



Association of Professional Flight Attendants

*Proudly Representing the **Flight Attendants** of American Airlines*

Office of the President

January 28, 2021

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor of the State of California
1303 10th Street, Suite 1173
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Governor Newsom:

I write to you today out of a concern for the safety of Flight Attendants. Your great state is home to many American Airlines Flight Attendants, and additionally, flight crews from all over the country take off, land, and layover at your airports every day.

We all understand how the aviation industry could operate as a vector for COVID-19, so our industry has taken many precautions to ensure our passengers' safety. As Flight Attendants, we understand the responsibility that we share in slowing the spread of the virus.

With fire, medical, and security responsibilities on the airplane, we consider ourselves, first and foremost, safety professionals. Our members sounded the alarm on the coronavirus a year ago on our flights from Asia. And since then, we have served on the pandemic's frontlines, coming in contact with hundreds of people on an average workday. Flight Attendants have contracted COVID-19, and we have had a few tragic losses among our ranks. We worry that every time we step on an airplane, we are putting ourselves, our families, and the flying public at risk.

Flight Attendants cannot isolate at home, but we do our best to maintain distance between ourselves, our coworkers, and our passengers. We encounter non-compliant passengers who refuse to wear masks, and we handle passenger discards such as used cups and napkins. We manage medical emergencies without the advantage of proper PPE, all in a work environment that does not afford us the ability to consistently practice safe social distancing.

I write to ask for your commitment to including Flight Attendants in the Tier 1B vaccine priority of distribution, as recommended by experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
January 28, 2021
Page 2

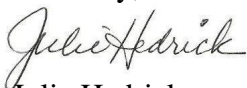
(CDC). We accept the risks involved in our high-contact profession, but we ask for respect and acknowledgment for these risks we are taking to keep our critical infrastructure moving. Ensuring that Flight Attendants have access to the vaccine would undoubtedly be that recognition.

If the traveling public is not confident that flight crews are healthy, any attempt to rebuild the economy will be hampered. To succeed with this rapid and complex vaccine distribution, we will need coordination at the federal and state levels. Aviation workers, the backbone of our air transportation system, must be healthy for our supply chains to flow and for the vaccine to be delivered across the country.

To this end, vaccines must be secured for crewmembers, who, by the very nature of our jobs, interact with hundreds of people in airports and airplanes in just a single workday. We recognize that vaccine supply is stretched thin right now, but we ask you in the strongest possible terms to immediately ensure we have access to the COVID-19 vaccine. Please put Flight Attendants and frontline aviation workers in Tier 1B of your vaccination plan. Our economy depends on aviation, and the aviation industry depends on people feeling safe onboard our planes right now.

The 24,000 members of the Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA) thank you for your support, and we implore you to remember Flight Attendants as you evaluate your vaccine distribution plan. APFA is committed to protecting the safety of our members and our passengers, who trust us to transport them safely. I am available to you and your staff if you have any questions about the challenges Flight Attendants face and how we can make air travel safer in these uncertain times.

Sincerely,



Julie Hedrick
National President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants



John Nikides
LAX Base President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants



Tim Schwartz
SFO Base President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants



Association of Professional Flight Attendants

*Proudly Representing the **Flight Attendants** of American Airlines*

Office of the President

January 28, 2021

The Honorable Charlie Baker
Governor of the State of Massachusetts
Massachusetts State House
Office of the Governor, Room 280
24 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02133

Dear Governor Baker:

I write to you today out of a concern for the safety of Flight Attendants. Your great state is home to many American Airlines Flight Attendants, and additionally, flight crews from all over the country take off, land, and layover at your airports every day.

We all understand how the aviation industry could operate as a vector for COVID-19, so our industry has taken many precautions to ensure our passengers' safety. As Flight Attendants, we understand the responsibility that we share in slowing the spread of the virus.

