

A Message from TWU 514 President, Dale Danker



WHO'S WORKING ON YOUR AIRPLANE?

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT
The Transport Workers Union of America Local 514



April 17th, 2019

Dear Tulsa Citizens,

The Transport Workers Union of America Local 514 (Tulsa workers) in conjunction with the TWU/IAM Association (representing 30k workers nationwide) have been in contract negotiations with American Airlines since Dec 3rd, 2015. It has become clear that what was once thought of as a good idea to merge American Airlines with US Airways has now become an unwelcome reality.

American Airlines has been doing much of its own maintenance in Tulsa dating back to 1946. For decades American has been one of Oklahoma's largest employers. That trend started shifting after 911 and continues to this day. American, United, Delta and Southwest Airlines have been outsourcing USA jobs to low cost foreign maintenance facilities while the airline CEO's continue to reward themselves by perpetuating this unsafe practice. In our current contract negotiations, American has made clear their intent to offshore even more jobs through attrition. American says they will promise current workers a job until they retire but will not replace them. This means your sons and daughters can no longer look forward to a career in aviation here in Tulsa. The union workers have made great sacrifices to keep American Airlines jobs in Tulsa and to keep the safety of its aircraft second to none. Aircraft maintenance work accomplished in the United States is inherently safer with far greater FAA oversight. If you get on a major airline to fly for business or pleasure, it's increasingly likely the aircraft your boarding has been worked on by mechanics in foreign places, e.g. El Salvador, Brazil and China. It is not uncommon these days to turn the news on and hear of a fatality Airline crash. Safety should always be the #1 priority.

Looking back in history, American's Tulsa Base had approximately 7,300 workers in 2003. As the outsourcing continues to grow, the Tulsa Base has reduced its workers down to approximately 4,200. Will American Airlines stay in Tulsa after we retire? Currently our average age is 58 years old. Most Union aviation contracts are for 5 years. Will they stay in Tulsa or leave? Safe Airline travel should be every citizen's #1 priority when they or a loved one flies.

The Transport Workers Union of America along with the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers will have a Rally in Tulsa today April 17th, 2019 to bring awareness of this unsafe practice to offshore work to foreign countries.

AMERICAN SHOULD MEAN AMERICAN!!!!!!

Sincerely,

Dale Danker

President TWU Local 514



Who is the Transport Workers Union (TWU) of America?

We are comprised of nearly 140,000 members across the airline, railroad, transit, universities, utilities and services, and gaming sectors in the United States transportation system. The union is committed to preserving the rights and dignity of these workers and promoting the safety of the people we serve.