

RED TALES

(612-726-2230) Newsletter of the MSP ESSC Shop Committee (612-201-0383)

Special Edition

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Delta Management Charges

Anger Workers

On Friday, April 2 the MSP ramp was abuzz because of articles carried in the Minneapolis Star Tribune, Pioneer Press and USA Today. The articles repeated charges by Delta management that IAM union organizers had frightened “spouses, parents or children who were home alone.” The articles also said that IAM organizers had “blocked a driveway, preventing an employee from leaving his home to come to work.” These charges were repeated verbatim from statements put out by top Delta executives.

This didn't make sense to IAM members in MSP because many of us know some of the organizers. They are polite, mature and considerate people. One ESE said “Why would we harass people we are trying to convince to support the union. It would be counterproductive. Delta's making all of us look like thugs.” Some in MSP have family or friends in ATL who were visited by union members. None reported being harassed.

The Real Purpose

The real purpose of the Delta memos and newspaper articles is becoming clearer. The tactic is designed to poison

the atmosphere against IAM members and pro union PMDL employees because of the success the union is having. Of the hundreds and hundreds of Delta workers who were visited, a majority either signed union cards or had cordial discussions with organizers. Many were invited in for extended periods of time. Away from the eyes of Delta management workers felt far more free to talk about the union.

Delta V.P., Gil West says in a memo concerning alleged harassment that pro union employees can communicate with other employees about the IAM in break rooms at stations where they work. West knows this is not true. In station after station across the country, pro union workers have been told they can not distribute union material or talk about the union. In fact, even elected union reps have been told they do not have access to break rooms to communicate with members.

Live Up To Your Own Policy

We challenge Delta leaders to actually live up to their own advocacy policy and allow a free exchange of ideas. We call on Delta executives to stop poisoning the atmosphere. Let all employees get all the facts, not just your facts. Let your employees make their decision without intimidation.

Redtalesonline.com every Thursday.