With fire, medical, and security responsibilities on the airplane, we consider ourselves, first and foremost, safety professionals. Our members sounded the alarm on the coronavirus a year ago on our flights from Asia. And since then, we have served on the pandemic's frontlines, coming in contact with hundreds of people on an average workday. Flight Attendants have contracted COVID-19, and we have had a few tragic losses among our ranks. We worry that every time we step on an airplane, we are putting ourselves, our families, and the flying public at risk.

Flight Attendants cannot isolate at home, but we do our best to maintain distance between ourselves, our coworkers, and our passengers. We encounter non-compliant passengers who refuse to wear masks, and we handle passenger discards such as used cups and napkins. We manage medical emergencies without the advantage of proper PPE, all in a work environment that does not afford us the ability to consistently practice safe social distancing.

The Honorable Charlie Baker
January 28, 2021
Page 2

I write to ask for your commitment to including Flight Attendants in the Tier 1B vaccine priority of distribution, as recommended by experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). We accept the risks involved in our high-contact profession, but we ask for respect and acknowledgment for these risks we are taking to keep our critical infrastructure moving. Ensuring that Flight Attendants have access to the vaccine would undoubtedly be that recognition.

If the traveling public is not confident that flight crews are healthy, any attempt to rebuild the economy will be hampered. To succeed with this rapid and complex vaccine distribution, we will need coordination at the federal and state levels. Aviation workers, the backbone of our air transportation system, must be healthy for our supply chains to flow and for the vaccine to be delivered across the country.

To this end, vaccines must be secured for crewmembers, who, by the very nature of our jobs, interact with hundreds of people in airports and airplanes in just a single workday. We recognize that vaccine supply is stretched thin right now, but we ask you in the strongest possible terms to immediately ensure we have access to the COVID-19 vaccine. Please put Flight Attendants and frontline aviation workers in Tier 1B of your vaccination plan. Our economy depends on aviation, and the aviation industry depends on people feeling safe onboard our planes right now.

The 24,000 members of the Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA) thank you for your support, and we implore you to remember Flight Attendants as you evaluate your vaccine distribution plan. APFA is committed to protecting the safety of our members and our passengers, who trust us to transport them safely. I am available to you and your staff if you have any questions about the challenges Flight Attendants face and how we can make air travel safer in these uncertain times.

Sincerely,



Julie Hedrick
National President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants



Amy Milenkovic
BOS Base President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants



Association of Professional Flight Attendants

*Proudly Representing the **Flight Attendants** of American Airlines*

Office of the President

January 28, 2021

The Honorable Tom Wolf
Governor of the State of Pennsylvania
Office of the Governor
508 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Governor Wolf:

I write to you today out of a concern for the safety of Flight Attendants. Your great state is home to many American Airlines Flight Attendants, and additionally, flight crews from all over the country take off, land, and layover at your airports every day.

We all understand how the aviation industry could operate as a vector for COVID-19, so our industry has taken many precautions to ensure our passengers' safety. As Flight Attendants, we understand the responsibility that we share in slowing the spread of the virus.

With fire, medical, and security responsibilities on the airplane, we consider ourselves, first and foremost, safety professionals. Our members sounded the alarm on the coronavirus a year ago on our flights from Asia. And since then, we have served on the pandemic's frontlines, coming in contact with hundreds of people on an average workday. Flight Attendants have contracted COVID-19, and we have had a few tragic losses among our ranks. We worry that every time we step on an airplane, we are putting ourselves, our families, and the flying public at risk.

Flight Attendants cannot isolate at home, but we do our best to maintain distance between ourselves, our coworkers, and our passengers. We encounter non-compliant passengers who refuse to wear masks, and we handle passenger discards such as used cups and napkins. We manage medical emergencies without the advantage of proper PPE, all in a work environment that does not afford us the ability to consistently practice safe social distancing.

The Honorable Tom Wolf
January 28, 2021
Page 2


I write to ask for your commitment to including Flight Attendants in the Tier 1B vaccine priority of distribution, as recommended by experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). We accept the risks involved in our high-contact profession, but we ask for respect and acknowledgment for these risks we are taking to keep our critical infrastructure moving. Ensuring that Flight Attendants have access to the vaccine would undoubtedly be that recognition.

