

TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION NO.19

Airline, Aerospace and Allied Employees – Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas

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Dear Brothers and Sisters I want to follow-up on a message sent out early last week regarding precautions with the Coronavirus. It appears with several announcements yesterday that this pandemic is going to get worse and right now, a cure, not even on the horizon. Yesterday the shutdown of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo along with a mention, during the same news release, of an infected person, on a United flight from Europe left people with only more questions as to how this is going to affect each and every one of us.

I talked with Jon at WN Ft Sim on my way in this am and important concerns of our members working in a single facility and the ability for spread of the virus without self-quarantining, when appropriate, would jeopardize health of others. I want to assure you, no different from the zone rooms and hangars at ExpressJet and United, to the maintenance bays at Fort Polk, it is equally prudent for all of us to follow several, some basic, some not so basic rules:

First and foremost, we cannot say use common sense here because this pandemic is unlike anything we have ever been through. So let's instead be reserved in our reactions to what we are hearing and make calm and cautious decisions in how we deal with the situations as they arise,

The biggest question right now is what happens if I have to be quarantined? The first thing, notify your employer. Your employer has the responsibility for your safety and health. In addition they work directly with the CDC on how to handle the cases. Regarding how time off will be compensated, there is not going to be any standard because each contract is different, except what might be federally imposed. At best and right now, I would plan for any paid time, sick, vacation or personal days to be expected to be utilized. It is so easy to get overwhelmed with ideas of how long this could go on, and how we would survive if not working, but always remember the majority of us, near all, are in the same situation. Leaves will vary and we will work with each company as the issues arise, if not before then,

In my previous letter I mentioned having 14 days of reserves in necessities and non-perishable food. Even as I wrote that it seemed to be overcautious, not anymore, Have a plan. What are you going to do with elderly relatives, or our kids and their families? Part of that plan may be ensuring that they have that supply of essentials on hand,

Lastly and most importantly please register on the Teamsterslocal19.org website. I directly and immediately receive emails that come in. None go unanswered. After you have notified your employer I want you to email me if you get in a quarantine situation so that, if needed, we can coordinate with fellow brothers and sisters to get assistance to you.

Thank you,
Bob Clever

Affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters

www.TeamstersLocal19.org

