

John O'Neal
Interim Director, Airside Operations Division



John O'Neal, a 30-year veteran in airport operations, has served since September 2007 as the Miami-Dade Aviation Department's (MDAD) Interim Director for Airside Operations at Miami International Airport (MIA), responsible for ensuring the safe day-to-day operations of MIA's airfield and compliance with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations. He is responsible for all airside operations at MIA, including ramp control, access control, airside motor vehicles, construction, cargo, aircraft parking, passenger loading bridges, gate control, the Flight Information Display System (FIDS) and airside safety and security.

He also oversees MIA's four runways, lighting systems and signage, manages collection and revenue accounts for 89 passenger and cargo air carriers, and is responsible for 154 employees and a \$10 million budget.

Prior to his current position, O'Neal served as General Aviation Business Development Coordinator for MDAD from 2005 to 2007, responsible for all business development at Miami-Dade County's five General Aviation airports (Homestead General, Kendall-Tamiami Executive, Opa-locka Executive, Opa-locka West and Dade-Collier Training and Transition). His responsibilities included: ensuring that all construction projects were completed in a timely basis; reviewing all leases; recommending ways to increase revenue; working with all city and county departments to ensure all projects were properly permitted and in compliance; working with all tenants to ensure their compliance; and re-writing minimum standards and Federal Air Regulation (FAR) 139 and security programs.

Before joining MDAD, O'Neal held numerous management positions at airports across the U.S., including: Aviation Director for Pueblo Memorial Airport in Pueblo, Colorado, from 2001 to 2004; Aviation Director for Albert J. Ellis Airport in Jacksonville, North Carolina, from 1997 to 2001; Assistant Airport Manager for Ft. Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport from 1991 to 1997; Vice President of Special Projects for Diamond "C" Enterprises, Inc. and President and Owner of Million Air, a fixed-base operation in New Orleans, Louisiana, from 1984 to 1991; Assistant Director of Operations for Palm Beach International Airport from 1981 to 1984; and Operational Manager for Butler Aviation, Inc., in Palm Beach, Florida, from 1978 to 1981.

He is a licensed pilot and received Bachelor of Science degree in business management, with a major in airport/airline management, from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.