If the traveling public is not confident that flight crews are healthy, any attempt to rebuild the economy will be hampered. To succeed with this rapid and complex vaccine distribution, we will need coordination at the federal and state levels. Aviation workers, the backbone of our air transportation system, must be healthy for our supply chains to flow and for the vaccine to be delivered across the country.

To this end, vaccines must be secured for crewmembers, who, by the very nature of our jobs, interact with hundreds of people in airports and airplanes in just a single workday. We recognize that vaccine supply is stretched thin right now, but we ask you in the strongest possible terms to immediately ensure we have access to the COVID-19 vaccine. Please put Flight Attendants and frontline aviation workers in Tier 1B of your vaccination plan. Our economy depends on aviation, and the aviation industry depends on people feeling safe onboard our planes right now.

The 24,000 members of the Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA) thank you for your support, and we implore you to remember Flight Attendants as you evaluate your vaccine distribution plan. APFA is committed to protecting the safety of our members and our passengers, who trust us to transport them safely. I am available to you and your staff if you have any questions about the challenges Flight Attendants face and how we can make air travel safer in these uncertain times.

Sincerely,



Julie Hedrick
National President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants



Kim Kaswinkel
PHL Base President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants



Association of Professional Flight Attendants

*Proudly Representing the **Flight Attendants** of American Airlines*

Office of the President

January 28, 2021

The Honorable Phil Murphy
Governor of the State of New Jersey
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 001
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Dear Governor Murphy:

I write to you today out of a concern for the safety of Flight Attendants. Your great state is home to many American Airlines Flight Attendants, and additionally, flight crews from all over the country take off, land, and layover at your airports every day.

We all understand how the aviation industry could operate as a vector for COVID-19, so our industry has taken many precautions to ensure our passengers' safety. As Flight Attendants, we understand the responsibility that we share in slowing the spread of the virus.

With fire, medical, and security responsibilities on the airplane, we consider ourselves, first and foremost, safety professionals. Our members sounded the alarm on the coronavirus a year ago on our flights from Asia. And since then, we have served on the pandemic's frontlines, coming in contact with hundreds of people on an average workday. Flight Attendants have contracted COVID-19, and we have had a few tragic losses among our ranks. We worry that every time we step on an airplane, we are putting ourselves, our families, and the flying public at risk.

Flight Attendants cannot isolate at home, but we do our best to maintain distance between ourselves, our coworkers, and our passengers. We encounter non-compliant passengers who refuse to wear masks, and we handle passenger discards such as used cups and napkins. We manage medical emergencies without the advantage of proper PPE, all in a work environment that does not afford us the ability to consistently practice safe social distancing.

The Honorable Phil Murphy
January 28, 2021
Page 2

I write to ask for your commitment to including Flight Attendants in the Tier 1B vaccine priority of distribution, as recommended by experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). We accept the risks involved in our high-contact profession, but we ask for respect and acknowledgment for these risks we are taking to keep our critical infrastructure moving. Ensuring that Flight Attendants have access to the vaccine would undoubtedly be that recognition.

If the traveling public is not confident that flight crews are healthy, any attempt to rebuild the economy will be hampered. To succeed with this rapid and complex vaccine distribution, we will need coordination at the federal and state levels. Aviation workers, the backbone of our air transportation system, must be healthy for our supply chains to flow and for the vaccine to be delivered across the country.

To this end, vaccines must be secured for crewmembers, who, by the very nature of our jobs, interact with hundreds of people in airports and airplanes in just a single workday. We recognize that vaccine supply is stretched thin right now, but we ask you in the strongest possible terms to immediately ensure we have access to the COVID-19 vaccine. Please put Flight Attendants and frontline aviation workers in Tier 1B of your vaccination plan. Our economy depends on aviation, and the aviation industry depends on people feeling safe onboard our planes right now.

