



Click here to watch an important Negotiations Update from TWU Local 556 President and Lead Negotiator, Audrey Stone.

Things to Know About the Upcoming Officer Election

by Susan Johnson

1. All nominees have until Friday, February 13, 2015 to notify the Board of Election of their intention to run for office.
2. Candidates may begin leaving campaign flyers in your lounge mailbox beginning February 14, 2015.
3. You may receive postal service mailings to your home address with campaign literature. At no time does any candidate have access to your address; the 3rd party responsible for printing and mailing the literature handles all address information confidentially.
4. Candidates may email campaign literature to the address you provided to the Union. Per a decision by the Department of Labor in 2009, the Union must make those email addresses available to any candidate interested in sending literature via Internet. No candidate has access to your email address. The 3rd party vendor responsible for developing and sending the electronic literature handles this confidentially.
5. Ballots will be sent to the last address on file with Southwest Airlines on or about February 24, 2015.
6. Voting opens at noon Central on Sunday, March 1, 2015 and closes Monday, March 16, 2015 at noon Central. Results will be posted on the TWU Local 556 Website as soon as possible.
7. Voting can be done either via Internet or telephone. Telephone voting takes much longer, so be sure to have a strong signal and sufficient time if you decide to use this method.
8. Ballots will be sent to all Flight Attendants, both active and inactive. Voting credentials will not be included for those Flight Attendants who are on probation or who have an Agency Fee Only status.

Do not hesitate to contact the TWU Local 556 Board of Election with any questions or concerns at 800-969-7932 extension 4324. Please ensure you have your most current mailing address on file with Southwest Airlines in order to facilitate receipt of your ballot. And most importantly- make sure you vote, and make sure your friends vote!

Susan Johnson is an Orlando-based Flight Attendant and serves on the TWU Local 556 Board of Election. Susan served on the Negotiating Team's Coordinating Council during the 2002 Contract Negotiations.



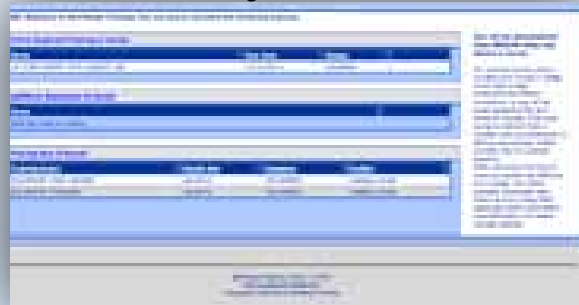
TWU Local 556 Wins Lawsuit

On January 30, justice prevailed in Dallas, Texas in a lawsuit filed by TWU Local 556 against former Union President Stacy Martin, former 1st Vice President Chris Click, and former Treasurer Jerry Lindemann (DC-13-13347). In a unanimous decision by a jury of his peers, Stacy Martin was found to be responsible for costs incurred during his suspension from office, for the unauthorized trials of May 14-15 and the subsequent siege of the Union office of May 18-21, 2013. Additionally, the jury found Stacy Martin responsible for failing to surrender Union property, in the form of a laptop, until the first day of this week's trial.

While this process has been unpleasant for all of us, TWU Local 556 is satisfied that the rule of law and integrity of the TWU Constitution and TWU Local 556 Bylaws were upheld. We thank the Membership of TWU Local 556 for their trust and support throughout this long ordeal.

Recurrent Training

TWU Local 556 has received reports that the online Recurrent Training course is causing frustration for some Flight Attendants. We are reminding Flight Attendants that they must remain connected to SWALife in order for their work to be "saved." If a Flight Attendant is signed out of SWALife, all the online work they've completed since being logged out doesn't register and they must do it again. Please refer to the "HELP document" before starting the course.



Are Your Immunizations Up To Date?

by Michele Moore

With the recent outbreak of Measles, Flu Season and international flights, it's a good time to make sure you are up to date on all of your immunizations.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that every adult over the age of 19 get the following immunizations:

Type of Vaccination	Recommended Immunization Schedule
Influenza (flu)	Yearly
TDP (Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis) . .	Once every 10 years
MMR (Measles/Mumps/Rubella)	1-2 doses between the ages of 19-55
Pneumonia	Recommended if you are 50 or older or for those with a history of breathing or low immune conditions. After 5 years from your initial immunization a booster is also recommended.
Hepatitis B	3 doses are recommended if you have an occupation that has a high risk of exposing you to blood or bodily fluids.



Michele Moore is a Dallas-based Flight Attendant and serves as the TWU Local 556 Occupational Safety and Health Coordinator

If a person is exposed to Measles and has received the recommended MMR vaccinations, or has already had the Measles, it is rare that they will contract the disease. The symptoms to look for are: a high fever, cough, red watery eyes and possibly a runny nose. A rash breaks out three to five days from the onset of the symptoms.

A person who received the Influenza vaccination is still at risk of contracting the flu, but at a lesser level than if not vaccinated at all. Flu symptoms mirror Measles symptoms - the most common being: fever, cough, runny nose, and headache.

Notify the Captain and contact the Medical Consultant anytime you have questions about a Passenger's ability to travel. In addition, following Universal Precautions (FAM, First Aid, 1.2.2) when dealing with medical events onboard our aircraft will safeguard you against disease transmission via bodily fluids. Also, always wear gloves when picking up trash and tidying the aircraft.



Contract Education 101

New to Reserve?

Don't wait to get Educated!

Denny Sebesta is a Dallas-based Flight Attendant and former Member of the TWU Local 556 Negotiating Team. She serves on the Local's Education Committee and is a regular contributor to Unity Magazine and Unity Update.

We have many Flight Attendants who are now experiencing the Reserve system in our current Contract for the first time. Whether you're a New Hire or an SMT graduate who recently transitioned over, it's always good to understand how our Reserve system works. I know for some, reading the Contract language may seem like legal jargon, but take the time to read it, learn it and use the tools readily available to you. The TWU Local 556 Website (www.twu556.org) has a Contract Education page which provides resource sheets, a guide book to understanding the Contract, as well as Contract Live videos starring our very own President and Lead Negotiator, Audrey Stone. Our Contract also has a Q&A section on Reserve in the back (page 233, hard copy). And don't forget, you can always call the Union office, reach out to a Shop Steward or your Domicile Executive Board Member in your base.

There are a few very important items you should definitely remember when sitting Reserve:

1. Always be in your base during your Reserve contact hours or at least within 2 hours driving distance – if not, you put yourself at risk for No Show/UTC and possible discipline that may cost you your job.
2. Be sure to call Scheduling to be released at the end of any assignment, including APSB (exception to this is last assignment of Reserve month carries over into bid line month – *Article 11- Reserve, subsection 3.A.3*).

3. You are allowed to MBL as a Reserve including an APSB assignment, but check out Art 32-Attendance Policy, subsection 12 as some limitations do apply.

Finally, knowing the rules of Reserve can certainly help you understand your contractual rights when you receive that phone call from Scheduling with an assignment or a reschedule situation. Here are some examples:

- How many times can I be required to sit Airport Standby?
- What happens if I receive an unscheduled overnight and how will I be compensated?
- What does my overlap mean?
- How much will I be compensated if I receive reduced crew rest or go over my duty day?
- When do I have to answer my phone?
- How does Reserve Pass/Fly and RDV work?

And the list goes on.... The answer to these questions and more may be found by utilizing the resources available to you: www.twu556.org Resources tab >Contract Education, review the Contract language and always feel free to call the Union Office at 1-800-969-7932.

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TWU Local 556

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