



# 911 TH AIRLIFT WING

## Pittsburgh IAP ARS

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **2009 Airshow Canceled**

**PITTSBURGH IAP ARS** – After careful consideration a decision was made late on Feb. 27, 2009 to cancel this year’s Wings Over Pittsburgh air show.

Already in the planning phase with numerous air show acts committed to perform, the decision was based on current operational commitments and adequate funding.

“It was an extremely difficult decision that was not easily made. We looked at our current funding stream against our mission commitments and it just wasn’t possible,” said Col. Gordon H. Elwell, Jr., 911th Airlift Wing Commander.

The command evaluated current mission requirements in conjunction with budget constraints, while still trying to produce a worthwhile event for the region. Planners looked at developing creative solutions and alternatives, such as soliciting volunteers from the community. All such options had merit; however, it still did not come close to closing the financial gap.

“The challenges we face today are real and we know our community partners understand our position. It is disappointing for us and for those who come out and support us every year. Even without the presence of our air show this year, we will continue supporting today’s military mission, knowing that our level of community support will not falter, and for that we are forever grateful,” concluded Elwell.

For questions please contact the public affairs office at 412-474-8511.