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Ron Barnett

## Candidate for Council 20 First Officer Rep

Fellow Council pilots,

My name is Ron Barnett and I am seeking your support for nomination as DTW Council 20 First Officer Representative.

As pilots we come with many backgrounds and varied outlooks, but when Captain Chesley “Sully” Sullenberger made the following statements before congress: *“The bankruptcies were used by some as a fishing expedition to get what they could not get in normal times. The reduced compensation has placed pilots and their families in an untenable financial situation. I do not know a single professional airline pilot who wants his or her children to follow in their footsteps.”* They were statements that every Delta pilot could agree upon.

Having been a child of “Airline Parents” and now having two children of my own, I cannot echo Sully’s words or sentiments loud enough. I am a current DTW A330 first officer. I was hired by Northwest in April 1996 and have flown the DC9 and A320. Prior to my career here, I flew for Chautauqua Airlines a USAir commuter for 6.5 yrs. I have flown as Captain on the Saab 340 and Metro III. **I do not want my children to follow in my footsteps at this time.**

The merger of Northwest and Delta has been characterized as a merger of equals! Yet, it is only fair that the Union’s goals should be one of obtaining the best from each previous airline and not settling for “it’s not done that way around here.” To date we have lost the call in honest program and 10.5 days for booking a jump seat. These programs are at the heart of losing items that benefit pilots. Again, we should be looking to achieve a golden standard and not just a minimum standard.

Anyone who has been an Airline Pilot for any length of time will tell you that change is a given. Since 9/11 most of the change has not been very positive. My commitment to you as a rep would be to maximize the leverage to better our contract and mitigate the opportunities that management seeks to harm it. If I fail to communicate the actions of **OUR** union in an honest, frank, and timely manner, whatever I do will be lost on you.

Whoever you elect to this position, it is my conviction that they **MUST** represent our collective group's interests fairly and equitably! The challenges ahead for our union and profession will not subside.

Please allow your voice to be heard by participating in the upcoming nominating and election process and write in my name, Ron Barnett, as Council 20 First Officer Representative on the nominating ballot and cast your vote for me in the election.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ron Barnett

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