The 24,000 members of the Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA) thank you for your support, and we implore you to remember Flight Attendants as you evaluate your vaccine distribution plan. APFA is committed to protecting the safety of our members and our passengers, who trust us to transport them safely. I am available to you and your staff if you have any questions about the challenges Flight Attendants face and how we can make air travel safer in these uncertain times.

Sincerely,



Julie Hedrick
National President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants



Kim Kaswinkel
PHL Base President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants



Association of Professional Flight Attendants

*Proudly Representing the **Flight Attendants** of American Airlines*

Office of the President

January 28, 2021

The Honorable John Carney
Governor of the State of Delaware
Wilmington Office
Carvel State Office Building
820 N. French Street, 12th Floor
Wilmington, Delaware 19801

Dear Governor Carney:

I write to you today out of a concern for the safety of Flight Attendants. Your great state is home to many American Airlines Flight Attendants, and additionally, flight crews from all over the country take off, land, and layover at your airports every day.

We all understand how the aviation industry could operate as a vector for COVID-19, so our industry has taken many precautions to ensure our passengers' safety. As Flight Attendants, we understand the responsibility that we share in slowing the spread of the virus.

With fire, medical, and security responsibilities on the airplane, we consider ourselves, first and foremost, safety professionals. Our members sounded the alarm on the coronavirus a year ago on our flights from Asia. And since then, we have served on the pandemic's frontlines, coming in contact with hundreds of people on an average workday. Flight Attendants have contracted COVID-19, and we have had a few tragic losses among our ranks. We worry that every time we step on an airplane, we are putting ourselves, our families, and the flying public at risk.

Flight Attendants cannot isolate at home, but we do our best to maintain distance between ourselves, our coworkers, and our passengers. We encounter non-compliant passengers who refuse to wear masks, and we handle passenger discards such as used cups and napkins. We manage medical emergencies without the advantage of proper PPE, all in a work environment that does not afford us the ability to consistently practice safe social distancing.

The Honorable John Carney

January 28, 2021

Page 2

I write to ask for your commitment to including Flight Attendants in the Tier 1B vaccine priority of distribution, as recommended by experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). We accept the risks involved in our high-contact profession, but we ask for respect and acknowledgment for these risks we are taking to keep our critical infrastructure moving. Ensuring that Flight Attendants have access to the vaccine would undoubtedly be that recognition.

If the traveling public is not confident that flight crews are healthy, any attempt to rebuild the economy will be hampered. To succeed with this rapid and complex vaccine distribution, we will need coordination at the federal and state levels. Aviation workers, the backbone of our air transportation system, must be healthy for our supply chains to flow and for the vaccine to be delivered across the country.

To this end, vaccines must be secured for crewmembers, who, by the very nature of our jobs, interact with hundreds of people in airports and airplanes in just a single workday. We recognize that vaccine supply is stretched thin right now, but we ask you in the strongest possible terms to immediately ensure we have access to the COVID-19 vaccine. Please put Flight Attendants and frontline aviation workers in Tier 1B of your vaccination plan. Our economy depends on aviation, and the aviation industry depends on people feeling safe onboard our planes right now.

The 24,000 members of the Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA) thank you for your support, and we implore you to remember Flight Attendants as you evaluate your vaccine distribution plan. APFA is committed to protecting the safety of our members and our passengers, who trust us to transport them safely. I am available to you and your staff if you have any questions about the challenges Flight Attendants face and how we can make air travel safer in these uncertain times.

Sincerely,



Julie Hedrick
National President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants



Kim Kaswinkel
PHL Base President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants



Association of Professional Flight Attendants

*Proudly Representing the **Flight Attendants** of American Airlines*

Office of the President

January 28, 2021

The Honorable John Carney
Governor of the State of Delaware
Dover Office
Tatnall Building
150 Martin Luther King Jr Boulevard South
Dover, Delaware 19901

Dear Governor Carney:

I write to you today out of a concern for the safety of Flight Attendants. Your great state is home to many American Airlines Flight Attendants, and additionally, flight crews from all over the country take off, land, and layover at your airports every day.

