

# WORKERS HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE FOR STRONGER AMERICA

A MESSAGE FROM GENERAL PRESIDENT JAMES P. HOFFA



With the 2016 election for president, senators and representatives growing closer, working families must focus on finding a viable path forward that empowers them to have a voice in government. By doing so, they can help shape pro-worker and pro-family policies that reward their hard work with

fair wages and benefits.

The November election will determine the future for these candidates for office. But more importantly, it will determine the policy direction of this country on issues that affect not only today's workers, but generations to come.

No two issues are more important to Teamsters today than pension security and fair trade.

We must elect candidates who will stand up for working

men and women by protecting their retirement security. Those who earned their pensions and played by the rules must get the secure retirement they invested in for decades. It's just a matter of fairness.

On trade, we must stop the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), a proposed 12-nation Pacific Rim trade deal that could end up shipping hundreds of thousands of jobs overseas while also lowering the salaries of many who continue to work stateside. For years, the Teamsters have taken aim at the TPP because it jeopardizes the future of too many hardworking Americans.

This nation has increasingly lost its way when it comes to taking care of its own. Income inequality is up and the voting rights of minorities and the poor have been challenged. That needs to stop. But it only will if the people themselves stand up in November and demand to be a greater part of the process.

Workers will decide if it that happens.



Teamsters Airline News  
25 Louisiana Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20001



# AIRLINE News



James P. Hoffa, General President | Ken Hall, General Secretary-Treasurer | Capt. David Bourne, Division Director

## VOTE IN THE TEAMSTER ELECTION

- ✓ Your Right
- ✓ Your Responsibility

There is no shortage of forces trying to stamp out the labor movement. For years, we have seen overzealous politicians and legislatures attempt to roll back labor rights that have taken a century for workers to earn. Rank-and-file Teamsters have the opportunity to send a message and tell these anti-labor think tanks, media outlets and politicians that they still care about the labor movement.

In October, Teamster members will receive a ballot for the 2016 International Election. It is the right and the responsibility of every Teamster to vote in these upcoming elections for International General President, General Secretary-Treasurer, At-Large Vice Presidents, Regional Vice Presidents and Trustees.

By voting, Teamsters show how involved the membership is; they show Teamsters pay attention to the issues affecting them; they show that the labor movement is vibrant and alive.

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## ALLEGANT PILOTS RATIFY HISTORIC AGREEMENT

First Contract Follows Three-Year Push

More than three years after bargaining, Allegiant Airlines pilots represented by Local 1224 ratified their first union contract with the airline on July 28, 2016. With 95 percent of Allegiant's voting mechanics voting, 86 percent voted to ratify the agreement.

The agreement includes substantial improvements in compensation, benefits and scheduling. The contract is a major victory for the pilots who have been working tirelessly to raise standards at the low-cost carrier. Members will immediately receive up to 31-percent pay increases, high-quality health insurance and greater job security. This agreement also gives pilots, for the first time, the full job protections of a contract, a critical component to a safe working environment. This will include full participation in critical FAA safety programs.

"I'm incredibly proud of this victory," said Capt. David Bourne, Director of the Teamsters Airline Division. "After years of hard work, our members have a first contract. I want to thank all of the pilots for demonstrating the true meaning of Teamster unity and strength. I want to thank the company for helping us get to this point. Everyone at Allegiant Airlines just took a big step forward."

### Determination and Resilience

"The Allegiant Airlines pilots have demonstrated tremendous determination and resilience over the last several turbulent years,"

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## TEAMSTER STRENGTH FOR THE LONG HAUL

Recently, I had the pleasure of attending the Teamsters 29th International

Convention. I had the opportunity to meet many of our members and discuss how the Teamsters have helped improve their lives. It filled me with pride to hear stories

about how our members have been lifted out of poverty, given job security and afforded excellent benefits because of the power of our union.

Stories like those speak to our core values as Teamsters and underscore the importance of our work. It gives you strength for long battles to unionize a group of workers or deliver a fair contract. Our NetJets dispatchers are now operating under their first contract following a five-year campaign to get to this point. Now their wages are significantly better, their benefits are greater and their jobs are protected.

After four years, we've also reached an agreement with Allegiant Airlines on a contract that will cover over 700 Teamster pilots and contains improvements in wages, benefits and workplace protections. Our members fight these battles because they know that the Teamsters can help provide for themselves and their families. No matter how long the fight takes, I am confident that we will prevail.



## Allegiant Pilots Ratify Agreement

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said Local 1224 President Daniel C. Wells. "Their professionalism, courage and unity in the face of adversity have been truly remarkable to watch, and they have earned the respect of their fellow pilots throughout the industry."

Tom Pozdro, an Allegiant pilot based out of Las Vegas, addressed the Teamsters 29th International Convention, where he talked about the triumph the pilots felt after securing a first contract.

"The Teamsters have driven a deeper commitment to a culture of safety and responsibility at Allegiant, something the pilots take very seriously," Pozdro said. "We first voted to have the union represent us in 2012 and we now have our first contract, a binding agreement that includes greater job security, increased wages and better benefits. None of this would've happened without the steadfast guidance we received from the Teamsters and Local 1224."

"Since we voted to join Local 1224 in 2012, we have been committed to working with the company to reach a contract that fairly rewards the pilots for their vital contribution to the company's operations and success," said Capt. Scott Whitman, Chairman of the Allegiant Airlines Pilots' Negotiating Committee. "Our agreement with the company meets that objective, and I believe the pilots will be proud to work under it."

The contract will run for five years and took effect on August 1.

## VOTE In The Teamster Election

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 **Your Right**  **Your Responsibility**



The only thing voting will cost is the time it takes to learn about the issues and the ink it takes to mark the ballot. Not voting, however, costs much more. It sends a message to employers, politicians and the public that as voters, Teamster members don't value democracy.

Voter turnout is critical to building a healthy democracy. A union is not a corporation. Members are more than shareholders who are valued by their holdings. Rank-and-file Teamsters have an unprecedented say in the future of the union that many other international union members don't have. Each Teamster has an equal voice in these elections and every vote counts.



## PIEDMONT MECHANICS RATIFY CONTRACT

*Five-Year Agreement Includes Wage Increase*

Approximately 300 Piedmont Airlines mechanics from Locals 210, 355 and 776 voted overwhelmingly to ratify a five-year contract with the carrier. More than 83 percent of voting mechanics cast their ballots in favor of the agreement.

The agreement was reached on May 26 and contains a 7-percent signing bonus and a 13-percent wage increase over the life of the agreement. Job security and furlough language are also vastly improved.

"I'm pleased that the workers have chosen to ratify this strong contract," said Capt. David Bourne, Director of the

Teamsters Airline Division. "The wage increases within this agreement are outstanding. We want to make sure regional jobs can become long-term careers for Teamsters. With this vote today, the workers have taken an important step toward that goal."

"We're happy with today's outcome," said Bob Luciano, lead negotiator for the Piedmont Airlines mechanics. "Turnout was reflective of the investment that these workers have made in themselves and their interest in raising standards for the entire regional industry. I'd like to thank our committees for all of their

hard work during the voting period and the rank and file for turning out and exercising their right to vote."

"I'm happy there are improvements in the company's contributions toward our 401(k) and that medical premiums will be capped at the end of the term," said Jim Layman, a nine-year mechanic at Piedmont. "The improvements in this contract ensure that the folks who have given years of service to this carrier will be taken care of at the end of their careers. We are grateful that the Teamsters have taken care of us in this contract, like they always do."