

AIR TRANSPORT



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Via Email

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International President
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SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO TWU PRESIDENTS LETTER

Dear Chief of Staff to the International President Johnsen:

As you are aware, the presidents of the three TWU local lodges that represent Legacy American Airlines (LAA) mechanic and related workers wrote a misleading and disrespectful letter to TWU International President, John Samuelson. They demanded that the TWU-IAM Association be dissolved for mechanic and related workers at the carrier and blamed the Machinists Union for their individual failings as TWU Local Lodge Presidents.

TWU Presidents Gary Schaible, Dale Danker and Rollie Reeves wrongly claimed in their letter that the TWU's association with the IAM at American Airlines damages the TWU's ability to organize and represent their members. Schaible, Danker and Reeves also falsely state it was the TWU alone that negotiated the industry-leading terms in the joint contract that was bargained and ratified by Association-represented mechanic and related workers at American Airlines in 2020 by a 90 percent margin. Lastly, and quite possibly the most outlandish and foolish claim, is that the IAM was to blame for the recently-failed AMFA raid.

This letter is to set the record straight regarding the outright lies of Schaible, Danker and Reeves. We also request that you engage the TWU top leadership to resolve this very important matter, so that TWU-IAM Association members at American Airlines have the best representation possible.

First, as you know, Gary Schaible, did not attend negotiations for years and only came in at the very end. Second, Danker and Reeves refused to take part in bargaining and instead spent much of

their time, and the dues dollars of TWU members, walking around Washington, DC sightseeing instead of doing their jobs on behalf of those they represent. The fact is, Danker and Reeves were no-shows during negotiations and their only goal was to divide the negotiations committee. The industry-leading mechanic and related joint contract at American Airlines was reached despite the divisive actions of Schaible, Danker and Reeves.

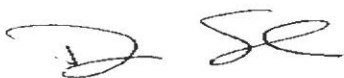
Schaible, Danker and Reeves further state that the TWU-IAM Association hampers TWU's ability to organize new mechanic and related workers. The truth is, the only union Schaible, Danker and Reeves are organizing for is AMFA. It's no secret that AMFA was born on American Airlines, and by their actions Schaible, Danker and Reeves support AMFA's raiding actions at American. As you likely know, AMFA's strongest support was in Tulsa, Danker's domicile, and with line AMTs in many LAA locations under Schaible's watch. Since AMFA's raid was dismissed by the National Mediation Board (NMB), due to the hard and detailed work done by Association representatives, Schaible, Danker and Reeves and their AMFA-supporting constituents are crying foul. The next best thing for them is to destroy the TWU-IAM Association and besmirch the good reputation of the Machinists Union, an AFL-CIO sister union.

Schaible, Danker and Reeves also foolishly claim that their members never had a say in the creation of the TWU-IAM Association and were promised a vote. Another lie. The National Mediation Board (NMB) certified the TWU-IAM Association as the bargaining representative at American Airlines for the mechanic and related, fleet service and storekeeper classes and crafts. Instead of engaging in a costly, divisive representation election, both the TWU and IAM rightly decided to join forces and fight American Airlines for the best contract possible and not fight each other. That strategy worked and was the right thing to do for IAM and TWU members. Because Schaible, Danker and Reeves refused to educate TWU members regarding the Association certification process is their failing. Moreover, by shirking their official responsibility to educate TWU members, Schaible, Danker and Reeves bolstered AMFA's propaganda and lies.

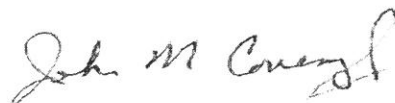
The sad fact is, Schaible, Danker and Reeves didn't, and don't, have the desire or inner fortitude to educate their constituents on how the Association was created. All they have ever done, and continue to do, is bad mouth the Association and feed into the AMFA's divisive, bottom-feeding strategy of raiding the organized.

We stand behind the Association and are very proud of the many accomplishments that have been achieved to date. We look forward to working to build our power at American Airlines with our Association partners. American Airlines Association members deserve nothing less.


In solidarity,



David Supplee
President/Directing
General Chair



John Coveny
General Chair



Kenneth Coley
General Chair



Michael Cicconi
General Chair



David Figueira
General Chair



Bill Wise
General Chair

DS/et. al./cg

cc: Edison Fraser
Thomas Regan

OPEIU #277