



MEC Alert

Hawaiian Airlines Master Executive Council

June 28, 2021

Re: Delaying In-Flight Alcohol Sales to Protect Passengers and Crew

Dear Flight Attendants,

With the recent rise in violent, unruly and disruptive passenger incidents onboard airplanes, as reported by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) at an all-time high, many of these incidents across the country have involved alcohol. As Hawaiian Airlines considers when to resume in-flight alcohol sales, your AFA leadership has sent the attached letter to our Vice President of Inflight Services, Robin Sparling, urging the company to prioritize the safety of our passengers and flying partners by delaying the return of alcohol sales until the national mask requirement on commercial flights ends on September 13, 2021.

We know that Hawaiian Airlines is anxious to resume normal operations, as are we. But we feel the resumption of alcohol sales needs to be delayed. For this reason, we are asking that the company take a clear step in support of Flight Attendants and the families that fly with us by delaying alcohol sales until the mask requirement ends in September.

If you have any questions, please use our MEC Questions Form: [TinyUrl.com/AFAQuestionForm](https://tinyurl.com/AFAQuestionForm)

In Unity,
Joni, Scott, Chasity, Jaci-Ann, Josh
and the entire AFA Leadership
[AFA-CWA Mutual Respect Policy](#)



ASSOCIATION OF FLIGHT ATTENDANTS – CWA, AFL - CIO
HAWAIIAN AIRLINES MASTER EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

WEBSITE: HAWAIIANAF.A.ORG *FACEBOOK: HAWAIIANAF.A *APP: BY INVITATION

June 25, 2021

Robin Sparling, Vice President of Inflight Services
Hawaiian Airlines
3375 Koapaka Street G-350
Honolulu, HI 96819

Re: Delaying In-Flight Alcohol Sales Will Protect Passengers and Crew

Dear Robin,

As Hawaiian Airlines considers when to resume in-flight alcohol sales, the Hawaiian Airlines Flight Attendants urge you to prioritize the safety of our passengers and flying partners by delaying the return of alcohol sales until the national mask requirement on commercial flights ends on September 13, 2021.

As you know, in recent months, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has documented an unprecedented rise in violent, unruly, and disruptive passengers, including many travelers who refuse to abide by federal mask requirements.¹ The FAA's most recent public reporting included more than 3,000 incident reports from airlines and a record number of enforcement actions to fine passengers and enforce aviation safety rules.² FAA Administration Steve Dickson described the incidents as "alarming" and "something we need to get under control" when he extended the FAA "zero tolerance" policy for passenger misconduct. Many of the most violent and disruptive incidents across the country have involved alcohol. Across the country, national carriers, including American Airlines, Southwest and United Airlines, have responded to the increased safety risk by delaying all or some alcohol sales onboard.³

In our industry, safety must always come first. We know that Hawaiian Airlines is anxious to resume normal operations, as are we. We also appreciate the airline developing new resources and tools to support our work and improve compliance. But it is clear to us that early resumption of alcohol sales will hurt these efforts. For this reason, we ask that the company take a clear step in support of Flight Attendants and the families that fly with us by delaying alcohol sales until the mask requirement ends in September.

Sincerely,

Joni Kashiwai
MEC President
AFA-CWA, Hawaiian Airlines

¹ <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/faa-chief-concerned-uptick-unruly-passengers/story?id=77745303>

² <https://www.cnn.com/travel/article/unruly-airplane-passengers-faa/index.html>

³ <https://www.forbes.com/sites/elvaramirez/2021/06/01/airlines-ban-alcohol-during-flights-following-a-spike-in-unruly-passengers/?sh=3e1520e47aea>