



Association of Professional Flight Attendants
1004 W. Eules Boulevard
Eules, Texas 76040
PHONE: (817) 540-0108 FAX: (817) 540-2077

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Contact:
David Roscow, 703-276-2772 x21

American Airlines Flight Attendants Stand in Solidarity with Striking British Airways Colleagues

AA Flight Attendants offer Assistance to Striking BA Crews stranded in U.S.

Eules, Texas – American Airlines Flight Attendants today expressed their strong support for British Airways Flight Attendants, who are set to begin a strike tomorrow, March 20. Support will consist of providing housing and other basic needs for British Airways cabin crewmembers stranded in the U.S.

"We share many issues and concerns with our colleagues at British Airways in our fight for a strong contract," said Laura Glading, President of the Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA), which represents the nearly 18,000 Flight Attendants at American Airlines. "Our common battle is for an improved standard of living, increased job security, and passenger safety. Unfortunately, our fight is not unique. The community of working men and women around the globe is threatened."

Glading expressed concern for passenger safety as British Airways executives are threatening to use "volunteer cabin crew" to cross the picket lines.

Earlier this week AA Flight Attendants asked for release from mediation after being mired in contract negotiations for almost two years. If granted by the National Mediation Board (NMB) it would trigger a 30-day cooling-off period, the first step toward a possible strike or other job action.

"We stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers at British Airways and offer support for Flight Attendants needing assistance in the U.S.," said Glading. "Together we can fight the culture of greed, broken promises and executives who year after year continue to take bonuses while frontline employees continue to make sacrifices."

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

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