

# Chairman's Message

Patrick S. Walsh, JBU MEC Chairman

CONTRACT ABOVE ALL



June 1, 2017

Fellow Pilots,

After over 2 years of bargaining we are approaching the final stages of negotiations. We are deep in the bargaining process over the four cornerstone items of pay, work rules, benefits, and job security. Following MEC direction of obtaining a market rate contract as quickly as possible, ALPA submitted all of our economic proposals over a year ago. We submitted our first pay proposal last May and in December we received management's weak counterproposal. We just recently submitted our counterproposal on pay that takes into account pay raises at American, Delta, Hawaiian, Southwest, and United. The market rate for pilots is rising and it's our turn to raise the bar. Our pilots have contributed to JetBlue's success and have earned a market rate contract.

While we have made steady progress in direct negotiations to date, the pace has recently slowed. Not surprisingly, management wants us to fund our pay raise through increased efficiencies. We are expected to provide "award winning customer service" and improved "on-time performance", while constantly being asked to do more. In the last 6 months we have been required to checkin with crewpad, perform postflight walk around inspections, and even asked to assist with cabin cleaning. It's time for management to stop asking more from us and show their appreciation at the bargaining table. It's time for JetBlue to invest in the pilots rather than Technology Ventures, Jetsuite, hotels, or potato farms.

All of our proposals are all reasonable, so there is no reason we shouldn't be able to reach an agreement by the end of this year. If we aren't able to reach an agreement we will be in a labor dispute and it will be all management's fault. The MEC and Negotiating Committee will continue to be transparent about negotiations. There is nothing cryptic about this message. We continue to narrow our differences on key cornerstone issues but the pace has slowed.

You won't ever have to read between the lines. If and or when negotiations slow to an unacceptable pace, we will communicate that clearly to the pilot group. That will be followed with a request to the National Mediation Board for mediation.

The MEC and Strategic Preparedness and Strike Committee stand ready to execute an aggressive strategic plan that will use both traditional and nontraditional union tactics. We will need the full support all 3400 pilots to fight for the market rate contract we have earned.

Stay engaged, fly SOP, and proudly wear the ALPA lanyard.

In Unity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Pat S Walsh'.

**Captain Patrick Walsh**

*Chairman*

*JetBlue Master Executive Council*

**STAY INFORMED · BUILD UNITY · FLY SOP · WEAR YOUR LANYARD**

**CONTRACT  
ABOVE ALL**



**Air Line Pilots Association, International**

**535 Herndon Parkway, Herndon, VA 20170**

**[www.alpa.org](http://www.alpa.org)**

**[Click here](#)** to unsubscribe from this message.