



January 19, 2022

Dear Flight Attendants,

**Recall Notification via Remind Texts**

AFA has been notified In-Flight Crew Scheduling will soon start sending recall notifications via Remind text messages. All Flight Attendants were initially enrolled to receive these texts, but if you opted out at any point, please see the instructions below to opt back in.

**For HNL Crew Scheduling notifications:** Text @dd32f4 to phone #: 81010

**For LAX Crew Scheduling notifications:** Text @f23ff8 to phone #: 81010

**For Traffic notifications:** Text @9ch73h to phone #: 81010



Crew Scheduling will send two TEST messages via Remind to verify if you are correctly receiving these messages.

- First test: **Friday January 21st at 11:00HST**
- Second test: **Saturday January 22nd @1100HST**

If you are opted in but **do not** receive these messages please email:

[Patrick.Chung@Hawaiianair.com](mailto:Patrick.Chung@Hawaiianair.com) & [Terrance.Chariandy@Hawaiianair.com](mailto:Terrance.Chariandy@Hawaiianair.com) to review your status.

**Free At-Home COVID-19 Tests**

The Biden Administration and USPS have launched the website to order at-home COVID tests for free. The website began operating at limited capacity yesterday to ensure a smooth launch today, according to the White House. The information is public and is being distributed to all Flight Attendants.

**Place Your Order for Free At-Home COVID-19 Tests**

Residential households in the U.S. can order one set of 4 free at-home tests from USPS.com. Here's what you need to know about your order:

- Limit of one order per residential address
- One order includes 4 individual rapid antigen COVID-19 tests
- Orders will ship free starting in late January

Order Now: <https://www.covidtests.gov/>

**5G Disruptions Due to Safety Concerns**

You've likely heard about the potential of disruptions to air travel in late December as AT&T and Verizon were cleared by Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to turn on their 5G spectrum networks on January 5th. The problem is potential interference with aircraft instrumentation that is used for navigation, especially in low visibility situations.



AFA worked with ALPA, Chair of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Peter DeFazio, FAA, DOT, manufacturers, and our airlines to put in place a temporary two-week delayed implementation, and then a six-month full review of safety around 50 airports while a review of aircraft and their unique systems continued too.

Last night, we hit the end of those two weeks and telecoms have only so far addressed about 45% of the concerns identified by FAA. Throughout the course of yesterday, our union has worked to prevent the disruptions. This afternoon, AT&T and Verizon agreed to delay 5G implementation near some airports. This is helpful, but the late-breaking agreement means operational disruptions, especially in low visibility situations, over the next few days are still likely.

**What is 5G and what does it mean for aviation:** In late December 2021, AT&T and Verizon were cleared by FCC to turn on a new 5G C-band spectrum networks early this year. Although 5G is already used around the U.S., the new C-Band may cause interference with flight deck radio altimeters. Altimeters are crucial pieces of equipment that measure the distance between the aircraft and the ground and support other systems on the aircraft. Altimeters help pilots land in low visibility situations. The issue is with the cell phone towers, not individual cell phone devices.

**Why wasn't this addressed sooner:** FCC Chairman Ajit Pai has ignored concerns raised in 2018 and since by the airlines, ALPA, manufacturers, and Chair DeFazio. It is not true that these issues were only raised at the last minute.

Further, our U.S. telecommunication companies are not regulated like they are in other countries. As Chair DeFazio has stated repeatedly, "nearly every other country that has deployed 5G has imposed some level of restrictions on its use to protect against harmful interference with aircraft. These include reducing the power levels of 5G transmissions, requiring more extensive exclusion zones at airports, ensuring 5G operates at a farther distance from the aviation frequency band or limiting the directional tilt of certain 5G broadband antennas, among other things."

We continue to advocate for a permanent solution. Aviation and 5G can coexist but lives always come first. The skies are our workplace, and it is critical that we take all steps to protect America's leading position in aviation safety.

### **Scholarships and Free College for AFA Flight Attendants & Family**

Our AFA-CWA membership provides opportunities for at least three different scholarships, and the ability to earn a degree with no out of pocket expense for tuition, fees, and e-books. Apply now to one or all three!

**AFA:** This is a scholarship funded by AFA. Applications must be postmarked by April 10, 2022. Details to send to members are on the AFA website ([afacwa.org/scholarships](https://afacwa.org/scholarships)).

**CWA:** This is the Joe Beirne Scholarship offered by CWA. The deadline for applications is April 30, 2022. Details on this scholarship are on the CWA website ([cwa-union.org/pages/beirne](https://cwa-union.org/pages/beirne)).

**Union Plus:** There is a suite of scholarships, educational discounts, and loans available for union members ([unionplus.org/college-education-financing](https://unionplus.org/college-education-financing)). One additional "click" brings up the scholarship applications that may be submitted online by the deadline of January 31, 2022.

This big change will affect everyone differently. Please do not hesitate to reach out to an EAP Representative as we have resources that can help navigate you through these times.

AFA Employee Assistance Program: <https://www.hawaiianafa.org/eap>

AFA Navigating Change Guide: [Navigating Change Document](#)

HA Employee Assistance Program: [Life Matters](#)

And as always please send any questions to the Questions Form link: [TinyUrl.com/AFAQuestionForm](https://tinyurl.com/AFAQuestionForm)

In Unity,  
Joni, Scott and Chasity  
[AFA-CWA Mutual Respect Policy](#)