

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ST. CHARLES COUNTY SMARTT FIELD ADDS 'REGIONAL' TO NAME

ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MO – The St. Charles County Council voted Jan. 27 to rename the County's airport to reflect the continued growth and economic development in the region. Formerly known as St. Charles County – Smartt Field Airport, the new name is now St. Charles County Regional Airport – Smartt Field.

Last year, the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) Aviation Section completed an update of the Missouri State Aviation System Plan (SASP), including a review of each airport in the state. The plan lists Smartt Field as a "regional business airport," which concurs with the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) assessment.

"The new name – St. Charles County *Regional* Airport – Smartt Field – clearly reflects what the airport has become," says Airport Director Dennis Wiss. "We are serving the region, not just the county."



Owned and maintained by St. Charles County Government, St. Charles County Regional Airport – Smartt Field is a public facility located nine nautical miles northeast of the central business district of the City of St. Charles. For those driving, the location is at 6390 Grafton Ferry Road in Portage Des Sioux – 15 minutes from St. Charles and 30 minutes from St. Louis.

The airport covers 312 acres and has two runways with asphalt surfaces. It accommodates single-wheel aircraft up to 12,500 pounds, and has runway lighting, aircraft hangars and tie-downs, an automated weather station, Wi-Fi and a pilot lounge. Wiss says the airport has approximately 61,000 landing and take-offs annually, making it the fifth busiest in the state.

Fixed Base Operators (FBOs) located at the airport provide numerous services for the flying community, including charter and introductory flights, AvGas fuel, aircraft maintenance and flight instruction. Organizations and businesses that operate at St. Charles County Regional Airport – Smartt Field include the Commemorative Airforce – Missouri Wing, the Experimental Aircraft Association – Spirit of St. Louis Chapter 32, St. Charles Flying Service, and Skylink Aviation.

The facility, originally named Neubeiser Field, was renamed as Field #34512 by the Navy and then later renamed again as Smartt Field, in honor of Ensign Joseph Smartt from Robertson, Mo., who was the first St. Charles County resident killed in the Japanese attack on Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, on Dec. 7, 1941. For more information about the airport, including its history, visit sccmo.org/SmarttField or call 636-949-1893.

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About St. Charles County

Founded in 1812, St. Charles County is one of the fastest growing counties in Missouri, and the state's third largest county in both population and economic share. It is home to 15 scenic county parks encompassing more than 3,643 acres with additional land under development and more in reserve for future development.

With a population of 395,504, St Charles County is home to large employers including General Motors, Citi, MasterCard Worldwide and Boeing. It is ranked among the top 25 counties in the nation in high-tech job growth by the Progressive Policy Institute and consistently has the lowest unemployment rate in the Metropolitan St. Louis area.

St. Charles County Government employs nearly 1,100 in more than 30 departments and offices, who work to make the county an excellent place to live, work and shop. For more information, please visit sccmo.org.