



PASS on Firing of Probationary Employees at FAA

Update: PASS received a list from the FAA on Feb. 18 of the probationary employees it represents who were terminated. The total as of now is 132.

Washington, D.C.—David Spero, National President of the Professional Aviation Safety Specialists (PASS), AFL-CIO, issued the following statement today on the termination of probationary employees at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA):

We are troubled and disappointed by the administration's decision to fire FAA probationary employees PASS represents without cause nor based on performance or conduct. Several hundred employees have been impacted with messages being sent from an 'exec order' Microsoft email address, not an official .gov email address. Messages began arriving after 7 pm ET on February 14 and continued late into the night. It is possible that others will be notified over the weekend or literally barred from entering FAA buildings on Tuesday, February 18.

These are not nameless, faceless bureaucrats. They are our family, friends and neighbors. They contribute to our communities. Many military veterans are among them. It is shameful to toss aside dedicated public servants who have chosen to work on behalf of their fellow Americans.

These employees were devoted to their jobs and the safety critical mission of the FAA. This draconian action will increase the workload and place new responsibilities on a workforce that is already stretched thin. This decision did not consider the staffing needs of the FAA, which is already challenged by understaffing. Staffing decisions should be based on an individual agency's mission-critical needs. To do otherwise is dangerous when it comes to public safety. And it is especially unconscionable in the aftermath of three deadly aircraft accidents in the past month.

The hastily made decision on Friday night did not focus on mission-critical needs and was harmful to employees.

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