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February 16, 2019

Bret Oestreich
National Director
Aircraft Mechanics Fraternal Association (AMFA)
7853 E. Arapahoe Court, Suite 1100
Centennial, OH 80112

Dear Mr. Oestreich,

On February 15, 2019, Southwest Airlines Senior Director of Technical Operations Production, Lonnie Warren, issued a memo to hundreds of the airline's Aircraft Maintenance Technicians represented by the Aircraft Mechanics Fraternal Association (AMFA). The Transport Workers Union of America, represents over 17,000 flight attendants at Southwest Airlines and our union strongly supports the AMFA Aircraft Maintenance Technicians who provide our Flight Attendants with what have been historically among the most safe and reliable aircraft in the industry.

Aircraft Technicians at Southwest, and every other airline, should never have to perform this crucial work in an atmosphere of threats and intimidation. Yet that is exactly what the letter by Lonnie Warren is designed to accomplish. The fact that an airline executive would deliberately heap additional stress onto the backs of Aircraft Technicians is a clear indicator that Southwest has lost its compass on aircraft safety. The so called LUV airline has reached a new low.

The TWU stands in solidarity with AMFA Aircraft Technicians. When you are threatened or intimidated it inherently puts our TWU Flight Attendants at risk. It's dangerous and absurd for Southwest to coerce "sick or unwell" Jet Mechanics into performing aircraft maintenance on a commercial jet aircraft. Such coercion is a recipe for disaster, not only for TWU Members, but for Southwest's air travelers.

The TWU and our resources are at your disposal at this critical moment, as you fight back against Southwest's efforts to undermine the safety of your aircraft. Feel free to reach out to us if there is anything we can do to further your goals in this battle to protect the integrity of aircraft your member's maintain.

Your fight is our fight, as we collectively battle back against the despicable notion that corporate profits are more important than passenger and worker safety.

In Strong Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Samuelsen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "J".

John Samuelsen
International President
Transport Workers Union