

# Air Transport District 143

2510 Lexington Avenue South  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55120-1260  
651.688.2640 fax 651.688.7229



International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers AFL-CIO

January 16, 2009

Mr. Perry Cantarutti  
Vice President-Reservations  
NORTHWEST AIRLINES INC.  
2700 Lone Oak Parkway A6353  
Eagan, MN 55121

Dear Mr. Cantarutti:

I am writing today due to your unwillingness to contact my office regarding your recent "Perry's Audio Line" message wherein you make completely inappropriate remarks regarding the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers union.

Throughout a portion of your audio line, you state, "The NMB's decision stopped short of requiring the remaining three unions - IAM, AFA, AMFA - to file for a representation election. While our pilots and other employees of our new combined company are joining together to become unified groups, these remaining unions have not presented any evidence that Delta and Northwest are not a single transportation system." It is abundantly clear to me, Mr. Cantarutti, that you are either completely ignorant, or simply incompetent in understanding how the process works: the legal process – not Delta's process. Unlike other labor organizations that chose to sell their seniority, the IAM will not simply accept compensation in order to "speed up" the regulatory approval process, process that is supposed to be unbiased and not interfered with by members of Delta's management, including you.

Additionally, you continue to yammer on stating, "According to the law, the company cannot call for a representation election. But particularly with the NMB ruling, there is no reason why the IAM cannot file for an election, yet they're not doing it. Every day they refuse to file for an election they are refusing to respect your right to choose. You deserve that right, and I am hopeful that the IAM will call for a representation election soon." I find it fascinating that you, of all people, have the audacity to utter the words "respect your right to choose." After all, Mr. Cantarutti, it is you who has continued to instruct your management co-workers to remove any and all IAM literature from the workplace and threaten to discipline union officers and union members who discuss or hand-out union material, yet you claim that our members deserve the right to choose – so I say to you, Mr. Cantarutti, then let them, without interference and intimidation from you since you are so concerned.

In closing, Mr. Cantarutti, the IAM does not refuse to respect our membership's right to choose. Examples of your self-loathing audio line accurately illustrate who refuses to respect our membership's lawful rights. If you truly respected our members, you would not spew out such propoganda in your feeble attempts to discredit our membership's right to choose - a right that is apparently dear to you - or so you say.

Respectfully,

Stephen M. Gordon  
President/Directing General Chair

bjk/opeiu#12

cc: J. Oberstar, MN Congressman  
J. Guerrieri, Attorney