



## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.

*Representing America's Finest*

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Executive Director

April 1, 2013

The Honorable John S. Pistole  
Administrator  
Transportation Security Administration  
601 South 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Arlington, VA 20598

Dear Administrator Pistole:

On behalf of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO), representing 241,000 rank-and-file law enforcement officers from across the United States, I write to you to express concern and urge you to withdraw the recently announced policy to permit passengers to bring knives and certain sporting equipment in the aircraft cabin.

We strongly believe that the prohibition of dangerous items is an integral layer in the safety of our aviation system. Policies that promote standards of safety and security should not be relaxed. Enacting this policy change will impact the frontline workforce and the flying public.

Moreover, NAPO proudly represents and supports the Federal Flight Deck Officers Association (FFDOA), which opposes the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) policy change. The concerns of FFDOA, and other aviation sector employees and stakeholders, who will be directly impacted by this policy, should be heard through the Aviation Security Advisory Committee (ASAC).

We are hopeful that TSA will maintain knives and certain sporting equipment on the list of prohibited items until a process of formal consultation is conducted with all stakeholders through the ASAC. Those who are most likely to be impacted by this policy should be included in the decision making process.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

William J. Johnson  
Executive Director

cc: Mike Karn, FFDOA