

## Rothman Seeks Out New Jersey Taxpayers Owed Millions In Refunds

November 20, 2002

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3,936 Undelivered Checks Totaling More Than \$3.3 Million Due To New Jerseyans

Hackensack, NJ - Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ9) is looking for thousands of New Jersey taxpayers who are still owed a collective \$3.3 million from the federal government because their refund checks were sent back in the mail to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). There are 3,936 undeliverable checks owed to New Jersey residents, including 555 checks for people from municipalities in Rothman's Ninth Congressional District. The IRS can reissue the checks, which average \$840, after taxpayers contact the IRS to update their addresses.

"There is a giant pot of money that is owed to thousands of hard-working New Jersey taxpayers who overpaid taxes to the federal government," Rothman said. "I want to make sure that anyone who is due money from the federal government knows about it and is made aware of how to obtain their refund check. It's their money! I encourage people who think that they are owed money from the IRS to visit my website or call the IRS so we can promptly get the money back into the right hands."

Rothman is a member of the House Treasury-Postal Appropriations Subcommittee, which oversees funding of the IRS. To learn if the IRS owes them a refund, New Jersey residents can check Congressman Rothman's website - <http://rothman.house.gov> - for a complete list of the 3,936 names. Some names appear more than once on the list because they have more than one check owed to them. Taxpayers without access to the Internet should call the IRS toll-free assistance line at 1-800-829-1040.

Refund checks go astray for reasons that can vary with each taxpayer. Often it is because taxpayers move or change their address without notifying the IRS or U.S. Postal Service, which results in their refund check being sent to their last known address. According to the Postal Service, which processed more than 44 million change-of-address cards last year, 17 percent of the nation's population moves each year. If a check was returned because the recipient died, a taxpayer's estate can claim the refund.

"I encourage people to take the quick and easy step and log onto the Internet or pick up the phone to find out if they are owed money from the IRS," Rothman said. "It is also important to make sure that the IRS has residents' most up-to-date addresses so that future refund checks make it to taxpayers' wallets."

Taxpayers who moved since filing their last tax return can ensure the IRS has their correct address by obtaining a "Change of Address" form from the IRS website at or by calling 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676). Additionally, taxpayers can avoid undelivered checks by choosing to have their refunds deposited directly into a personal checking or savings account.

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