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April 27, 2022

Dear Leaders:

I humbly ask for your vote to continue to serve as International President of the greatest union on the earth. I ask for your forgiveness that doing the work of our union and stumbling through a messy recovery of my second hip surgery delayed this message to you. Let there be no doubt, it is the honor of my life to lead the union that fearless, determined women designed for us to have as our own. They gave us the means to not only make our way but make waves that today no one can ignore.

In the past four years – the worst of times - we've been called 'powerful' more times than I can count. We stood up for our sisters and brothers who were out of work or forced to work for free in the longest government shutdown in U.S. history. The shutdown threaten our safety and the safety of the those in our care. We made sure everyone knew we wouldn't fly with lives at risk. We led again only six weeks later when it became clear our safety and credibility as a nation was on the line after 346 lives were lost on the two tragic crashes of the Boeing 737Max. We also forced the foreign airline that had sought to destroy our jobs through a flag of convenience model to negotiate with us and secured protections for AFA members just before COVID-19 hit hard. And we designed and won three times the relief plan that saved our jobs, our airlines, those who count on us, and our future.

None of this would have ever been possible if our union wasn't built on the power of solidarity. Stronger together, better together. We were in position to close out contracts and even lock in gains. We learned from the past 20 years of fallout from crisis and Wall Street's efforts to make us work harder for less. We staved off the worst, but now we're in position to get the best and advance the demands of Flight Attendants today. We're making the only major airline without a Flight Attendant union pay more because we're supporting the organizing efforts of Delta Flight Attendants. Delta can afford to pay a lot more. And, we're organizing at Skywest, as well as new start-up airlines to keep anyone from undercutting our careers. Organizing is the only way we'll push forward to bridge the gap, achieve adequate staffing, stop poisoning of crew with contaminated bleed air, calm our skies, afford to live where we work, and gain the time to enjoy our lives too.

Twenty-five years ago, I got involved because another AFA member helped me when I was in crisis and didn't know where to turn. I stayed involved because I loved the people I flew with and believed we deserved so much more. I learned by challenging what I didn't understand and standing with leaders who refused to back away from a single fight. I felt a calling when, in the midst of our grief and suffering, the corporate pigs stole our time, our money, our pensions, and our good healthcare. They knew what to do because they'd done it to workers in other industries too. Their playbook was the same. Unoriginal, but the disgusting dirty tricks worked.

Along the way I've learned a lot about power and what we can do when we stand together, with clear demands, and an urgent call to action. It is urgent that we stand together now, and I am proud to stand with you. You are my family and my home. I ask for your vote and your support to make the most of what we've learned and built, to make our careers and the lives we live with our families better than ever. I look forward to hearing your ideas, needs, and vision for our future too.

In Solidarity,

