
Ralph F. Tragale

Ralph F. Tragale was appointed Assistant Director of Aviation Public Affairs for the Port Authority of NY & NJ in November 2009. Mr. Tragale is responsible for managing strategic planning, industry forecasting and analysis, cargo, air service development, international programs, communications and external affairs for the Port Authority's five airports: JFK International, Newark Liberty International, LaGuardia, Teterboro and Stewart International, which compose the busiest airport system in the world.

Prior to his current position, Mr. Tragale served as Assistant Director of the Port Authority's Government and Community Relations Department for more than 10 years. As the primary external affairs representative for the agency, Mr. Tragale was responsible for external and government relationships for the airports, seaports, tunnels, bridges, the PATH rail system and the World Trade Center. He fostered and maintained associations with government entities at the federal, state and local level, as well as business, community and civic organizations.

Mr. Tragale, who joined the Port Authority in 1988, is a strong advocate for transportation issues on Capitol Hill, and in the state capitols of New York and New Jersey. He is a recognized expert on managing relationships with local communities and routinely speaks before legislative bodies, businesses and community groups. Under his stewardship, the Port Authority's facilities have developed a community-centric vision to improve transportation while being sensitive to residents. Mr. Tragale serves on the Board of the New Jersey Aviation Association, in addition to participating in many other organizations, both nationally and locally, including the Wings Club, Aero Club, Airports Council International and the American Association of Airport Executives. His strong commitment to the community is demonstrated by his active involvement in numerous community and civic organizations. He serves on the Board of Directors of the South Queens Boys and Girls Club, and Patterns for Progress in New York's Hudson Valley. He is also responsible for managing the activities of the Aviation Development Council, whose core mission is to ensure that local residents and businesses that neighbor the airports receive the job, contract and procurement opportunities that airports provide.

Prior to joining the Port Authority, Mr. Tragale worked for the New York State Crime Victims Board as a program manager, where he was responsible for the staffing and budgets of 75 local assistance programs throughout the State. Mr. Tragale also worked as a Bridge

and Tunnel Officer for the Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority, a subsidiary of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

Mr. Tragale has a Bachelor's Degree in Management and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from St. John's University in Jamaica, N.Y. He also attended the Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service at New York University, and completed a certificate course at the MIT/Harvard University Public Disputes Program. He was born and raised in Brooklyn, N.Y. He has been married since 1991 to his wife, Amy, and has two daughters, Julianna and Jessica. He resides in Monmouth County, N.J, where he coaches girl's softball and is active in other community organizations.