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**Contact**  
Jade Davis  
Port of Cleveland  
VP, External Affairs  
Phone Number: 216-377-1366  
Email Address: [jade.davis@portofcleveland.com](mailto:jade.davis@portofcleveland.com)

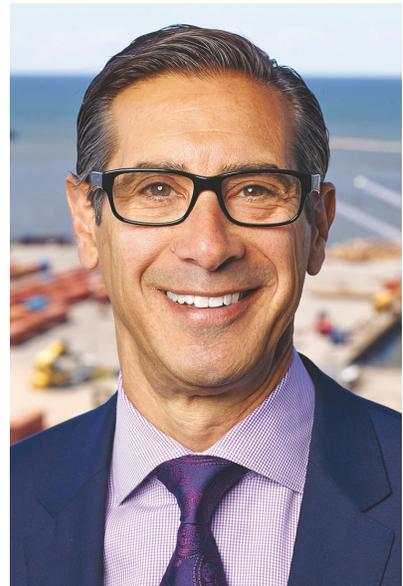
**Port of Cleveland President & CEO William D. Friedman Elected Board Chairman  
of American Association of Port Authorities**

**Washington, D.C. (March 23, 2018)** – The Board of Directors of the [American Association of Port Authorities](#) (AAPA) has announced the election of Port of Cleveland President and CEO, William D. Friedman, to serve as chairman for the 2018-19 activity year beginning this October. The AAPA represents 140 of the leading maritime port authorities in the United States, Canada, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

“It’s a great honor to be chosen as Chairman-elect of the AAPA – The unified voice for port authorities across the Western Hemisphere,” said Friedman. “Our ports are the linchpins in the global supply chains that generate jobs and economic prosperity for our regions and our nations. I look forward to working closely with port leaders and stakeholders to strengthen our vital industry.”

In his role with the Port of Cleveland, Friedman has transformed the agency’s business model since taking the helm in 2010. Under Friedman’s leadership, the Port has seen a resurgence in maritime trade and cargo volumes. In 2014, he led the Port’s efforts to launch the Cleveland-Europe Express service, revitalizing containerized shipping via the Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Seaway system and solidifying Cleveland’s position as its leading international hub.

Moreover, the Port’s economic impact has grown to encompass an annual average of over 13 million tons of cargo through the Cleveland Harbor, resulting in \$3.5 billion in yearly economic activity and supporting more than 20,000 local jobs.



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Friedman brings over 25 years of experience in port management, the international supply chain, multimodal distribution, real estate development, and related fields to AAPA leadership. Specifically, Friedman's experience prior to joining the Port of Cleveland includes stints as CEO of the Ports of Indiana, where his efforts resulted in a record \$1.5 billion annual economic impact and multiple senior management positions with the Port of Seattle, where he facilitated the \$600 million expansion of a premier US container port. His private sector experience includes acting as vice president, ports and logistics for Duke Realty Corp., where he helped the company expand its work to key maritime and inland logistics hubs.

"With his valuable experience as a port director involved with diversified cargo, his background in real estate development, multimodal transportation and the international supply chain, and his longstanding active engagement with AAPA and our member ports throughout the hemisphere, William Friedman is an outstanding choice for leading our association during the upcoming activity year," said Kurt Nagle, AAPA's president and chief executive officer. "Will's leadership skills will be of enormous value as our member ports work together to address common challenges and legislative priorities."

"The Board of Directors of the Cleveland / Cuyahoga Port Authority is excited that Will has been elected to this important international leadership position," said Darrell McNair, Chair of the Port Authority's Board of Directors. "We know he will provide the same kind of visionary and dynamic leadership with the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) as he does for our agency. Under Will's tenure we believe in the eyes of the maritime and logistics industry, it will bring an elevated profile to our Port's activities."

Friedman also currently serves as President of the American Great Lakes Ports Association. He is a member of numerous industry and civic boards including Green Marine, the Northeast Ohio Development Fund, the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA), and the Cuyahoga County Economic Development Commission. He holds two degrees from Indiana University – a bachelor's degree in history, and a master's degree in public administration with a concentration in urban and regional planning.

### **About Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Port Authority**

The Port of Cleveland is one of the largest ports on the Great Lakes. Over 20,000 jobs and \$3.5 billion in annual economic activity are tied to the roughly 13 million tons of cargo that move through Cleveland Harbor each year. The Port of Cleveland is the only local government agency whose sole mission is to spur job creation and economic vitality in Cuyahoga County. The Port is an economic engine for the community, a key to Northeast Ohio's global competitiveness, and a crucial partner in building Cuyahoga County's future.

For more information, please visit: [www.portofcleveland.com](http://www.portofcleveland.com)

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