

Reduction In Force

All employees from both Delta and Northwest would do well to acquaint themselves with the Reduction in Force Process for baggage handlers, ticket agents, reservation agents and some other classifications published on Deltanet. Some Delta employees who are affected by the displacement process may be out of luck. Consider the following from Deltanet:

“Employees who are affected by the displacement process can not displace another employee, transfer to an open position, or be recalled, if they have disqualifying discipline. Disqualifying discipline includes active probation letters and a Final Warning Letter issued within a year of the possible displacement, transfer or recall. Employees that have disqualifying discipline cannot participate in the displacement process, cannot transfer to an open position and will be placed on a furlough status. Employees cannot be recalled or return to an open position until the probationary period has ended and/or a year has passed since their final warning was issued.”

Compare this to Article 11 of the Black Book Contract (Ramp) and Article 13 of the Gray Book Contract (Passenger Service) – Reduction in Force, Recall and Realignment. It says, “When it becomes necessary to reduce the workforce at any bid location, seniority shall govern.”

There is no disqualifier about letters of discipline, probation or final warnings. IAM members own their seniority. The Company does not.

Unity Party – We want to remind all Northwest IAM members and Delta baggage handlers, supply attendants, reservation agents, ticket agents, Crown Club employees from throughout the U.S. that you have been invited by IAM Local 141 in DTW to their Unity Party. The event starts at 5PM on Saturday, August 1, 2009. See their website, locallodge141.com, for details.

Aircraft Damage – According to Delta baggage handlers in ATL, as of June 1, aircraft damage has exceeded the total for last year. These rampers say they think the increase in aircraft damage is due to a big increase in the use of Ready Reserve and lack of training. Computer based training has largely replaced hands on training, they say. OSHA clearly states in a letter of interpretation that “computer based testing should not be the main source for training. It should be used to supplement classroom and hands on training.”

New York City Rally – Imagine this, thousands of union members, airline workers and other transportation workers in Times Square, New York City. There to support the right of Delta and Northwest workers to unionize, there to fight for the rights of airline workers caught up in mergers. That will be the scenario on Wednesday, August 19 at 12 Noon. We need everyone who is available to be in NYC to participate in this Solidarity Rally. In the proceeding 3 days the Delta organizing drive will be the central issue discussed at the IAM Transportation Conference in New York. If you can come with us on August 19, please call 612-726-2219.