

IAM

Air Transport District 143

May 28, 2009

Alaska Airlines

09-01

Negotiations

Alaska Airlines Rejects Job Security - Abandons Contract Extension

District 143 has received Alaska Airlines' response to your negotiating committee's counter-proposal regarding the COPS and RSSA contract extension proposal that was submitted to District 143 for review by your elected negotiators.

On May 19, 2009, District 143 received a letter from Alaska Airlines' Vice President of Human Resources and Labor Relations Dennis Hamel stating, *"We have reviewed the IAM's proposals for both COPS and RSSA contract extension agreements. Neither of these proposals are acceptable and the Company will not be submitting counter proposals."* All proposal exchanges are listed on the website for the membership to view at www.iam143.org.

I had previously said that these discussions can only be initiated if they provide additional reassurance and stability to our membership at Alaska Airlines under the current Ramp Service and Stores Agents (RSSA) and the Clerical, Office and Passenger Service (COPS) agreements during these difficult economic times. The fact that the Company considers our counter-proposals to be unacceptable only highlights an unwillingness to offer long-term job security for their number one asset—our members. Pay increases hold no value if the Company can arbitrarily vendor out our jobs at their discretion.

District 143 will proceed with preparation for the submission of contract proposals on behalf of the membership, make arrangements for an upcoming contract proposal conference, and fully prepare our elected negotiators for negotiations which will commence in 2010. This industry has become saturated with rumors and what-if scenarios that will undoubtedly have indirect implications on negotiation strategies. This is more than an incremental pay raise that quickly vanished from our membership's paychecks and pockets with each increase to their medical co-pays; this is about securing our future.

It has become imperative that our entire membership of Alaska Airlines become engaged in the negotiating process even though it is approximately seven months away. Each of us has an onerous of responsibility to be proactive throughout this process. Attend your local lodge union meetings, visit District 143's website, and most importantly—protect your livelihood.

OPEIU 12



UNION LABEL



09-010

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Stephen M. Gordon'.

Stephen M. Gordon

President/Directing General Chair

POST!

On all IAMAW
Bulletin Boards

www.iam143.org