

## Statement of Congressman Steve Rothman on the Need to Improve Airport Security

“During the past few weeks, we have witnessed a pair of incidents illustrating the disturbing and unacceptable inadequacy of our nation’s airport security agencies. First, a near-tragedy was averted on Christmas Day when an attempted suicide bomber nearly brought down Northwest Airlines Flight 253 over Detroit. Just days later, on January 3rd a man entered Terminal C of Newark Airport in my home state of New Jersey without being screened, stopped or even identified, resulting in nearly 6 hour delays for thousands of travelers.

Like many Americans, the utter failure of the Transportation Safety Administration (TSA) to perform its duties leaves me shocked, angered and disappointed. In light of these events, there is only one way to describe the job done by the TSA: Not nearly good enough.

I will work with my Congressional colleagues to ensure that any flaws in the system are identified and corrected. I believe the people we charge with keeping us safe in the air can and must do better. Seeing that they do, will be one of my top priorities in the coming year.”