We all understand how the aviation industry could operate as a vector for COVID-19, so our industry has taken many precautions to ensure our passengers' safety. As Flight Attendants, we understand the responsibility that we share in slowing the spread of the virus.

With fire, medical, and security responsibilities on the airplane, we consider ourselves, first and foremost, safety professionals. Our members sounded the alarm on the coronavirus a year ago on our flights from Asia. And since then, we have served on the pandemic's frontlines, coming in contact with hundreds of people on an average workday. Flight Attendants have contracted COVID-19, and we have had a few tragic losses among our ranks. We worry that every time we step on an airplane, we are putting ourselves, our families, and the flying public at risk.

Flight Attendants cannot isolate at home, but we do our best to maintain distance between ourselves, our coworkers, and our passengers. We encounter non-compliant passengers who refuse to wear masks, and we handle passenger discards such as used cups and napkins. We manage medical emergencies without the advantage of proper PPE, all in a work environment that does not afford us the ability to consistently practice safe social distancing.

The Honorable John Carney

January 28, 2021

Page 2

I write to ask for your commitment to including Flight Attendants in the Tier 1B vaccine priority of distribution, as recommended by experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). We accept the risks involved in our high-contact profession, but we ask for respect and acknowledgment for these risks we are taking to keep our critical infrastructure moving. Ensuring that Flight Attendants have access to the vaccine would undoubtedly be that recognition.

If the traveling public is not confident that flight crews are healthy, any attempt to rebuild the economy will be hampered. To succeed with this rapid and complex vaccine distribution, we will need coordination at the federal and state levels. Aviation workers, the backbone of our air transportation system, must be healthy for our supply chains to flow and for the vaccine to be delivered across the country.

To this end, vaccines must be secured for crewmembers, who, by the very nature of our jobs, interact with hundreds of people in airports and airplanes in just a single workday. We recognize that vaccine supply is stretched thin right now, but we ask you in the strongest possible terms to immediately ensure we have access to the COVID-19 vaccine. Please put Flight Attendants and frontline aviation workers in Tier 1B of your vaccination plan. Our economy depends on aviation, and the aviation industry depends on people feeling safe onboard our planes right now.

The 24,000 members of the Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA) thank you for your support, and we implore you to remember Flight Attendants as you evaluate your vaccine distribution plan. APFA is committed to protecting the safety of our members and our passengers, who trust us to transport them safely. I am available to you and your staff if you have any questions about the challenges Flight Attendants face and how we can make air travel safer in these uncertain times.

Sincerely,



Julie Hedrick
National President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants



Kim Kaswinkel
PHL Base President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants



Association of Professional Flight Attendants

*Proudly Representing the **Flight Attendants** of American Airlines*

Office of the President

January 28, 2021

The Honorable Larry Hogan
Governor of the State of Maryland
100 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1925

Dear Governor Hogan:

I write to you today out of a concern for the safety of Flight Attendants. Your great state is home to many American Airlines Flight Attendants, and additionally, flight crews from all over the country take off, land, and layover at your airports every day.

We all understand how the aviation industry could operate as a vector for COVID-19, so our industry has taken many precautions to ensure our passengers' safety. As Flight Attendants, we understand the responsibility that we share in slowing the spread of the virus.

With fire, medical, and security responsibilities on the airplane, we consider ourselves, first and foremost, safety professionals. Our members sounded the alarm on the coronavirus a year ago on our flights from Asia. And since then, we have served on the pandemic's frontlines, coming in contact with hundreds of people on an average workday. Flight Attendants have contracted COVID-19, and we have had a few tragic losses among our ranks. We worry that every time we step on an airplane, we are putting ourselves, our families, and the flying public at risk.

Flight Attendants cannot isolate at home, but we do our best to maintain distance between ourselves, our coworkers, and our passengers. We encounter non-compliant passengers who refuse to wear masks, and we handle passenger discards such as used cups and napkins. We manage medical emergencies without the advantage of proper PPE, all in a work environment that does not afford us the ability to consistently practice safe social distancing.

