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Co-Founder and President

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**“Improving Security at America’s Airports: Stakeholder Perspectives”**  
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Good Morning Chairman Sullivan, Ranking Member Markey and Members of the Senate Commerce Subcommittee on Security.

My name is Ken Cornick, I am a co-founder of CLEAR and the company’s President. I am honored to be in front of you today.

Following the 9/11 attacks, Congress passed the Aviation and Transportation Security Act of 2001. This legislation led to the creation of the Registered Traveler or RT program. Congress’ goal was to both enhance security and improve the traveler experience. In 2006, under the federal registry notice, multiple RT providers began operations. Unfortunately, RT providers fell victim to the Great Recession and in 2008, ceased operations.

My partner and CLEAR’s CEO Caryn Seidman Becker and I purchased CLEAR’s assets in 2010. Soon after, we received approval from TSA to relaunch CLEAR and opened our first two airports in Orlando and Denver.

CLEAR has grown significantly since then, as travelers have recognized the efficiency of our biometric process and airports have recognized the security, customer service and economic benefits of adopting CLEAR. By year-end, CLEAR will have ~5 million members in 35 of our nation’s largest airports. CLEAR processes almost 5 percent of the nation’s originating air passengers daily using biometrics, and upward of 10 percent in the airports we operate in.

We have had a significant and positive economic impact in the communities in which we operate, as we have created over two thousand jobs and shared tens of millions of dollars with our airport partners.

CLEAR is a secure identity platform. As an American-owned company, our mission is to innovate to strengthen our Homeland’s security and delight consumers with frictionless experiences.

Our secure enrollment platform establishes an impermeable link between one’s identity and biometrics. Our process entails:

1. Digitally authenticating a traveler’s government-issued identification.
2. Establishing that the person enrolling is the person on such document through the use of challenge questions driven by commercially available data.
3. Capturing biometric data including fingerprints, iris image and face.

The enrollment process takes approximately five minutes and can be completed at any CLEAR location. Once completed, the traveler can use CLEAR immediately anywhere in our network for identity verification.

Our success is driven by a strong public-private partnership with TSA. This partnership is a win-win for all stakeholders - driving innovation, enhancing security, and efficiency for travelers at zero cost to

taxpayers. CLEAR is a force multiplier for TSA – bringing significant additional resources to the checkpoint.

We support TSA's efforts to drive checkpoint efficiency through the introduction of new technology at the checkpoint and have numerous ideas that would enable CLEAR to further collaborate with TSA in the areas of biometrics and identity. Further, CLEAR is eager (and has offered) to invest its own capital, technology, and labor at the checkpoint to support TSA in its mission.

We can and want to do more with TSA – we see many areas for collaboration, particularly as TSA pushes toward the use of biometrics at the checkpoint and beyond. We have vast experience and expertise in biometrics, credential authentication, biometrics deployment, identity management, and more.

As CLEAR has grown, we have always maintained the underlying Congressional intent of the Registered Traveler program – improving overall security and enhancing the customer experience. We have done this while driving innovation to the checkpoint.

Given the world we live in I think it is important to address data security, which is core to our business. We have invested significantly in cybersecurity to ensure our systems are best in class. CLEAR is subject to regular TSA audits and as a result of our investments and TSA's oversight, we have been designated FISMA-High by TSA – the highest government cyber compliance rating available.

CLEAR's platform is also SAFETY Act Certified by the Department of Homeland Security as a Qualified Anti-Terrorism Technology.

In addition to securing our operations and our customers' data, we take the privacy of our members very seriously. CLEAR is a 100% opt-in service and we do not sell customer data.

Customer service is another key element of CLEAR's culture. Our 2,200+ passionate team members, also known as Ambassadors, are all SIDA badged, trained on security as well as customer service. Our employees are widely recognized as Ambassadors for the entire airport.

They are always available to help any traveler, answer questions, be the extra eyes and ears or just be a friendly face at the screening area. We have also begun training our Ambassadors on human trafficking prevention.

As a result of our relentless focus on security and customer service, we have become an instrumental partner for several premiere travel companies including Delta Air Lines, United Airlines, Hertz, and American Express.

CLEAR's partnership with Delta Air Lines started in 2016 and continues today. Our partnership offers a discounted CLEAR membership for Delta frequent fliers and helped launch CLEAR into several new airports, including Atlanta, JFK, and other Delta hubs. Since then we have expanded our relationship with Delta to offer biometric lounge access and biometric boarding passes and are currently working with Delta on new and exciting innovations to improve the customer experience.

Our second airline partnership, with United Airlines, was announced this past July. This partnership is already off to a great start; already tens of thousands of new United customers have joined CLEAR and we will soon bring CLEAR to United terminals in Chicago, Houston and Newark. We are also working with United on new innovations that will improve the travel experience for their customers.

Overall, we are delivering on seamless and secure travel experiences from the curb to the gate. Specifically, we are working with our partners to permit quick entry into lounges, board an international departure with nothing more than your face and check your bag with your fingers.

As we open CLEAR lanes throughout the United States, our partnerships bring great benefits to travelers and the communities we serve. For example, when Delta partnered with CLEAR, we entered Atlanta, Detroit, Minneapolis and Salt Lake City, bringing dozens of new jobs to each of those communities. When CLEAR enters O'Hare, Newark and the United terminal at Houston Intercontinental, we will create 200 new jobs across those three cities. On average, our Ambassadors are paid more than \$20 per hour and receive amazing benefits to include generous parental leave, full healthcare benefits and opportunities for our Ambassadors to advance.

This year, we will share approximately \$40 million dollars with our airport partners and their communities as part of our airport operating contracts.

Beyond the airport, we think about the travel ribbon and making travelers' journeys seamless and frictionless from the time they leave their home in the morning until they are in their hotel room that night in another city. We are committed to constantly innovating and improving the travel experience.

One example of this commitment is our partnership with Hertz. Today, we have 14 Hertz Fast Lanes Powered by CLEAR, where Hertz President Club members can drive off the lot with their face. This program started in late-2018 and will grow to encompass top Hertz locations throughout the United States.

CLEAR also has a partnership with Major League Baseball. Today, we have 24 sports partners including the Minnesota Twins, Texas Rangers, Miami Heat and Seattle Seahawks, and we recently launched our first collegiate partner – the University of Texas at Austin.

We are not stopping at just airport security or travel/entertainment. We have use cases that focus on improving the customer experience and reducing fraud in health care, biometric payment, age validation, and access. We have exciting announcements planned in those areas in the coming weeks.

I want to thank the Committee for its support of the Registered Traveler program and its efforts to strengthen the program to ensure that it remains an important part of our nation's aviation security layered defense.

I will close by asking Congress to support a modernization of the RT program and the use of biometrics in aviation security. We have come a long way since 9/11, but we have much work to do. By working with Congress, TSA, our airport and airline partners, and other stakeholders. We know we can continue to support TSA's mission and the congressional goals of improving security and delighting travelers.