



# TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION LOCAL 555

REPRESENTING THE RAMP, OPERATIONS, PROVISIONING, AND FREIGHT AGENTS OF SOUTHWEST AIRLINES  
TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA • AFL-CIO • AIR TRANSPORT DIVISION • TWU555.ORG  
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## **Brothers and Sisters,**

SWA challenged the original A/C Cleaning Arbitration award in Federal Court. Last week we received a decision from the 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals. The decision did not go in our favor. The three judges reversed the District Court's decision where the court ruled favorably for 555.

The language in our Contract remains unchanged supporting our position that the cleaning of SWA aircraft is our work. Your LEB unanimously decided to appeal the decision of the Court and will request that they rehear our case. If the request is accepted, the case will be heard by all 15 of the 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court Judges. Keep in mind they are only deciding the timeliness of our grievance. The Contract states that A/C Cleaning is our work.

This is only the next step in the process and will not be the last. We will keep you informed as we go through this process. The decision has been posted on the website, in its entirety, and we encourage all members to go and read it. It can be found on TWU555.org.

Additionally, we the LEB agreed upon parameters to clarify covered work violations with the Company. These parameters, in our opinion, limits the exposure to a possible adverse ruling, if revisited through the Arbitration process. Any future arbitration decisions could determine the definition of "good portion" as written in the original decision by Arbitrator Barnard. With these parameters we have ensured that we cannot be exposed to more harmful language through the arbitration process and allow an arbitrator to dictate the interpretation of our CBA. The parameters are as follows:

### **Originators**

- Supervisors, at the end of the belt or in the bin, cannot load unassisted on originators more than 30 commodities (bags, freight or Comat) for the entire flight.

### **Turns**

- On turns, Supervisors cannot work unassisted, at the end of the belt or in the bin, for more than a total of 30 on the download and 30 on the upload regardless of bin location.

### **Terminators**

- A Supervisor cannot work unassisted, at the end of the belt or in the bin, in the unloading of terminators and handle alone more than 30 items for the entire flight.

In addition, this process will result in over 100 grievances being settled. The local Station Representative will sit down with the management at each station and determine that the proper member is paid.