I write to ask for your commitment to including Flight Attendants in the Tier 1B vaccine priority of distribution, as recommended by experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The Honorable Larry Hogan
January 28, 2021
Page 2

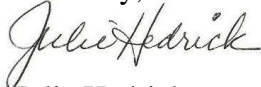
(CDC). We accept the risks involved in our high-contact profession, but we ask for respect and acknowledgment for these risks we are taking to keep our critical infrastructure moving. Ensuring that Flight Attendants have access to the vaccine would undoubtedly be that recognition.

If the traveling public is not confident that flight crews are healthy, any attempt to rebuild the economy will be hampered. To succeed with this rapid and complex vaccine distribution, we will need coordination at the federal and state levels. Aviation workers, the backbone of our air transportation system, must be healthy for our supply chains to flow and for the vaccine to be delivered across the country.

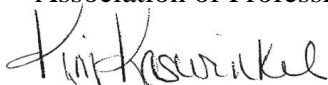
To this end, vaccines must be secured for crewmembers, who, by the very nature of our jobs, interact with hundreds of people in airports and airplanes in just a single workday. We recognize that vaccine supply is stretched thin right now, but we ask you in the strongest possible terms to immediately ensure we have access to the COVID-19 vaccine. Please put Flight Attendants and frontline aviation workers in Tier 1B of your vaccination plan. Our economy depends on aviation, and the aviation industry depends on people feeling safe onboard our planes right now.

The 24,000 members of the Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA) thank you for your support, and we implore you to remember Flight Attendants as you evaluate your vaccine distribution plan. APFA is committed to protecting the safety of our members and our passengers, who trust us to transport them safely. I am available to you and your staff if you have any questions about the challenges Flight Attendants face and how we can make air travel safer in these uncertain times.

Sincerely,



Julie Hedrick
National President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants



Kim Kaswinkel
PHL Base President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants



John Pennel
DCA Base President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants



Association of Professional Flight Attendants

*Proudly Representing the **Flight Attendants** of American Airlines*

Office of the President

January 28, 2021

The Honorable Ralph Northam
Governor of the State of Virginia
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 1475
Richmond, Virginia 23218

Dear Governor Northam:

I write to you today out of a concern for the safety of Flight Attendants. Your great state is home to many American Airlines Flight Attendants, and additionally, flight crews from all over the country take off, land, and layover at your airports every day.

We all understand how the aviation industry could operate as a vector for COVID-19, so our industry has taken many precautions to ensure our passengers' safety. As Flight Attendants, we understand the responsibility that we share in slowing the spread of the virus.

With fire, medical, and security responsibilities on the airplane, we consider ourselves, first and foremost, safety professionals. Our members sounded the alarm on the coronavirus a year ago on our flights from Asia. And since then, we have served on the pandemic's frontlines, coming in contact with hundreds of people on an average workday. Flight Attendants have contracted COVID-19, and we have had a few tragic losses among our ranks. We worry that every time we step on an airplane, we are putting ourselves, our families, and the flying public at risk.

Flight Attendants cannot isolate at home, but we do our best to maintain distance between ourselves, our coworkers, and our passengers. We encounter non-compliant passengers who refuse to wear masks, and we handle passenger discards such as used cups and napkins. We manage medical emergencies without the advantage of proper PPE, all in a work environment that does not afford us the ability to consistently practice safe social distancing.

The Honorable Ralph Northam
January 28, 2021
Page 2

I write to ask for your commitment to including Flight Attendants in the Tier 1B vaccine priority of distribution, as recommended by experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). We accept the risks involved in our high-contact profession, but we ask for respect and acknowledgment for these risks we are taking to keep our critical infrastructure moving. Ensuring that Flight Attendants have access to the vaccine would undoubtedly be that recognition.

If the traveling public is not confident that flight crews are healthy, any attempt to rebuild the economy will be hampered. To succeed with this rapid and complex vaccine distribution, we will need coordination at the federal and state levels. Aviation workers, the backbone of our air transportation system, must be healthy for our supply chains to flow and for the vaccine to be delivered across the country.

