



# News Release

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## **CHICAGO AVIATION COMMISSIONER ROSEMARIE S. ANDOLINO APPOINTED TO U.S. TRAVEL AND TOURISM BOARD**

CHICAGO – The Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) is pleased to announce that Aviation Commissioner Rosemarie S. Andolino has been appointed by U.S. Department of Commerce Secretary John Bryson to the U.S. Travel and Tourism Advisory Board.

“This Board represents the eyes and ears of our nation’s travel and tourism industry and I am committed to working with each of the esteemed members to bring more visitors to the United States,” Bryson said. “I appreciate the Board members’ dedication to our economic recovery and look forward to working with Commissioner Andolino to put ideas into action to bolster job creation in this critical economic sector.”

The Board advises the Commerce Secretary on government policies and programs related to U.S. travel and tourism, offers counsel on current and emerging issues, and provides a forum for discussing and proposing solutions to industry-related challenges. The Board also plays a critical role in advising the Secretary on ways to strengthen the industry, expand business opportunities and create jobs.

“I am honored to be appointed to join this exceptional group of industry leaders that make up the U.S. Travel and Tourism Advisory Board,” said Andolino. “The economic benefits of a strong, vibrant U.S. tourism industry are enormous, including new job creation and economic development that result in healthy hotel, restaurant and retail commerce, all vital components of our nation’s economy. As Commissioner of the Chicago Department of Aviation and Chicago’s O’Hare and Midway International Airports, I believe I can provide unique insight to the Board on promoting the success and growth of the travel industry.”

The Advisory Board represents companies and organizations in the travel and tourism industry from a broad range of products and services, including convention and visitor bureaus/authorities, hotels, airlines, cruise operators, and cultural centers. The board focuses on specific, actionable, and measurable ways that travel and tourism can help further drive U.S. and regional economic growth.

According to the Commerce Secretary, travel and tourism exports accounted for more than \$134 billion in 2010, making this market the nation’s largest services-sector export and an important source of income and employment for millions of Americans.

“I want to congratulate Commissioner Andolino on her appointment to the U.S. Travel and Tourism Advisory Board,” said Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel. “Rosie is a proven leader in the national and international aviation industry and I am confident she will provide valuable and important insight based on her expertise managing the operation of one of the world’s largest and busiest airport systems – O’Hare International Airport and Midway International Airport.”

Airport congestion and infrastructure are among the many issues the Board has taken under consideration in recent years. Commissioner Andolino’s experience as Executive Director of the O’Hare Modernization Program and now as CDA Commissioner, overseeing one of the world’s largest and busiest airport systems, make her abundantly qualified to advise on these and other important travel related matters.

For more information about the Board, visit the Office of Travel and Tourism Industries’ website, [www.tinet.ita.doc.gov](http://www.tinet.ita.doc.gov).

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The Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) is self-supporting, using no local or state tax dollars for operations or capital improvements at O’Hare and Midway International airports. Together, Chicago’s airports generate more than \$45 billion in annual economic activity and create 540,000 jobs for the region. Please visit [www.flychicago.com](http://www.flychicago.com) to learn more about the Chicago Department of Aviation.

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