

ALCEE L. HASTINGS
23RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
FLORIDA

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AND BUDGET PROCESS
CHAIRMAN

UNITED STATES
HELSINKI COMMISSION
CO-CHAIRMAN

FLORIDA DELEGATION
CO-CHAIRMAN

SENIOR DEMOCRATIC WHIP



**Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0923**

PLEASE RESPOND TO:

2353 RAYBURN BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0923
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-1313
FAX: (202) 225-1171

2701 W. OAKLAND PARK BOULEVARD
SUITE 200
FT. LAUDERDALE, FL 33311
TELEPHONE: (954) 733-2800
FAX: (954) 735-9444

MANGONIA PARK TOWN HALL
1755 E. TIFFANY DRIVE
MANGONIA PARK, FL 33407
TELEPHONE: (561) 881-9618
FAX: (561) 881-9879

www.alceehastings.house.gov

September 1, 2009

Mr. David Bassett
Founder & CEO
Amerijet International, Inc.
2800 S. Andrews Avenue
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

Dear Mr. Bassett,

I am writing to express my increasing concern with actions that have recently transpired during contract negotiations with your employees as well as with several of your company's questionable practices of which I have recently been made aware.

I am dismayed that you have found it acceptable to walk away from ongoing negotiations and find reports of actions taken against striking employees and their sympathizers particularly disconcerting. Given your cavalier response to the negotiating process and your employees' reasonable demands, Amerijet employees saw no other recourse but to go on strike. They have legitimate grievances which deserve every right to be addressed.

Such grievances have been recently brought to my attention, and frankly, I am deeply disturbed by your company's seeming disregard for the health and safety of your employees. Your failure to provide adequate drinking water or sanitary facilities is simply degrading and inhumane. The docking of pay of pilots who are too ill to fly pressures them to fly when sick and endangers the lives of not only your employees, but also innocent bystanders on the ground. Though having to work in such substandard conditions is sufficiently reprehensible, Amerijet pilots and engineers are also among the lowest paid in the industry.

Our economy is certainly facing difficult times, but that is no justification for the unfair wages and substandard working environment of your employees. Your policies and practices are not only unjust, but they are blatantly dangerous and irresponsible.

I respectfully urge you to return, in good faith, to the negotiating table and work toward a mutually beneficial contract that ensures your employees the respect and decency they rightly deserve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alcee L. Hastings". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress

Cc: FAA Administrator Randy Babbitt

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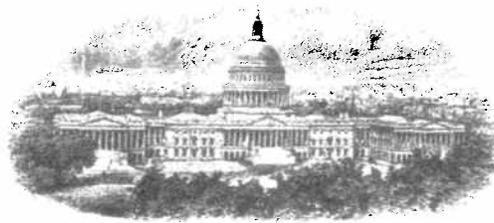
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September 1, 2009

Mr. Doug Berman
Managing Partner
H.I.G. Capital
1001 Brickell Bay Drive
27th Floor
Miami, FL 33131

Dear Mr. Berman,

I am writing to express my increasing concern with H.I.G. Capital's lack of involvement during the ongoing labor dispute between the management of Amerijet International, Inc. and its employees as well as with H.I.G. Capital's seeming disregard of several of Amerijet's questionable practices of which I have recently been made aware. As Amerijet's largest shareholder, H.I.G. Capital's inaction regarding these matters is both disappointing and counterproductive.

I am dismayed that Amerijet's management has found it acceptable to walk away from ongoing negotiations, and I find reports of actions taken against striking employees and their sympathizers particularly disconcerting. Given Amerijet's cavalier response to the negotiating process and its employees' reasonable demands, Amerijet employees saw no other recourse but to go on strike. They have legitimate grievances which deserve every right to be addressed.

Such grievances have been recently brought to my attention, and frankly, I am deeply disturbed by H.I.G. Capital's inaction given Amerijet's blatant disregard for the health and safety of its employees. Amerijet's failure to provide adequate drinking water or sanitary facilities is simply degrading and inhumane. The docking of pay of pilots who are too ill to fly pressures them to fly when sick and endangers the lives of not only Amerijet employees, but also innocent bystanders on the ground. Though having to work in such substandard conditions is sufficiently reprehensible, Amerijet pilots and engineers are also among the lowest paid in the industry.

Our economy is certainly facing difficult times, but that is no justification for the unfair wages and substandard working environment of Amerijet's employees. Amerijet's policies and practices are not only unjust, but they are blatantly dangerous and irresponsible. H.I.G. Capital's apparent silence on these matters amounts to nothing less than compliance.

I respectfully ask that you urge the management of Amerijet to return, in good faith, to the negotiating table and work toward a mutually beneficial contract that ensures Amerijet's employees the respect and decency they rightly deserve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alcee L. Hastings". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress

Cc: FAA Administrator Randy Babbitt