

# P R E S S   R E L E A S E



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## **PORT OF SOUTH LOUISIANA SIGNS SISTER PORT AGREEMENT WITH HAITIAN NATIONAL PORT AUTHORITY**

LaPLACE, LOUISIANA

On November 29, 2012, officials for the Port of South Louisiana and National Port Authority (APN) signed a Sister Port agreement, marking the Port of South Louisiana’s first agreement with a Caribbean port. The agreement was signed by Port of South Louisiana Commission President P. Joey Murray III and APN’s General Manager Alix Célestin during the latter’s attendance to the 36<sup>th</sup> *Annual Conference of the Caribbean* supported by the Caribbean Central American Action (CCAA). The APN’s objectives during this mission were to accentuate the location of the Caribbean Basin as it relates to the Panama Canal, to encourage new business opportunities for Haiti, and to deepen cultural ties with Louisiana.

Both parties agree to strengthen economic and commercial ties between respective countries, by focusing on exploring mutually beneficial initiatives, sharing information, best practices and policies, and developing and facilitating trade and maritime services between the Port of South Louisiana and Haiti’s ports.

The National Port Authority (APN) is an independent entity of the Government of Haiti under the supervision of the Ministry of Economy and Finance. Its goal is, in part, to develop, maintain, operate, and manage public port facilities in Haiti.



*Commission President P. Joey Murray III (right) signs Sister Port Agreement with APN’s Alix Célestin*



*Foreground L-R: Alix Célestin, General Manager of APN, and P. Joey Murray II, Commission President of the Port of South Louisiana  
Background L-R: Lenette Deller of APN, Dennis Kelly of Pan Caribbean Consulting, Inc., and Jean Renet Latortue of APN*

The Port of South Louisiana, a 54-mile port district on the Mississippi River between New Orleans and Baton Rouge, is the largest tonnage port in the Western Hemisphere. The cargo it handles accounts for over 50 percent of all Louisiana imports/exports.

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For more information about the Port of South Louisiana or this particular topic, please contact Alexandra “Alex” Hernández at (985) 652-9278 or [ahernandez@portsl.com](mailto:ahernandez@portsl.com), [www.portsl.com](http://www.portsl.com).