have lowered their fares, providing Wichita with a number of affordable options.

Mr. Fornaro joined AirTran Airways in March 1999 as president and CFO. He was named chief operating officer and elected to the board of directors in 2001. Fornaro became chief executive officer on Nov. 1, 2007. He has 30 years of marketing, planning and management consulting experience, having held senior management positions at US Airways, Northwest Airlines and TWA prior to joining AirTran. A graduate of Rutgers College in New Brunswick, N.J., he also holds a master's degree in city and regional planning from Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass.

The Wichita Aero Club was founded in October of 2008. The organization was established to foster and promote interest in aviation, provide a forum focused on the industry's issues and achievements and bring together those with a passion for flight in an environment that expands and enhances professional relationships and furthers cooperation and understanding. Future WAC luncheons will include Kansas Congressman and senatorial candidate Todd Tiahrt on August 11, National Business Aviation Association President Ed Bolen on September 23 and former FAA Administrator and current Aerospace Industries Association President Marion Blakey on October 13. No luncheon is planned for July.

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