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**Armando Gomez
For
LEC 44 First Officer Representative**

Fellow pilots, I would be honored if you would nominate me for LEC 44 First Officer Representative by writing Armando Gomez on your nomination ballot. For those of you who don't know me, a brief introduction is in order. I'm a 1984 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. My aviation background is equal parts civilian and military. Prior to my June 1998 hire date, I was a DC-8 pilot at a supplemental carrier and President of its in-house pilot union. As a Delta pilot, I've flown the 737-200, 737N, MD-88, 757/767 and I am currently a 767er first officer. I regularly attend and participate in LEC meetings; I recently wrote and passed two scope related resolutions, and I am an ALPA volunteer. My ALPA volunteer activities have been with the Strike Preparedness Committee and as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Delta Pilot Network. I'm married with three children and live just 30 minutes from the Atlanta airport.

As a Delta pilot I've shared your disappointments and concerns as we've faced the challenges of these last 4 years -bankruptcy, an 1113c, an attempted hostile takeover, and a merger. I also share your justifiable anger at management's use of the leverage of bankruptcy to take not what they needed, but what they wanted. However, at the end of the day that anger won't rebuild our contract and careers. It will take hard work and reasoned judgment based on the facts as they are, not as we wish they were. It will take representatives who will listen to your concerns and take your input, who will build a unified post-merger pilot group and a leadership team that can reach consensus and work together to further the agenda of the Delta pilots.

These are some of the issues I believe are important for a Council representative:

Representation: Defending our contract and your rights is of paramount importance. If management violates our contract, we will defend our contract with all of our resources. We must protect our scope clause, vigorously investigate potential violations and not allow additional outsourcing of our jobs. If you get called into the chief pilot's office, or in front of the FAA, I live locally and would welcome the opportunity to be in your corner and harness all of our available assets to defend your rights.

Building an industry leading contract: Our concessions have been deep, much deeper than necessary, and they have involved every section of our contract. We are the only employee group to have its pension terminated. Through our sacrifice, dedication and professionalism we have been instrumental in propelling Delta Air Lines from bankruptcy to its current status as an industry leader and the world's preeminent global airline. As Delta turns the corner, our return on investment must be significant and include all sections of our contract starting with **pay, scope and retirement**. Contract preparations must include a thorough canvassing of the Delta pilots as well as a comprehensive strategy to deliver the contract you earned through your sacrifice.

Consolidation: We need to be prepared for any eventuality, only support a merger which is in the long term best interest of the Delta pilots and insist on meaningful returns for our support.

Aircrew health and safety: Our international growth has us flying into regions of the world with considerable health and safety risks. While this flying may be profitable to the corporation, it presents considerable risks to our pilots. We need to build on the current Council 44 health initiative and ensure that all possible precautions are taken to protect the health and safety of our fellow pilots.

Tested by adversity we have faced the challenges of the last four years, challenges which have crippled others, yet we have emerged a focused, disciplined and capable pilot group. We will need to draw on these strengths to seize the opportunities ahead. I am confident, that by working together, we can rebuild our contract and careers. I would be honored to represent you and ask that you nominate me for **Council 44 First Officer Representative** by writing **Armando Gomez** on your nominating ballot.

Fraternally,
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