



**AIR TRANSPORT**



**DISTRICT LODGE 142**

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## **IAM / ExpressJet Airlines Update**

The Union and the Company met August 11 through August 13, 2008 and again on August 20 and 21, 2008 in Houston, Texas to discuss the carrier's request for economic relief in light of significant operational losses and the recently negotiated CPA with Continental Airlines. Jim Ream met with Union officials on August 11 to give an overview of the Company's financial state and why there is a need to cut costs in order to help the carrier survive the economic losses it has suffered.

The Strategic Resources department at our International has been reviewing the Company's finances and working with your negotiators to make sure an agreement can be reached that would give relief to the Company but also make sure that our flight attendants best interests are protected.

Your Union Negotiating Committee, which consists of representatives from the District Lodge and includes representatives from EWR, IAH, and CLE, has been costing items within our contract and seeking solutions that will be in the flight attendants best interest.

The Company released a CIL on August 14, 2008 reporting a change to the Flex program for the employees at ExpressJet. The change would include the removal of the 2% payment paid by the company to the employee group. The change would also require the flight attendant to "purchase" a week of vacation if they choose to take the week. It is the Union's position that this kind of change to the collective bargaining agreement is in violation and can not be made outside of negotiations and membership approval. A grievance has been filed and your Union will do everything possible to rectify this situation.

Meetings will continue next week in Houston on August 26, 2008 to further discuss the carrier's request for economic relief. Please remember that no economic changes can occur without membership approval (ratification).

Sincerely and fraternally,

*Julie Frietchen    Brian Wozniak    Kate Romanousky*

**GENERAL CHAIRPERSONS**

*Dana Fremont/IAH    Audrey Farrish-Lane/EWR    Nicole Washington/CLE*

**NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE**

TH/slb

cc: R. Roach, Jr.  
S. Pantoja  
T. Brickner  
District 142 Executive Board

opeiu #320

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