



**UNITED MASTER EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
AIR LINE PILOTS ASSOCIATION, INTERNATIONAL**

9550 W. Higgins Road • Suite 1000 • Rosemont, IL 60018 • 847-292-1700

May 23, 2013

The Honorable John Pistole, Administrator
Transportation Security Administration
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
601 S. 12th Street
Arlington VA 20598

Dear Administrator Pistole:

I write on behalf of The United Chapter of the Airline Pilots Association, representing the nearly 7,700 pilots of United Airlines, to register our strong objection to the TSA decision to relax the Prohibited Item List, specifically by allowing small knives, souvenir-sized and toy bats and some sporting equipment on board aircraft. The pilots and employees of United Airlines suffered great personal and professional losses when similar knives were used to hijack aircraft that subsequently were used as weapons against the United States on September 11, 2001. The changes to the prohibited items list instituted after 9/11 have served to protect United's passengers, crew, and fellow employees effectively. The proposed changes to the current PIL are an unnecessary degradation of that protection.

We join the other labor coalitions, Congressmen, organizations, and airlines that have strongly objected to this proposal. If the TSA proceeds with the relaxation of the PIL, we will be forced to consider the full range of legal options to challenge this change, including supporting litigation against the Transportation Security Administration.

Following my signature are the names of the United crewmembers and fellow employees who lost their lives on United Flights 93 and 175.

Sincerely,

Jay Heppner, Captain
Chairman, United Chapter
Airline Pilots Association

United Flight 93:

Captain Jason Dahl
First Officer LeRoy Homer, Jr.
Flight Attendant Lorraine Bay
Flight Attendant Sandra Bradshaw
Flight Attendant Wanda Green
Flight Attendant CeeCee Lyles
Flight Attendant Deborah Welsh

First Officer Michael Horrocks
Flight Attendant Robert Fangman
Flight Attendant Amy Jarret
Flight Attendant Amy King
Flight Attendant Kathryn Laborie
Flight Attendant Alfred Marchand
Flight Attendant Michael Tarrou
Flight Attendant Alicia Titus
Customer Service Representative Marianne MacFarlane
Customer Service Representative Jesus Sanchez

United Flight 175:

Captain Victor Saracini