TWU Local 555 Safety and Health Committee Advisory

March 12, 2020

COVID-19 Update #1

Brothers and Sisters:

The TWU 555 Safety and Health Committee as well as TWU 555 LEB continues to work with SWA to ensure that all the necessary precautions are being taken to protect our members from exposure to the Human Coronavirus. SWA has committed to the following:

• Providing hand sanitizer for use at work;
• Providing cleaning products for work surfaces;
• Increased overnight cleaning services;
• Larger cities will receive additional janitorial services during the day to sanitize work and break areas;
• Operations agents will be allowed to wear latex gloves.

*If the aforementioned items are not fulfilled by SWA, please alert your district representative.

Now is not the time to panic, but rather to be prepared and have a plan should the virus affect any of us. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has a wealth of information on their website, CDC.gov. Make yourself familiar with the information on the site and be on the lookout for more information from SWA as well as TWU 555.

Below you will find facts about the 2019-nCoV Coronavirus as provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

There is currently no vaccine to prevent 2019-nCoV infection. The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to this virus. CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including:

• Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
• Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
• Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
• Stay home when you are sick.
• Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
• Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
Symptoms to watch for include fever, cough, shortness of breath, trouble breathing, body aches, sore throat or vomiting and diarrhea.

Lastly, concerning the multitude of questions on everyone’s mind regarding furloughs and membership employment, SW has a long outstanding history of avoiding furloughing employees when possible and we expect that to continue. Despite challenges in fiscal year 2019 and continuing in 2020, the Company is secure in its cash reserves and projects lower oil costs will provide a substantial savings to the airline industry.

TWU Local 555 will remain vigilant in monitoring COVID-19 and the SWA response to minimizing ill effects to employees. TWU will provide our membership with updates as needed. Should you have any questions please feel free to contact any member of the Safety Committee.

Source: CDC