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Contact: Mary Flannery
215.937.5424
mary.flannery@phl.org

The Sound of Philadelphia Greets Visitors to PHL Airport

PHILADELPHIA – Passengers at Philadelphia International Airport are listening to the “Sound of Philadelphia,” the signature cache of music by Philadelphia’s own Grammy award-winning producers and songwriters Kenny Gamble and Leon Huff.

A parade of classic hits created by the legendary duo for artists such as Harold Melvin and the Blue Notes, Teddy Pendergrass, the O’Jays Patti LaBelle, the Stylistics and many others will also welcome delegates to the Democratic National Convention here later this month.

Gamble and Huff’s well-known songs being heard on the audio system throughout the terminals include *I Love Music* by the O’Jays, *The Love I Lost* and *If You Don’t Know Me By Now* by Harold Melvin and the Blue Notes, *Me and Mrs. Jones* by Billy Paul, *Ain’t No Stoppin’ Us Now* by McFadden and Whitehead, *Rubberband Man* by the Spinners, and *Don’t Leave Me This Way* by Thelma Houston.

Recently, Gamble and Huff were recognized with a Sound of Philadelphia performance at the Wawa Welcome America! July 4th Festival in Philadelphia. The tribute took place during the concert on the Ben Franklin Parkway and honored both songwriters for the soulful music that they made synonymous with Philadelphia.

Kenny Gamble and Leon Huff have written and produced 3,000 songs over a 30-year career in the music industry with 175 gold and platinum records. Their 1989 Grammy award for the best R&B song, *If You Don’t Know Me By Now*, originally recorded by Harold Melvin and the Blue Notes in 1972, was reproduced as a hit by the British group Simply Red. In 1995, Gamble and Huff were enshrined into the National Academy of songwriters Hall of Fame, and in 1999 they were presented with the Lifetime Achievement Grammy.

Philadelphia International Airport is owned and operated by the City of Philadelphia. The Airport is a self-sustaining entity that operates without the use of local tax dollars. It is one of the largest economic engines in Pennsylvania, generating an estimated \$14.4 billion in spending to the regional economy and accounting for more than 141,000 jobs.