

# Debrief

## AFA DEBRIEF – JANUARY 14, 2022

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### Post-Duty Contractual Legal Rest vs FAR Clarification

We are aware that the recent “scheduling scoop” newsletter released this week is creating some confusion and questions from many of you. It would seem, the single question arising from the information published is related to the Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) that establishes the minimum rest requirement for Flight Attendants as a period of eight (8) hours of rest *free from duty* between flights. For some, there was some misunderstanding in thinking that the minimum rest under the FAR in some way superseded the greater rest outlined and required under the terms of our Contract. In addition, we want to be clear that legal rest is “free from duty” and not just the time between the arrival of one flight and the departure of the next.

Section 6.V.3. in our Contract provides guidance as it pertains to our negotiated contractual domestic legal rest requirement which is greater than the FAR.

**At home**, our minimum legal rest must consist of at least twelve (12) hours *free from duty*. And, while there are also negotiated provisions that provide Flight Attendants with the ability to waive the minimum home legal rest in

order to trip trade/pick up pairings, Flight Attendants cannot be required to reduce their rest period. Flight Attendants may, at their sole discretion, reduce their rest at home subject to the following:

- The minimum home legal rest between the pairings shall be reduced to ten (10) hours minimum rest for all purposes.
- In the event the Flight Attendant trades or drops one of the pairings resulting from the waiver and the minimum home legal rest between her/his pairings is reestablished, the ten (10) hour minimum rest shall no longer apply.

**At a domestic layover point**, our minimum Legal Rest is based on the proximity of the layover hotel to the airport location *as well* as the availability of transportation.

1. If the hotel is within approximately fifteen (15) minutes time from the airport and provided that prompt transportation is available, our legal rest is ten (10) hours *free from duty*.

2. If the hotel is more than approximately fifteen (15) minutes time from the airport, our minimum legal rest is expanded to eleven (11) hours *free from duty*.

In both cases above, *during the debrief periods and after check-in we are on duty. For this reason, neither of the periods can be considered as part of our free from a duty rest period.*

As an additional contractual protection, Flight Attendants will be provided eight (8) hours free from duty at the place of lodging as their minimum rest period. Our actual arrival at the hotel establishes when the place of lodging minimum starts. Keeping this in mind, during irregularities or periods of lengthy delay caused by traffic, an accident on the route to the hotel from the airport, the Purser should contact Crew Scheduling to advise of the delayed arrival at the layover location in order to establish and protect the eight (8) hour place of lodging minimum. Where necessary, your pick-up will be rescheduled for the following morning.

If have additional questions, please contact your Local Council for clarification.

## Updating Access and Listing Procedures when Using Reciprocal Cabin Seat Agreements

As those of us who commute know, there have been a series of ongoing issues that have made it difficult to access the listing tool for those airlines who require an advance, online listing in order to be accommodated when using the Reciprocal Cabin Seat Agreements for which AFA has consistently advocated. When we have experienced these difficulties with the listing tool, we have enjoyed a good working relationship with the leadership of the Employee Travel Center who have been consistently responsive in addressing our concerns related to our inability to access the tool.

In addition to the Reciprocal Cabin Seat Agreements, United has negotiated a number of agreements with other airlines that provide pass travel opportunities beyond those available to us in our United travel network.

In an effort to address the ongoing access issues when using these travel opportunities as well as to provide an improved source of information, effective this month (January 2022), when booking interline travel, including Reciprocal Cabin Seat Agreements, we will use an updated version of **myIDTravel** to:

- Purchase your electronic ZED ticket and list for your desired flights on the other airline
- View flight options on other airlines
- See detailed conditions and policies from other airlines

### New Ways to Access myIDTravel

There are two ways you can access myIDTravel:

- Directly by visiting <https://myidtravel.ual.com> and log in using your global ID and password, or
- Through Flying Together with your global ID and password.

## Which airlines require advance listing for Reciprocal Cabin Seat Agreements via myIDTravel?

- American Airlines
- Southwest
- Allegiant Air
- JetBlue

## To create a Reciprocal Cabin Seat Listing using myIDTravel:

Creating a commuter listing on the above airlines must be done online by following these steps:

- Log in to <https://myidtravel.ual.com> utilizing your Global uID and password. Once logged in:
- Select only yourself as the traveler, then select *continue*
- On the "Flight Schedule Query" page, select the airline
- Select *Flight Attendant commuting listing* from the travel status drop-down menu
- Complete the remaining fields based on your travel needs (economy only), and select *Find flights*
- Continue through the booking process until you receive a confirmation

This new myIDTravel listing tool has some unique requirements which, if not used correctly, will generate a flight availability error when listing for commuter travel. These include:

- Selecting more than just the employee
- Selecting an airline that does not use myIDTravel to create commuter listings
- Selecting any cabin other than Economy
- Selecting a date that is too far in the future. American and JetBlue both currently have the advance booking window set to seven days for commuter listings.

