

## PRESS RELEASE

January 25, 2012  
Jackson Municipal Airport Authority  
P.O. Box 98109  
Jackson, MS 39298 – 8109  
Dirk B. Vanderleest (601) 939-5631



## **US Airways to Offer Non-Stop Flights from the Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport (JAN) to Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA)**

**Congressman Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS) and the Chairman of the Jackson Municipal Airport Authority (JMAA), Dr. Glenda B. Glover, announced that the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) has granted US Airways the temporary authority to operate nonstop service from the Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport (JAN) to Ronald Regan Washington National Airport (DCA).**

On Tuesday, January 24, 2012, Congressman Thompson invited JMAA Chairman Glover and Department of Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood to discuss the JAN-DCA route and its importance to Mississippi and Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport.

"After meeting with Secretary Ray LaHood yesterday, Jackson Municipal Airport Authority officials and I felt confident that the temporary authority to operate the flight would be given to US Airways," said Thompson. "This nonstop flight to the nation's capital is extremely important to economic development in Mississippi and the flight will also provide a welcomed financial benefit to Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport. I am extremely pleased that Secretary LaHood immediately followed through on the commitment that he made to airport officials and me by granting the temporary extension."

"Congressman Thompson has been a steadfast supporter of our mission to operate first class aviation facilities connecting Mississippi to the worldwide intermodal transportation network and the economic development opportunities those connections bring" said Glover. "With his assistance and personal attention to ensure we retain Capitol to Capitol service, I am confident that we will continue to provide this critical service to our patrons and the region."

Delta Airlines, the only carrier currently offering direct service from Jackson, Mississippi to Washington, D.C., recently announced that it will terminate its nonstop service on March 2, 2012. Shortly after Delta's announcement, US Airways petitioned USDOT to begin servicing the Jackson to Washington route beginning on March 4, 2012 on an interim basis. In 2004, USDOT awarded Delta the use flight "slots" at DCA to exclusively fly the DCA-JAN route. Under the terms of agreement with the USDOT, Delta could not sell or otherwise dispose of the slots. If Delta were to cease the DCA-JAN service, the slots would be returned to the USDOT which would initiate a carrier selection proceeding to redistribute the slots to a new carrier and/or destination.