



TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA
AFL / CIO

153-33 Rockaway Blvd Jamaica, N.Y. 11434
PHONE# 718-978-5590 FAX 718-978-5651

Bob Owens President
Chuck Schalk Vice President
Steve Gukelberger Treasurer
Joe Urso Recording Secty
Dan Knasick Exec Board 1
Harry Charalambous Exec Board 2
Angelo Ragucci Exec Board 3

Local 562

JFK-LGA-EWR-PHL-SJU-BOS

www.twu562.org

December 21 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters;

The next few months will likely be very challenging. The company's filing for reorganization under C-11 of the Bankruptcy Code has set in motion a couple of things that we must be cognizant of as we go about our daily assignments.

The first thing is that the filing brings the operation under closer scrutiny from the FAA. This is driven by FAA policy that assumes that a carrier in financial distress, whether real or imagined, needs closer observation to ensure compliance. Even to a greater degree than normal it must be assumed that the FAA is there watching everything you do so be sure to have your certificates and applicable paperwork available at all times and the utmost effort must be made to ensure complete compliance. This is the best way to protect yourself from getting caught up in a situation you do not want to end up in.

Another result of the filing was a change in top leadership of the company. Normally we don't really see any affect from such changes on the floor but this time things seem to be different. Things that were once considered tolerable means of expression or healthy stress reducing acts are now being considered to be serious violations of company policy and have lead to disciplinary actions being taken against more than one of our coworkers. It is the opinion of this Local that the decisions to take these actions against our coworkers was made in Dallas, not locally and were uncalled for. While we can't say for sure this comes from the new team it seems to be more than coincidental. Clearly there is an effort afoot to create a sterile, more stressful work environment where workers are expected to remain silent cogs in the machine throughout their tour of duty, and beyond. We believe workers have a right to retain their humanity even in the workplace and that within reason a prank can be a healthy release in an environment that is inherently stressful but we really don't want to make that argument with a member out on the street till it gets heard so I implore you all to be mindful of what's going on and don't do anything that could put you in a position of becoming a victim of this change.

On another note I would like to wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season. We all, regardless of our beliefs share similar objectives in the workplace, and whether we celebrate Christmas, Hanukah, Kwanza, Ashura or even Festivus (excuse my ignorance if I left anyone out) we all face the New Year of 2012 together with all its uncertainties and opportunities, together may we make the best of them.

Fraternally;

Bob Owens

President TWU Local 562