

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 17, 2016

The Honorable Peter Neffenger
Administrator
Transportation Security Administration
601 South Twelfth Street
Arlington, VA 20598-6001

Dear Administrator Neffenger:

We are writing with regard to the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) allocation of resources at Newark Liberty International Airport and to commend the actions announced by the Department of Homeland Security on May 4, 2016 to help reduce passenger screening wait times. We understand that there are several causes for long delays at security checkpoints and are grateful for efforts TSA is making in collaboration with the airport and stakeholders to alleviate the issue.

Security is the top priority for TSA, as it is for our constituents, airports, airlines, and members of the New Jersey Congressional Delegation. However, we remain concerned that wait times at Newark checkpoints continue to be observed in excess of 60 minutes, leading to aggrieved passengers as well as missed flights and delays which cascade to airports across the U.S. Furthermore, as advocates for New Jersey families and commerce, we are concerned by any inconvenience due to unreasonable wait times at Newark that would cause leisure and business travelers to avoid utilizing the airport.

We urge you to keep careful attention on the situation at Newark as TSA works with stakeholders to correct the issues which are leading to unacceptably long wait times at airports. Additionally, we request a written update by June 17, 2016 on the progress and results of TSA's efforts to reduce wait times through April 2016, including data if available, as well as additional steps that can be taken to return to acceptable wait times for this year's summer and upcoming holiday seasons. Further, we are interested in details about how TSA will ensure sustained improvement over the long-term so our constituents can be assured that recent experiences at Newark are not in fact the new normal at the airport.

Thank you for your continued efforts to protect the traveling public and the passengers at Newark. We look forward to your response.

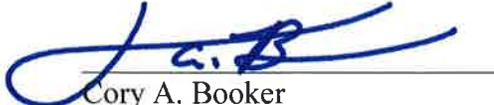
Sincerely,



Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress

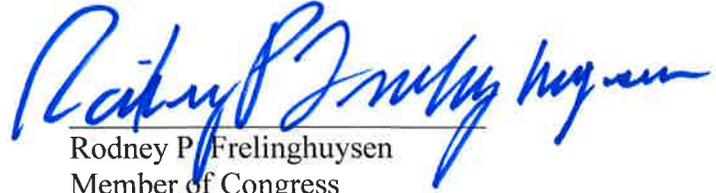


Robert Menendez
United States Senator

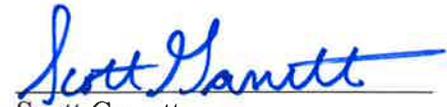

Cory A. Booker
United States Senator


Christopher H. Smith
Member of Congress


Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress


Rodney P. Frelinghuysen
Member of Congress


Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress


Scott Garrett
Member of Congress


Albio Sires
Member of Congress


Leonard Lance
Member of Congress


Donald Norcross
Member of Congress


Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress