



August 11, 2009

Ms. Mary Johnson, General Counsel
Ms. Kate Dowling, Investigator
National Mediation Board
1301 K Street, N.W.
Suite 250 East
Washington, D.C. 20005

**Re: NMB Case No. CR-6957
Delta Air Lines, Inc. (Flight Attendants)**

Dear Ms. Johnson & Ms. Dowling:

AFA files this position statement regarding the Union's July 27, 2009 Application for Investigation of Representation Dispute in the above-referenced case, and in response to Delta Air Lines' August 11, 2009 filing.

In Delta's August 11 letter to the Board it states that "AFA's letter cites and relies upon the Board's January 7, 2009 decision (36 NMB 36 (2009)) cited above" to support its request for a single transportation system "for the flight attendant craft or class." To be clear, not only does AFA rely on that decision, but, as stated in its July 27 letter, it further relies on the multiple steps subsequently taken by Delta to integrate its operations with respect to its flight attendants. As stated in that letter:

Since the Board's January decision, the Carriers have continued to integrate their respective operations. Regarding the flight attendant craft or class, Delta has, among other things, moved to a single uniform, combined base and onboard service leadership teams, aligned signage in the Carriers' hubs, distributed Delta ID badges to pre-merger Northwest flight attendants in the Atlanta satellite base, submitted its training plans to the FAA, and announced an integrated pass travel policy.

AFA July 27, 2009 letter, pp. 1-2

AFA's representations about Delta's integration activities with regard to the flight attendants craft or class are based, in large part, upon the Company's representations to its employees. Though the Union has independent knowledge of Delta's actions in distributing new ID badges to Northwest flight attendants, and changes in pass travel policy, it has no personal knowledge, for example, of the Delta's actions with regard to the FAA.

As a result, the NMB is required to conduct an investigation to determine if a single transportation system exists for the flight attendant craft or class at Delta. Section 19.5, NMB *Representation Manual*. Delta's request that the NMB forego any further factual investigation is contrary to the Board's rules and established practice.

If you have any questions, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely



Edward J. Gilmartin
AFA General Counsel

cc: Veda Shook

Deirdre Hamilton, Esq.

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