

Secretary Napolitano Applauds President Obama's Intent To Nominate Erroll Southers As Transportation Security Administration Assistant Secretary



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Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Janet Napolitano today applauded President Obama's intent to nominate Erroll Southers as Assistant Secretary for the Transportation Security Administration (TSA).

"Effective transportation security involves protecting our citizens from threats while facilitating travel around the country and throughout the world," said Secretary Napolitano. "Erroll's expertise in counterterrorism and airport security will be a great asset to the Department in our efforts to ensure the safety of the nation's transportation systems."

As TSA Assistant Secretary, Southers will use his extensive interdisciplinary experience in public safety and homeland security to oversee efforts to protect America's highways, railroads, ports and mass transit systems, the security operations for 450 federalized airports throughout the United States and the Federal Air Marshal Service (FAMS).

Erroll Southers

Southers currently serves as Los Angeles World Airports Police Department Assistant Chief for Homeland Security and Intelligence, where he helps manage the largest airport police department in the United States. He is also Associate Director at the Center for Risk and Economic Analysis of Terrorism Events at the University of Southern California. Southers brings extensive recognition within the international counterterrorism and aviation security communities to DHS.

Prior to joining the University of Southern California faculty, Southers' public safety career included service as Deputy Director of Homeland Security for the State of California and positions at every level of government, ranging from Police Officer with the Santa Monica Police Department to Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Southers is also a senior fellow at the University of California, Los Angeles School of Public Affairs and holds a B.A. from Brown University as well as an M.P.A. from the University of Southern California, where he is currently pursuing a doctorate in Policy, Planning and Development.

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