

Rothman Calls upon FAA and Port Authority to Investigate Incident of Metal Falling Off Plane Departing Teterboro Airport

January 12, 2005

Rothman Fighting for Safe Skies in Northern New Jersey

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Metal Falling Off of Plane Departing Teterboro Airport

Washington, DC- Continuing his pursuit to protect the quality of life for the people of Northern New Jersey, Congressman Steve Rothman (D-Fair Lawn) has demanded a thorough investigation of a dangerous incident that took place in Maywood on Sunday, January 9, 2005. According to eyewitness accounts, a 3-by-4-foot fragment of metal fell off a Beechcraft jet during takeoff from Teterboro Airport. The 20 pound piece of metal landed at 248 Prospect Avenue in Maywood, only 50 feet from a nearby resident. Rothman has called upon the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Marion Blakely, to conduct a timely and thorough investigation into the cause of the incident. In addition, he has asked Anthony Coscia, Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Port Authority, to take an active role in the oversight of the condition of aircraft flying into and out of Teterboro.

"The people of Northern New Jersey already deal with the burden of aircraft noise on a daily basis. The additional threat of dangerous pieces of aircraft falling from the sky because of poor aircraft maintenance oversight is unacceptable. The FAA and the Port Authority must ensure the safety of the planes that fly into and out of our communities," said Rothman. "The urgency of this situation must not be ignored by the FAA or Port Authority. The residents of Maywood and all of Northern New Jersey deserve to know the truth about what occurred on January 9th, and the FAA and the Port Authority must make certain that an incident like this never happens again."

Rothman has been a champion of reducing aircraft noise in Northern New Jersey. In 2003, Rothman authored, got passed in Congress, and signed into law, a measure to permanently ban scheduled charter service at Teterboro Airport. The provision, which is part of the FAA Reauthorization bill, closed the loophole that allowed charter aircraft to operate at Teterboro on a regular, scheduled basis. In addition, Rothman has successfully led the fight to include the federal ban on the operation of planes weighing more than 100,000 pounds at Teterboro Airport into the Transportation Appropriations bills for the past two years.

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