



Leo W. Gerard
International President

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Dear Sisters and Brothers:

In the coming days, you will be exercising one of the fundamental freedoms guaranteed to all Americans under federal law – the right to organize and bargain collectively for better wages and working conditions as union members of the AFA-CWA. If we want more opportunities and better lives for our families, unions are one proven, effective way to improve our standards of living. No matter what industry or sector, union members work more safely with fewer accidents for more money and with better benefits than their non-union counterparts.

For many hourly workers employed “at will,” the company can terminate their employment “for any reason or no reason at all,” without severance, pensions or any kind of health insurance continuance. The facts are simple and straightforward: union workers enjoy a better standard of living, more job security, better earnings security and enhanced retirement security over those who work without a union. The choice is yours, and I wanted to personally and strongly encourage each and every one of you to vote “YES” in this most important union representation election.

The “new” Delta Airlines management has already made its case to the combined Northwest and Delta flight attendants through the company’s anti-union “Decision 2010” campaign. Their motivation is simple. Without a doubt, the prospect of 20,000 flight attendants at a global airline without a collective bargaining voice being easier to divide and conquer is incentive enough. Of course, driving wages and total compensation down may be their objective, but as most people already know, union contracts protect wages, benefits and working conditions. Without the assurances of a union contract, can Delta be trusted to do right by all?

Remember to vote YES in this election, and hopefully, nobody will have to take management’s word for it again.

In solidarity,

Leo W. Gerard
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