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American Airlines Employees Protest Poor Management at Shareholders Meeting

Flight Attendants Join Pilots in Unified Call for Fair Treatment, More Focus on Quality Air Passenger Service

Eules, Texas – In a dramatic display of solidarity, American Airlines flight attendants and pilots joined forces today at the AMR shareholders meeting to protest the uncaring attitude of top airline management toward passengers and employees. The Association of Professional Flight Attendants renewed its campaign to force top executives to resign.

“Our executives have acted dishonorably,” said APFA President Laura Glading. “They grabbed millions of dollars in bonuses while pushing passengers to the side and disrespecting employees who’ve sacrificed so much to help the airline survive. Now, having forfeited their credibility, they cannot effectively lead this company.”

American Airlines employees are working for wages and under conditions instituted five years ago when collective bargaining agreements were slashed by 30 percent. Top executives were awarded bonuses this month even though the company is struggling with losses and customer complaints.

Glading has urged AMR's Board of Directors to remove the top five executives – Gerard Arpey, Thomas Horton, Daniel Garton, Robert Reding and Gary Kennedy. But management has hunkered down, announcing cutbacks and additional fees.

“We understand that the industry is beset by soaring jet fuel costs, but we believe this response is a retreat from our position as a first-class airline,” she said. “No American Airlines employee wants to see this great airline diminished, and that’s what this management team is doing.”

APFA is the nation's largest independent flight attendant union representing only the more than 19,000 American Airlines Flight Attendants. www.apfa.org