

Chairman's Message

Captain Patrick Walsh, JBU MEC Chairman

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January 1, 2018

Fellow JetBlue ALPA pilots,

We begin 2018 with a strong airline industry, a healthy economy, a new tax code that gives corporations like JetBlue significant tax relief, and our airline making record profits. This should also be a great time for JetBlue pilots. Unfortunately, management has forced us into a labor dispute rather than give us the contract we have earned.

Since last January, I have made it clear to both the pilot group and management that by the end of 2017 we would either have an agreement or be in a labor dispute. Our proposals are reasonable, and JetBlue is making record profits; therefore, there is no valid reason we don't yet have an agreement. The simple and undeniable fact is that management is choosing to fight with us rather than give us a contract. All 3,500 of us are fighting back—we are on the right side of this fight, and we will win.

Hundreds of pilots attended the rallies, showing management that we are united in our goal of a market-rate contract. We gave management every opportunity to avoid bad publicity that exposes their corporate greed. The billboards, newspaper, radio, and social media ads are just the beginning. We will have our first informational picketing event in New York on January 31, and we will keep the pressure on until we get the contract we deserve.

Management brags to its investors about the company's industry-leading profits and boasts to its customers that its employees come first. But rather than invest in us, they talk in hollow corporate-speak about culture. Moreover, management has the nerve to turn to us to go above and beyond our job description as pilots while paying us less than our peers at other airlines. We have invested our careers in ensuring JetBlue's success; corporate culture is not a substitute for market-rate pay and benefits.

Rather than investing in stock buyback programs, Technology Ventures, JetSuite, or even potato farms, it's time for JetBlue to invest in the pilots. JetBlue pays the market rate for aircraft, fuel, maintenance, and gates, and they need to pay market rate for pilots, too!

But this isn't just about pay and benefits, it's about respect—respect for our pilot group and our profession. We aren't just crewmembers, we are airline

pilots and front-line leaders of our operation. Our profession commands respect. Management needs to show their respect for us by accepting our reasonable and justifiable proposals.

We aren't just a professional association. We are a union! We will use all lawful tactics to obtain a market-rate contract, and we will succeed.

We have a solid strategic plan, 360 dedicated volunteers, and a \$2.5 million war chest, but ultimately, it's up to all of us. Stay united, fly safe, follow SOP, [retweet](#) and [repost](#) the MEC's social media messages, and of course make every effort to attend the informational picketing event and rally on January 31.

In Unity,



Captain Patrick Walsh
Chairman
JetBlue Master Executive Council

STAY INFORMED • BUILD UNITY • FLY SOP • WEAR YOUR LANYARD

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