

## **MEC BUSINESS ELITE VEST GRIEVANCE**

On January 19<sup>th</sup>, your MEC Grievance Committee will be arbitrating Greivance 88-77-02-045-09 Reller et. al., also known as the "Vest Grievance." This grievance was filed in April 2009, following the company's announcement that Flight Attendants working in Business Class must wear designated outer garments—the vest, a dress, or a jacket. Obviously, men do not wear the dress, which leaves them with just two options: the vest or the jacket. Women who don't want to wear a dress are required to wear the vest or jacket. Serving aprons are no longer allowed in Business Class. Both male and female flight attendants choosing the vest as a more practical serving piece are required to purchase it at their own expense.

The jacket is an impractical, uncomfortable, and costly option for most Flight Attendants. It is expensive, when dry cleaning and premature replacement for excessive wear and tear during service are factored in.

The arbitrator for this hearing is Silvia Skratek. The Union Board Member will be Kathy Collias with Union witness, LEC 91 President Robert Cannatelli. Presenting on our behalf will be NWA-AFA Staff Attorney Peter Swanson assisted by MEC Grievance Chairs, Patricia Reller and Greg Riffle.

Susan Kramer will present the company's case and the Company Board Member will be David Driscoll. This arbitration marks the first time such a hearing will be held on Union property, at our offices in Bloomington, MN.