For airline-specific Reciprocal Cabin Seat agreements, we recommend you review the updated Listing Procedures documents that are available in the [Travel section](#) of our website on [unitedafa.org](http://unitedafa.org).

## **Link Update Now in Effect**

As a reminder, the Link update to iOS 15.1 became effective today, January 14, 2022.

Based on the length of time required for this update to be completed, we encourage you to allow adequate time to properly install and review the update prior to your next flight assignment.

Reference the instructions provided in the January 7, 2022, Link Alert before your next company obligation. This Link Alert also has the list of the latest compatible apps needed. If you do not have the current version of the apps listed, there is a possibility of not having a successful update.

If you have questions when installing the update, contact the LINK support team at (800) 255-5801, option 1, option 3. Alternatively, consult with the LINK staff in the domicile.

## **Link Protection Plan Available Outside Annual Enrollment Period**

As a reminder, Link Protection outside enrollment is now available for active Flight Attendants. In order to opt-in should you have missed the annual enrollment period, using Help Hub you are able to opt-in to coverage.

To opt in, go to [Help Hub](#) and search for *Link/Sled Recovery Protection Plan – 2022 Outside Enrollment Period*. Once you opt-in, you must bring your items to your domicile locations for verification before being enrolled in the program. If you are domiciled at a satellite location where a supervisor is not available, please email your supervisor directly to determine at which domicile the verification process can be completed.

You can opt-in now by clicking [here](#).

## **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday**

January 17, 2022 is the day we set aside annually to remember and pay tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., a man whose remarkable legacy has touched the lives of so many and that will live on for eternity.

Dr. King played a pivotal role in ending racial segregation in the United States of America. This Monday, January 17, 2022, we are reminded that together, as a nation, through his example and sacrifice, we are inspired to fight for equal opportunities for all.

In our country, many have struggled to be included in the promise of our nation and others with accountability for the action or inaction during these unjust times where many were excluded. Recent events in communities across our nation have unveiled how discrimination, inequality, and lack of justice are still prevalent as the brutality and killings of African Americans have clearly shown.

As we make our way through this darkness, we must reflect on the influential works of Dr. King to guide us to the outcome that is expected by the promise of our great country; “The time is always right to do what is right.”

As individuals, by his example, we are expected to live by these words, and as Union members, we act upon them. Treating everyone with the same dignity and respect is what we should all strive for. As Flight Attendants on the world’s stage, we are uniquely positioned to lead, through the example we set, every day in every way. Let this holiday inspire us to continue to not only stand with our brothers and sisters to fight as one but to be a shining example of always doing what is right in the way we care for those with whom we come in contact.

## **The Power of Our AFA Pin**

The past several weeks we've all had the opportunity to interact with the newest Members of our Flight Attendant community. And the challenges of the past several weeks have been incredible. In addition to interacting with our newest flying partners on the line, the first opportunity where we each have the opportunity to make an individual impression on a new hire is during their training flights. What we do, what we say, how we treat each other, and these new hires is critical as we bring them in to be individuals among us.

We have the unique opportunity to show them how we use our individuality to make our profession the success that it is. We also have the opportunity to show each one of them what it is to be a part of something greater than ourselves. We proudly wear our AFA Union pin, visibly, on our outermost garment as a way to show our support for them and each other.

Together, we stand in unity and display the power that comes from solidarity and from wearing our AFA pin. Flight Attendants in need of an AFA pin should stop by their Local Council office to obtain a new one.

## **AFA Welcomes Class 2108**

Last week, AFA welcomed class 2108.

Class 2108 will begin their careers at our Chicago, Denver, and Houston domiciles and will be available to start flying at the beginning of January. We look forward to welcoming our flying partners to the line as they begin their new careers!

As a reminder, when a probationary Flight Attendant has questions about our Contract and work rules, please direct them to their Local Council for assistance. We want to ensure they are receiving the most accurate and vetted information as we work in supporting them for our collective future success.

## REMINDERS:

JAN 17 – Martin Luther King, Jr Day

JAN 25 – Winter 2022 Regular MEC Meeting

JAN 26 – Winter 2022 Regular MEC Meeting

JAN 27 – Winter 2022 Regular MEC Meeting

JAN 29 – Winter Trimester CQ CBT Due

JAN 31 – Union Plus Scholarship Application Due

