

## Session 5 - Watch Where You Step: Political Tips, Tricks, and Trips



**Scott Latner, A.A.E.**  
**Director of Public Safety and Operations**  
**Blue Grass Airport**  
*(Moderator)*

Scott Lanter, A.A.E. is the Director of Public Safety and Operations of Lexington's Blue Grass Airport. He is responsible for the day-to-day management of the airports Public Safety, Operations and Regional ARFF Training Center divisions as well as WestLEX, the airport owned general aviation facility. He has worked in the aviation industry for over 34 years.

Scott is a dual graduate of Eastern Kentucky University where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Fire Engineering in 1999 and a Master of Science degree in Criminal Justice in 2008. He received his professional accreditation in 2010 from the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) and served as President of the Great Lakes Chapter, AAAE in 2015/2016. He is also a Member of the AAAE National Board of Directors, a Voting Member on the National Fire Protection Associations, ARFF Technical Committee as well as a Committee Member on the Transportation Security Administration, Aviation Security Advisory Committee. For his work related to the emergency preparedness of Kentucky's airports, in 2019 he was awarded the status of Kentucky Ace and was also recognized as the Commercial Service Aviation Professional of the Year by the by the Kentucky Department of Aviation

Scott is also an active member of the local community and has served on a number of local Boards, including the Comair 5191 Memorial Commission, Honor Flight Kentucky, First Christian Church of Louisville, and the Elkhorn Crossing School, Law and Justice Village.



**Patrick Dame, C.M.**  
**Executive Director**  
**Rapid City Regional Airport**

Patrick Dame, C.M. has been Executive Director of the Rapid City Regional Airport for the past 6 years. Prior to Rapid City, Patrick was a Director in Grand Fork, Minot and Brookings. He has also served as an airport planner for SEH Inc. for almost four years.

Patrick has been a member of the Great Lakes Chapter for about 15 years and served on the Chapter's Board as the North Dakota State Representative for approximately seven years.



**Eric J. Frankl, A.A.E.**

Executive Director  
Blue Grass Airport

Eric Frankl, A.A.E. is the Executive Director of Lexington's Blue Grass Airport. In this capacity, Eric has overall responsibility for the day-to-day management of the airport, including airport operations, finance and administration, development and community relations. He has worked in the airport industry for over 30 years. Prior to his appointment at Blue Grass Airport, Eric served as the Executive Director at the airport in Toledo, Ohio and Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport in Springfield, Illinois.

Eric is a graduate of Bowling Green State University where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Aviation Management in 1986. He received his professional accreditation in 1996 from the American Association of Airport Executives and served as President of the Great Lakes Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives in 2004/2005. In 2010, he was awarded an Industry Excellence Award by the National Air Transportation Association for his efforts in fostering relationships with local aviation businesses and was also named Airport Manager of the Year by the Federal Aviation Administration Southern Region. He is a former Chairman of the Airline Economics and Air Service Committee for the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) and as well as a former Member on the AAAE National Board of Directors.

Eric is also an active member of the local community and has served on a number of local Boards, including the Kentucky Blood Center, Bluegrass Care Navigators, LexArts and Kentuckians for Better Transportation.