

Virginia Port Authority

600 World Trade Center
Norfolk, VA 23510
(757) 683-8000
www.vaports.com

MEDIA ALERT

Nov. 26, 2007

Contact: Joe Harris, Media Relations Manager

Tel: (757) 683-2137 / (800) 446-8098

Cell: (757) 617-0006

Fax: (757) 683-2897

jharris@vaports.com

Linda Ford, Director of Port Promotion

Tel: (757) 683-2140 / (800) 446-8098

Cell: (757) 615-7704

lford@vaports.com

U.S. Rep. John Mica (R-FL) Will Tour The Port of Virginia

NORFOLK, VA – Virginia Congresswoman Thelma Drake (R) on Tuesday, Nov. 27, will host a tour of The Port of Virginia for Florida Congressman John Mica, the ranking Republican on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

Drake and Mica will tour the port from both the land and water and be accompanied by representatives from the Virginia Port Authority, the Virginia Maritime Association and the Virginia Pilot Association. A Virginia Pilot launch will pick the group up at Norfolk International Terminals (NIT) and from there it will go to the USCG based in Portsmouth, APM marine terminal in Portsmouth and Craney Island. The tour is not open to the media.

Drake says the tour will provide an opportunity to discuss the growth in international trade and showcase The Port of Virginia and its plans for expansion.

Mica was instrumental in passage of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), a bill that, among other projects, has a \$356 million appropriation for the eastward expansion of Craney Island.

The tour begins at noon and concludes at 3 p.m. at NIT where the media will have an opportunity to interview Mica and Drake. Interested media should be in place at the tower at NIT by 2:45 p.m.

#

The Virginia Port Authority (VPA) is an agency of the Commonwealth of Virginia, reporting to the state Secretary of Transportation. The VPA owns and operates four general cargo facilities on behalf of the state: Norfolk International Terminals, Portsmouth Marine Terminal, Newport News Marine Terminal and the Virginia Inland Port in Warren County. The terminals are operated by Virginia International Terminals, Inc. (VIT) the non-stock, non-profit operating company. The VPA, through terminal earnings generated by VIT, is operationally self-sufficient. The VPA and correlating maritime industry is responsible for 165,000 jobs, \$762 million in business revenues and \$61 million in state and local taxes throughout the Commonwealth.