



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

Aviation Safety

800 Independence Ave., S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20591

JUN 27 2019

June 24, 2019

Mr. Robert Isom  
President  
American Airlines  
4333 Amon Carter Blvd  
Fort Worth, TX 76155

Mr. Alex Garcia  
International Executive Vice  
President  
Transport Workers Union  
Director, TWU/IAM Association  
501 3rd Street, NW, 9th Floor  
Washington, DC 20001

Mr. Sito Pantoja  
General Vice President  
International Association of  
Machinists and Aerospace  
Workers  
Vice Director, TWU/IAM  
Association  
9000 Machinists Place  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Dear Messrs. Isom, Garcia, and Pantoja:

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is aware of the litigation filed by American Airlines, Inc. (American) against the Transport Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO (TWU), International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM), and Airline Mechanic and Related Employee Association TWU/IAM (collectively, the Union) in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas on May 20, 2019. The FAA is not a party to that litigation and is neutral regarding the labor negotiations that are ongoing between American and the Union.

The FAA cautions that a breakdown in the relationship between American and the Union raises concern about the ongoing effectiveness of the airline's safety management system. Safety is a shared responsibility of American and Union members that demands a collaborative culture, irrespective of any ongoing controversy between the organizations.

In the midst of the litigation, I write to emphasize the importance of ensuring cooperatively, in accordance with FAA standards, the highest level of safety in the airline's operations. The FAA trusts that American and the Union will strive to ensure that any judicial order in the litigation does not constrain appropriate safety activities.

The FAA looks forward to continuing to work together to serve the traveling public.

Sincerely,

Ali Bahrami  
Associate Administrator for Aviation Safety