



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
Cell 202-487-4990

American Airlines Flight Attendants on TWU Members' Contract Vote Results

Eules, Texas — *Laura Glading, President of the Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA), issued the following statement regarding the Transport Workers' Union members' vote results on Tentative Agreements for Mechanics, Maintenance Technicians and Stock Clerks.*

“On behalf of the nearly 18,000 Flight Attendants at American, we congratulate TWU’s Technical Specialists on their contract. Their members have spoken.

“We applaud TWU’s Mechanics and Stock Clerks for standing in solidarity and voting for strike authorization by rejecting their tentative agreements. They have recognized nothing can be accomplished with American Airlines other than through a struggle. Three work groups on the property are now bound together through this struggle.

“We share their frustration and anger with American management. Flight Attendants sent a clear message with our overwhelming 96.8 percent strike authorization vote and now the Mechanics and Stock Clerks have spoken. It’s time to let this process move forward.

“Flight Attendants do not want to strike. We fully understand the ramifications a strike would have. But we will do what is necessary to get the contract we have worked so hard for.

“American’s future looks bright. Second quarter earnings last month showed a substantial improvement compared with the same quarter last year, and industry analysts are predicting American will report a significant profit next quarter. It’s time for management to recognize the sacrifices all employees have made -- including the \$2 billion by Flight Attendants since 2003 -- when they bailed out American from the brink of bankruptcy.

“This battle is about more than Flight Attendants and other AMR employees, it’s about standing up to corporate America and saving the shrinking middle class by fighting for fair-paying jobs for hardworking people.”

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