



## ALPAWatch Newsletter

June 23, 2007

Update 6/23/07

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- Petition supporting Resolution to Stop NWA ALPA Leaders from accepting Management Jobs
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**Surveys** 2 Surveys are still open. The original Survey, "Are We Divided" is closing very soon. Please follow this link and take it if you have not already. If you are signed up for Email Updates, you will get a copy of the results of that Survey when it closes.

<http://www.surveymethods.com/EndUser.aspx?AF8BE7FEA7EFF8>

The Second Open Survey, is the "NWA ALPA Ethics Pledge." It is very important that you take this survey and promote it to other pilots.

<http://www.surveymethods.com/EndUser.aspx?9ABED2CF9ADBCB>

Don't Worry if you cant remember if you already took a survey. The Software will only let you take a survey once.

For all that have already taken these surveys, Thank You!

**Petition** On a similar subject as one of the surveys, a fellow pilot (Independently of ALPAWatch) has taken up the issue of NWA ALPA Leaders using our union as a stepping stone to get management jobs. Todd Anthony has introduced a resolution to stop this practice. This same subject is Item Number 6 on the NWA ALPA Ethics Pledge Survey. This practice is at the root of damaging conflict-of-interest behaviors that have undermined our union's effectiveness. ALPAWatch is seeking to stop it (and other bad behaviors) with the ethics pledge. ALPAWatch and Todd Anthony both agree on this issue but we have taken different approaches because of past attempts to stop this practice. Past attempts to stop this by resolution (leading to changes in NWA ALPA Policy Manual) failed on questionable legal opinions. Since then politics and opinions have changed. Todd

believes those legal obstacles may no longer exist. Supporting this Resolution is in the best interest of all NWA Pilots, and therefore ALPAWatch is promoting and assisting Todd's efforts.

ALPAWatch recommends that you sign Todd's Petition (on the wall at DTW mail room and possibly other bases by now). A petition is not required to pass a resolution but with the anticipated resistance that this resolution is likely to encounter, a petition demonstrating the will of the membership may make the difference in getting this passed. If this resolution passes, ALPAWatch will amend the Ethics Pledge to reflect such.

ALPAWatch is working on an On-Line Petition. It is not available yet, so for now you can sign the petition by either:

A) in person, on paper at a base

OR

B) send ALPAWatch and email and we will add you to the petition. Follow these 4 Steps

1. Click here to email ALPAWatch. [alpawatch@comcast.net](mailto:alpawatch@comcast.net)
2. Cut and past this text into the body.  
[*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED* that, effective immediately, the NWA MEC is hereby opposed to any current or former ALPA Officials taking management positions at NWA for a period of at least 48 months after the end of their ALPA MEC / LEC Officer or committee member service, or until the end of the next contract negotiations, whichever is later.]
3. Sign (type) your First and Last name and your employee number.
4. Send.

Side note: There are many issues such as this one that are damaging to our union. While this resolution seeks to stop one of the worst practices, the NWA ALPA Ethics Pledge project is underway to stop this and many of the other damaging practices. That is why participation in the survey (<http://www.surveymethods.com/EndUser.aspx?9ABED2CF9ADBCB>) is so important. Without the support of the membership, these practices will continue and the everyday line pilot will continue to pay the price.

**The "Me Too" Clause and the FA's Contract** The Fight attendants ratified their contract. The unfinished issues on this subject are:

- It was a close vote. A recount of sorts is in the works.

- An audit is underway to determine if the contract meets Bankruptcy requirements. Translation, did they get anything that will allow the Me Too clause to improve our contract.
- Why did our union pass on the opportunity to improve our contract by supporting the Flight Attendants?

Don't expect anything significant to come out of the recount or audit. Do expect an explanation of why our Union leaders passed on this opportunity. Updates about this this subject can be found at <http://www.alpawatch.org/Me%20Too.html>

**Good News!** We have 3 new LOA's (Letters of Agreement) that represent improvements in our contract. In brief they are 100% Deadhead Pay, Return to Open Time and Return to Schedule or better. Details are posted on the NWA ALPA web site, <https://crewroom.alpa.org/nwamec/> Click on the Hotline for Thursday June 14th.

The down side is we dropped an RJ scope grievance to get these 3 LOA's. On the surface, it looks like we broke even. Under the surface, it very concerning that our Scope remains under assault. Don't be surprised if this leads to other offers to improve our contract at the expense of Scope. "Give up 100 seat jets and we will give you this and that." You get the idea.

We must also remain vigilant that any contract improvements are applied in a fair and equal basis across the pilot group.

Watch Out! While this is good news, the pilot group needs to be careful about letting our guard down. The company's plan all along and still is to take millions from us and then lure us back into complacency with a few low cost contract improvements.

Improvements like these three LOA's, while welcome, do not even begin to repair the damage. Accept and appreciate any improvements we get, but don't allow yourself to forget how much we lost and how far we have to go. If the pilot group can be "bought back" for a few low cost contract improvements (as was the company's plan from the start) then we will lose our focus, desire and determination to make a real recovery. Be thankful for the improvements and remain passionate about the need for real, meaningful, long-term improvements.

Along those lines, more good news is the Union's development of a new program, The Career Protection and Recovery (**CPR**) program. June 14th's Hotline states this about the program.

"In addition, the MEC will implement the CPR program to immediately begin a concerted effort to achieve not only a less onerous work environment, but to eliminate the most egregious aspects of the Bankruptcy Contract. Program goals will support demand bargaining by applying maximum lawful pressure on management over a sustained period of time to unify NWA pilots in a collective demand for contractual changes well before the amendable date for RLA Section 6 negotiations."

This program appears to parallel the concepts that ALPAWatch has been presenting to you as the way to repair the damage. More on this as it develops.

**Please Keep Promoting ALPAWatch** We are finding that many pilots have heard about ALPAWatch but have not yet participated. Please help remind them again by....

- Forwarding this email to other NWA Pilots
- Make sure you are signed up for Email Updates and tell them to do the same (if you received this email From: alpawatch@comcast.net, you are signed up) Otherwise go to <http://www.alpawatch.org/contacts.html> to sign up for email updates. It takes seconds. Your name and email address will be kept confidential.
- Take the Surveys
- Tell other NWA Pilots to visit [www.alpawatch.org](http://www.alpawatch.org) for More ways to help ALPAWatch help you.

Thank you again for participating in ALPAWatch. With the participation of pilots such as you, ALPAWatch will be successful in obtaining the Union Leadership that the Pilot Group deserves, and in doing so regain our fair compensation, our quality of life, our future, and our dignity.