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One Year of Negotiations, Still No Contract

AMERICAN AIRLINES FLIGHT ATTENDANTS STILL WORKING UNDER 2003 CONTRACT

Eules, Texas – Calling for a fair and just contract that recognizes the sacrifices and commitment of American Airlines Flight Attendants, the Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA) marked one year of contract negotiations with American Airlines management.

“We certainly recognize that the airline industry is in a recession, as we all are,” said Laura Glading, President of APFA, the Union representing the 18,000 Flight Attendants at American Airlines. “We’ve sacrificed so much for this company, without reward. We watch AMR executives take millions in bonuses even when the company struggles. No wonder working Americans have lost faith in corporate America; we certainly have.”

The Union filed for mediation late last year when it was reported the final contract offer on the table from AMR to the Transport Workers Union had no guaranteed structural pay raises, substantial increases in contributions for retiree health benefits, and the elimination of virtually all retirement benefits for new hires.

American’s Flight Attendants last received a small raise of 1.5 percent in May of 2008, five years after pay cuts of 25 percent to 33 percent. Flight Attendants have given back more than \$340 million per year since 2003. They have been working under a contract that became amendable a year ago.

“We care about this airline and our customers and want American to be the leader in the industry,” Glading continued. “While we have not yet reached an agreement, we remain steadfast in our resolve and are willing to take all necessary steps to achieve that goal.”

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APFA is the nation's largest independent Flight Attendant union representing more than 18,000 American Airlines Flight Attendants. www.apfa.org