



**PORT HOUSTON**  
THE INTERNATIONAL PORT OF TEXAS

**For Immediate Release  
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## **Port Houston Delivers Strong Performance in 2018 Balanced Cargo Keeps Port Well-Positioned for Continued Growth**

**HOUSTON** – Year-end results show that Port Houston’s business continues to be solid. “With the leadership and guidance of our Commission, our port continues to prosper,” said Port Houston Executive Director Roger Guenther when he delivered his 2018 year-end report to the Port Commission of the Port of Houston Authority during its first regular monthly meeting for 2019, which was held Tuesday.



Caption: Port Houston Commission Chairman Janiece Longoria presiding over her last regular Port Commission meeting Jan. 29 due to term limits. In her closing remarks, she symbolically passed the gavel and the organization in excellent standing to the newly appointed Port Commission Chairman Ric Campo whose two-year term starts Feb. 1. Chairman Longoria received a standing ovation in gratitude for her leadership and lasting legacy.

In highlighting a host of achievements in 2018, Guenther announced several records were broken in 2018, including that total tonnage at Port Houston facilities set a record of 35.7 million tons, which reflected an increase of 9 percent from 2017.

“The strength of cargo activity helped drive Operating Revenue to \$366 million for the year shattering the previous record set in 2017 of \$333 million,” Guenther said.

Combined business through the port’s public facilities generated a total cash flow of \$162 million, surpassing the previous record set in 2017 of \$151 million.

“Cash generated from operations is critical to funding capital projects that support the Port’s strategic objectives, including job creation and regional prosperity,” Guenther said.



The Government Finance Officers Association awarded Port Houston its 44<sup>th</sup> consecutive Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its 2017 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). This certificate is the highest form of recognition in the area of government accounting and financial reporting. From left, members of the Finance team pose with Port Chairman Janiece Longoria: Larry Bischof; Darleen Nguyen; Rosemary Donovan; Marilyn Bundage; Magda Salinas; Tonya Lewis; Yolanda "Nessie" Ramirez; Controller Curtis Duncan; and Chief Financial Officer Tim Finley.

Container twenty-foot equivalent units increased 10 percent to 2.7 million, a new record for the Port Authority. “The increased volume was driven by solid growth in both import and export loaded boxes,” said Guenther. “This activity has created a balance of imports to exports for the year of 50/50 import to export, which keeps us well-positioned for growth in the coming years”. Steel tonnage recorded 4.4 million tons, a growth of 21 percent from 2017.

“Port Houston continues to lead the nation in market share of waterborne exports of the general resin category which includes Polypropylene, PVC and Polyethylene resins,” Guenther also highlighted. In 2018, Port Houston container terminals processed 2.4 million gate moves and notably, accomplished 9,400 gate transactions in one day, setting another record.

Guenther shared that 2018 could be characterized as “year of the cranes” and “we are buying more to keep up with the momentum.” In August, the port received three ship-to-shore cranes at Bayport Wharf #2 and then on that same day, received five of 10 rubber-tired gantry cranes on order.

Last year, the port also awarded a contract to Konecranes to purchase ten diesel electric container yard cranes for Barbour's Cut Container terminal. “These new cranes will help give it the capability to further handle the growing demand of larger ships,” Guenther shared.

Port Commission Chairman Janiece Longoria presided over her last meeting Jan. 29, due to term limits. She received a standing ovation in gratitude for her leadership and a lasting legacy. In her closing remarks, Chairman Longoria highlighted her achievements as leader.

She underscored that during her tenure, since 2013, \$1 billion in capital investments had been made, funded from free cash flow generated through container operations. She applauded staff for its “strategic and forward thinking” for providing that management.

Chairman Longoria symbolically passed the gavel and the organization in excellent standing, along with her appreciation and support to the newly appointed Port Commission Chairman Ric Campo whose two-year term starts Feb.1.

The next Port Commission meeting is scheduled Feb. 26 at 9:00 a.m.

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**About Port Houston**

*For more than 100 years, Port Houston has owned and operated the public wharves and terminals of the Port of Houston – the nation’s largest port for foreign waterborne tonnage and an essential economic engine for the Houston region, the state of Texas and the nation. It supports the creation of nearly 1.175 million jobs in Texas and 2.7 million jobs nationwide, and economic activity totaling almost \$265 billion in Texas – 16 percent of Texas’ total gross domestic product – and more than \$617 billion in economic impact across the nation. For more information, visit the port’s website at [PortHouston.com](http://PortHouston.com).*