To this end, vaccines must be secured for crewmembers, who, by the very nature of our jobs, interact with hundreds of people in airports and airplanes in just a single workday. We recognize that vaccine supply is stretched thin right now, but we ask you in the strongest possible terms to immediately ensure we have access to the COVID-19 vaccine. Please put Flight Attendants and frontline aviation workers in Tier 1B of your vaccination plan. Our economy depends on aviation, and the aviation industry depends on people feeling safe onboard our planes right now.

The 24,000 members of the Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA) thank you for your support, and we implore you to remember Flight Attendants as you evaluate your vaccine distribution plan. APFA is committed to protecting the safety of our members and our passengers, who trust us to transport them safely. I am available to you and your staff if you have any questions about the challenges Flight Attendants face and how we can make air travel safer in these uncertain times.

Sincerely,



Julie Hedrick
National President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants



John Pennel
DCA Base President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants



Association of Professional Flight Attendants

*Proudly Representing the **Flight Attendants** of American Airlines*

Office of the President

January 28, 2021

The Honorable Muriel Bowser
Mayor of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Suite 406
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mayor Bowser:

I write to you today out of a concern for the safety of Flight Attendants. Your great state is home to many American Airlines Flight Attendants, and additionally, flight crews from all over the country take off, land, and layover at your airports every day.

We all understand how the aviation industry could operate as a vector for COVID-19, so our industry has taken many precautions to ensure our passengers' safety. As Flight Attendants, we understand the responsibility that we share in slowing the spread of the virus.

With fire, medical, and security responsibilities on the airplane, we consider ourselves, first and foremost, safety professionals. Our members sounded the alarm on the coronavirus a year ago on our flights from Asia. And since then, we have served on the pandemic's frontlines, coming in contact with hundreds of people on an average workday. Flight Attendants have contracted COVID-19, and we have had a few tragic losses among our ranks. We worry that every time we step on an airplane, we are putting ourselves, our families, and the flying public at risk.

Flight Attendants cannot isolate at home, but we do our best to maintain distance between ourselves, our coworkers, and our passengers. We encounter non-compliant passengers who refuse to wear masks, and we handle passenger discards such as used cups and napkins. We manage medical emergencies without the advantage of proper PPE, all in a work environment that does not afford us the ability to consistently practice safe social distancing.

The Honorable Muriel Bowser
January 28, 2021
Page 2

I write to ask for your commitment to including Flight Attendants in the Tier 1B vaccine priority of distribution, as recommended by experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). We accept the risks involved in our high-contact profession, but we ask for respect and acknowledgment for these risks we are taking to keep our critical infrastructure moving. Ensuring that Flight Attendants have access to the vaccine would undoubtedly be that recognition.

If the traveling public is not confident that flight crews are healthy, any attempt to rebuild the economy will be hampered. To succeed with this rapid and complex vaccine distribution, we will need coordination at the federal and state levels. Aviation workers, the backbone of our air transportation system, must be healthy for our supply chains to flow and for the vaccine to be delivered across the country.

To this end, vaccines must be secured for crewmembers, who, by the very nature of our jobs, interact with hundreds of people in airports and airplanes in just a single workday. We recognize that vaccine supply is stretched thin right now, but we ask you in the strongest possible terms to immediately ensure we have access to the COVID-19 vaccine. Please put Flight Attendants and frontline aviation workers in Tier 1B of your vaccination plan. Our economy depends on aviation, and the aviation industry depends on people feeling safe onboard our planes right now.

The 24,000 members of the Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA) thank you for your support, and we implore you to remember Flight Attendants as you evaluate your vaccine distribution plan. APFA is committed to protecting the safety of our members and our passengers, who trust us to transport them safely. I am available to you and your staff if you have any questions about the challenges Flight Attendants face and how we can make air travel safer in these uncertain times.

Sincerely,



Julie Hedrick
National President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants



John Pennel
DCA Base President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants