

IAM

September 29, 2009

Alaska Airlines

#09-03

Air Transport District 143

Flashpoint

News To Us!

In response to numerous inquiries from the IAM members at Alaska Airlines regarding the proposed two-year contract extension offered this past spring 2009, District 143 feels it is necessary to clarify the most recent dialogue between the parties to properly address any misconceptions that may exist. Representatives from Alaska Airlines management continue to publicly state that the Company's contract extension proposal is still "on the table" with ongoing discussions with the IAM. We have contacted Alaska Airlines to clarify the validity of these rumors.

On September 18, 2009, I personally sent the following email that read in part:

Friday, September 18, 2009 at 12:41PM -0700

Hi Jeff,

Could you please give me a call on my cell phone so that I can be brought into the loop regarding the "ongoing contract extension/negotiations."

It has been reported, and continues to be reported to my office that yourself and Wayne Newton continue to inform our members that we are in some sort of negotiations regarding the contract extensions.

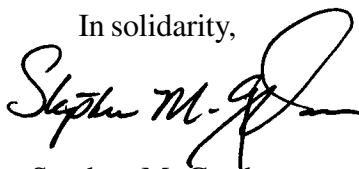
Dennis Hamel answered the negotiating committees counter offer wherein he stated that they were "unacceptable"; no other proposals have been presented to my office, nor have any meetings been scheduled—simply they were "unacceptable."

Shortly after this email was sent, I received an email from Mr. Butler stating, "We believe the Company's extension offer (as originally offered), is still on the table as of today." This "belief" is certainly a stark difference to Mr. Hamel's letter dated May 19, 2009, wherein he wrote, "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 counterproposals."

Mr. Hamel stated in an email to me on June 1, 2009, "Just to be clear, my letter (May 19, 2009) to you regarding the IAM's proposal was very specific: the company did not find the IAM's proposals to be acceptable and the company will not be sending a counterproposal (i.e., the company is not going to improve its offer). My letter did not remove the company's current contract extension proposal, did not remove the company's proposed job security letter extension, and did not propose abandoning contract extension talks." This is nothing more than semantics! When the Company states that they are not going to improve their offer, and refer to your negotiators counterproposals as "unacceptable," how is that not abandoning contract extension talks?

Furthermore, the Company has not engaged District 143, or your elected negotiators, to sit and discuss the contract extensions, nor have they responded to our request (as submitted by your negotiators) for a detailed explanation of the proposed PBP. They have simply taken the position of take-it or leave-it! The May 2009 IAM proposals for both the COPS and RSSA agreements have been deemed as "unacceptable"! Although the IAM's proposals have been deemed by the Company as "unacceptable," District 143 and your elected negotiators remain open to the future dialogue; dialogue that is not one sided; dialogue that provides security to the Company as well as security to our members.

In solidarity,



Stephen M. Gordon
President/Directing General Chair



UNION LABEL



09-017

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