

## LGB Business Partner Spotlight: Wayne Grakowski

This month we'd like to spotlight Wayne Grakowski, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Lead Transportation Security Manager at Long Beach Airport. Wayne applies extensive knowledge and personal grace to his work, and we're grateful to have him overseeing the team that helps ensure the safety of our travelers.



Q: Can you share a sentence or two about your professional background?

A: I joined TSA 14 years ago, holding a wide variety of support and leadership positions at different airports in Southern California. Prior to joining TSA, I served for more than 28 years in the United States Marine Corps, with 20 years as an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician (Bomb Tech) deployed in a host of positions throughout Southeast and Southwest Asia, including combat tours supporting Operation Enduring Freedom in the Philippines and Iraq.

Q: Is there anything about your personal life that you'd like to share?

A: I'm married to my lovely bride of 30 years, and we have one son. I enjoy spending time with my family, participating in outdoor sports, reading and watching classic movies.

Q: Can you tell us about your operations at Long Beach Airport?

A: I oversee the TSA operation at LGB, including passenger and checked baggage screening. Part of my duties as a Lead Transportation Security Manager are to engage regularly with the entire LGB airport community to keep them apprised of TSA matters and to keep current on stakeholder concerns. I work every day to build a strong partnership between the local TSA team and others who make LGB such a great place to work. We have about 120 uniformed TSA officers who carry out TSA's security mission at LGB. In 2021, more than a million travelers were screened through the security checkpoint here. We are on pace to see a 50% increase over 2021 numbers this year.

Q: What do you like best about being part of the LGB community?

A: If there was one part that I like best, it's the community's support of my team and friendships that have formed since my arrival here.