

Dear Ben,

I appreciate that you took the time from your day to acknowledge that you know I exist. This was actually the first confirmation I had that Alaska Airlines were even told that there was a problem, a proposed solution or a news story happening. Now I have definitive proof and know for a fact that at least my proposal was received.

Thank you, I would have felt terrible otherwise.

Now to address the points you brought up. First, McGee Air Services does not have the money to pay our employees what I am asking for. That is why I brought it to our parent company, who is also our primary contract, to ask for more. You have the power to pay more to your ramp services company and I am requesting that you volunteer it to them.

It is part of what makes you a hero, reaching out to them. Recognizing that they need more so that they can give their employees, who are also your employees, a better quality of life.

And by putting it in the contract specifically that the extra money is to go straight to hourly workers and nothing else.

To acknowledge your other concern, our "elected union", it is my belief that they are corrupt and have no interest in fighting for workers rights.

For over a year now multiple employees have gone to our shop steward and been told that we don't pay the union enough to protect us. He refuses to answer questions or phone calls and most of the time our employees don't actually know where he is hiding. A manager eventually told me where he spends his shift, in a forgotten break room.

His boss Ole promises help but refuses any kind of proof that anything is being done, even in the case of things he explicitly promised to do. He ignores texts and emails by the dozen and seems determined to work against employees in any effort toward change.

The president of the union dismissed me outright.

So as you can see, I had no choice but to go this route if I had any interest in hoping for real change. Now my story is written, it ends with you saying no and me being escorted off of the AOA by the shop steward of my union.

There is going to be an investigation into whether I have been promoting a boycott of the company while on company time and if I am found to be in violation I am to be terminated.

So my story ends with me fighting to give my coworkers a better quality of life.

But it still calls for a boycott. It is still a 50+ page document that is going to cause nothing but fear and outrage from the public. It still calls for protests at the airport. It still goes out at 5 PM on Tuesday June 29th 2021 to the entire world.

It is my absolute belief that it is strong enough to put Alaska Airlines out of business.

I can't imagine anyone being so cruel as to think people deserve to live under these conditions.

I can't imagine that anyone would be so heartless, so callous as to let this kind of treatment continue. Especially someone in your position, someone who can so easily make things right.

I can't imagine that any CEO, any board of directors, would be so Grossly Negligent that they would gamble the careers and lives of over 20,000 people that work under them.

A gamble on the most unpredictable things of all, human compassion and the will of the internet.

I can't guarantee that people will care about what I have to say, but I can guarantee that people will see my article. People will know the truth of what life is like working under Alaska Airlines.

Be a hero instead. Let our company be a leader instead. Do the right thing.

Change the ending.

Dennis Ferry