



## IP Martinez Disregards 141 Executive Board Vote

On June 2, 2021, International President Robert Martinez, Jr. unilaterally eliminated the IAM Executive Council position of General Vice President (GVP) of Transportation. At the same time, Martinez directed our elected General Vice President, Sito Pantoja, to resign from the United Airlines Board of Directors (BOD). The District Lodge 141 Executive Board in 2016 had unanimously voted for GVP Pantoja to be our representative on the United BOD.

After learning about the upcoming United BOD vacancy, your District Lodge 141 Executive Board met to discuss the issue. Last week, your District Lodge 141 Executive Board unanimously voted for me, as President and Directing General Chairman (PDGC) of District 141, to assume the soon-to-be-vacant IAM seat on the United Board. This action would have followed the precedent set by the previous two PDGC's.

On June 23, 2021, I sent a letter to International President Martinez informing him of the 141 Executive Board's decision. I also explained how District 141's United membership purchased the United BOD seat during the 1994 ESOP and continued paying for it through concessions over many years, both before and during the airline's bankruptcy. The membership had paid for the right to determine who serves in our Board seat.

Today I received a communication from the International President's office disregarding the vote of your District Lodge 141 Executive Board. Instead, Martinez stated that he was appointing Richard Johnsen, a mechanic who holds no elected position in the Machinists Union, to the District 141 United membership's BOD seat. The International President has eliminated the right of United members to choose their own BOD member in the same way he has eliminated our right to elect our own General Vice President.

In the last few months, International President Martinez removed the General Vice President who the membership unanimously re-elected to lead the Transportation Department, ordered closed the Transportation Department office in Washington, DC that District 141 utilized for negotiations, reassigned the Department's most senior and experienced staff and now, for the first time, abolished the right of our United membership to be represented on the United Board by a person of our choosing.

International President Martinez's actions reveal his opposition to the Machinists Union as a member-driven organization where the membership determines the course of the union. I, and your Executive Board, think differently.

In Solidarity with all District Lodge 141 members,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael G. Klemm".

Michael G. Klemm  
President & Directing General Chairman