



# 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  
ESTABLISHED IN 1996 • 1341 W MOCKINGBIRD LN STE 1050E DALLAS TX 75247 • 1.800.595.7672

April 23, 2021

To: TWU 555 Membership

From: Jerry McCrummen  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

There is a disturbing trend that is being practiced by some stations regarding the scanning of the bags during the offload and the loading of the commodities. The CBA states in Article 5 F. “Receives and records (either manually or by means of an electronic scanner, **worn or held by a Ramp Agent** **Emphasis Added**) Customer baggage, air freight, air mail, and comat as required.” The Union filed a grievance to protect this work and the use of the scanner. In the Chris Wood, MCI-R-3818/19, a grievance that went all the way to arbitration, Arbitrator John Barnard issued the following decision:

“Referring to Joint Ex. 4, a complete version of the new work rules dated November 19, 2019, Article Two, Scope (2), supervisors working alone on the upload of no more than 30 items or, on the download of no more than 30 items, can scan in these described instances.

Due to the formulating of an agreement to define what a “short portion” was, the parties agreed to a policy that Supervisors could handle “30 bags on and 30 bags off.” A cut and dried amount to determine what was and what was not a violation. Arbitrator Barnard in the scanning arbitration ruled that since scanning was an essential and intricate part of a Ramp Agents job, that the policy also applied. They are limited to the same 30 bags criteria.

It would appear as though the Company does not like the ruling and does not agree to the “final and binding decision.” They are attempting and finding creative/disingenuous ways to circumvent and work around the decision. Supervisors are taking the scanner from an agent and standing right by the bin door to scan the loads, out of sight of the cameras, in some stations. If you are asked to give the Supervisor the scanner, prior to giving them the scanner, ensure that you are logged out. **DO NOT EVER GIVE YOUR PASSWORD TO ANYONE!** If the Supervisor is scanning more than 30 bags **FILE THE GRIEVANCE! PROTECT YOUR WORK!** They are not assisting you, they are replacing you! When the grievance is filed make sure that the Scanning Report is included when the grievance leaves the station. If there are any issues, or they refuse to provide the requested document, **give me a call at (214) 908-7238.**