



NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD
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VIA EMAIL

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Re: NMB Case No. R-7283
United Continental/AFA/IAM

Participants:

On January 18, 2011, the Association of Flight Attendants-CWA (AFA) filed an application requesting the National Mediation Board (NMB or Board) to investigate whether United Air Lines, Inc. (United), Continental Airlines, Inc. (Continental) and Continental Micronesia (CMI) were operating as a single transportation system for the craft or class of Flight Attendants. At the time the application was filed, the Flight Attendants on United were represented by AFA and Flight Attendants at Continental and CMI were represented by the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace workers, AFL-CIO (IAM). The Board found United and Continental were a single transportation system known as United for the craft or class of Flight Attendants and proceeded to address the representation consequences. *United Air Lines, Inc./Continental Airlines, Inc.*, 38 NMB 124 (2011). On April 26, 2011, the Board authorized an election in this matter with IAM and AFA on the Ballot. The Board scheduled the tally for June 29, 2011.

January 9, 2012

Page 2

The June 30, 2011 Report of Election results reflected that a majority of votes were cast for AFA. Therefore, the Board issued a Certification of AFA as the representative for purposes of the Railway Labor Act of the craft or class of Flight Attendants. *United Air Lines, Inc./Continental Airlines, Inc.*, 38 NMB 248 (2011).

On July 11, 2011, IAM filed allegations of election interference. AFA and United each responded on August 5, 2011. IAM filed a reply to AFA and United on September 12, 2011. AFA filed an additional response to IAM on September 16, 2011. In its filings, IAM raised allegations about AFA's and United's conduct during the election.

In cases of alleged election interference, the Board inquires into whether the laboratory conditions which the Board seeks to promote have been tainted. After reviewing the submissions provided by the IAM, AFA and United, I find that in order for the Board to determine whether laboratory conditions were tainted, further investigation is needed. The Investigator will be in contact with the participants to schedule interviews and an on-site investigation.

Sincerely,



Mary L. Johnson
General Counsel