



# TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA

AFL / CIO

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Local 562

JFK-LGA-EWR-PHL-SJU-BOS

[www.twu562.org](http://www.twu562.org)

January 26 2012

Dear Brothers and Sisters;

On Feb 1 the TWU Negotiating Committees will be meeting with management at Flagship University in Dallas where the company will present its "Ask" to the union. On January 28 there will be a joint informational meeting at the Union Hall hosted by Attorneys Sharon Levine and Mark Richard at 0800, 1130 and 1500(space limited). No Motions will be made or discussed at this joint meeting. This meeting is to answer any questions you may have on the Bankruptcy process, not what our position will be on specific contractual items. There is a Q&A link at [www.TWUBKFACTS.org](http://www.TWUBKFACTS.org) that can answer many of the questions you have and dispel some of the rumors you may have heard. Keep in mind that despite the name much of the content is legal opinion as well. As we may experience in the theater that is the courtroom, the outcome is never certain. Things that seem pretty cut and dry such as "*Not withstanding sect 365 of this title, neither the court nor the trustee may change the wages or working conditions of the employees of the debtor established by a collective bargaining agreement that is subject to the Railway Labor Act except in accordance with section 6 of such Act*" (U.S.C. 1167) always seem to have a back door that lets the rich and powerful get what they want. The fact is that each BK is different and what happened at other carriers may not be what happens at AA. We should however take heed and give careful consideration to any proposal regardless of the rumors and threats that may pop up along the way. This is not 2003, 2004 or 2005. When our peers went into Chapter 11 their employers could point at the largest carrier in the country at the time, American Airlines, and argue why they needed the concessions they got in order to compete, they needed what we gave up. In maintenance that's no longer the case, we are at the bottom of not only the legacy carriers but some of the LCCs as well. Stores is also far from industry leading. The recently ratified UAL contract puts their highest paid mechanics as high as \$40/hr\* by July and becomes amendable in July of 2013, as you know UPS mechanics top out at \$50/hr. We dragged the industry down in 2003, lets not do it again.

In order to combat rumors I would also like to remind you that the Local has a forum which can be accessed off the 562 website ([www.562.org](http://www.562.org)) where you can discuss the current motions in progress, ask questions or start your own topic for discussion (must relate to Union issues). Membership in the Local and registration is required for access. The address for the forum is [www.twu562.org/forums](http://www.twu562.org/forums)

All scheduled membership meetings for February as of now are cancelled as Steve Gukelberger and I may be required to be present in Dallas for an undetermined period. I will update as things progress.

Fraternally;

Bob Owens  
President

\*Inclusive of Run-up & Taxi premium (\$1/hr) and Cost of Living premium currently restricted to Hawaii(\$2)