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# **Tentative Seniority Integration Agreement Reached Between Southwest Airlines and Airtran Airways Flight Attendants**

## **Tentative Seniority Agreement Integrating the Flight Attendants' Seniority Lists Headed to Members of Both Unions for a Ratification Vote**

DALLAS, Dec. 26, 2011 /PRNewswire/ -- Southwest Airlines is pleased to announce a tentative Seniority Integration Agreement has been reached between the Company, the Transport Workers Union (TWU) 556, the union representing Southwest Airlines Flight Attendants, and the Association of Flight Attendants (AFA) Council 57, the union representing the Flight Attendants of AirTran Airways. This tentative agreement would integrate the two groups' seniority lists. TWU 556's Executive Board and AFA's Master Executive Council both approved the agreement, which will allow the membership of each Union to review the proposed agreement and ultimately put it to a ratification vote. Southwest Airlines finalized closing of the acquisition of AirTran Holdings, Inc., on May 2, 2011.

"The Union and Company negotiating Teams never lost focus on the ultimate goal of creating an integrated seniority list and transition plan for our Flight Attendants -- one that avoided arbitration," said Mike Van de Ven, Southwest Airlines Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. "Much like the Pilots before them, everyone involved in the Flight Attendant discussions took ownership of their role in the integration of AirTran into Southwest Airlines, and I want to commend our teams for delivering this crucial first step in that process."

"Our Flight Attendants represent Southwest's largest workgroup -- which makes this tentative agreement all the more special," added Mike Hafner, Southwest Airlines Vice President of Cabin Services. "After much hard work; long hours; and a commitment from all parties to our Flight Attendants, AirTran Airways, and Southwest Airlines, we are now ready to take the next step toward integration and submit the agreement to both memberships for a vote."

Both Flight Attendant Unions will now spend the next several weeks reviewing the tentative agreement before putting it up for a ratification vote. TWU represents approximately 9,800 Southwest Airlines Flight Attendants, and the AFA represents close to 2,400 AirTran Airways Flight Attendants.

In its 40th year of service, Southwest Airlines (NYSE: LUV) continues to differentiate itself from other low-fare carriers -- offering a reliable product with exemplary Customer Service. Southwest Airlines is the nation's largest carrier in terms of originating domestic passengers boarded and has recently acquired AirTran Airways, now a wholly owned subsidiary of Southwest Airlines Co. Southwest serves 72 cities in 37 states and is one of the most honored airlines in the world known for its commitment to the triple bottom line of Performance, People, and Planet. To read more about how Southwest is doing its part to be

a good citizen, visit [southwest.com/cares](https://southwest.com/cares) to read the Southwest Airlines One Report(TM). Based in Dallas, Southwest currently operates more than 3,400 flights a day and has more than 37,000 Employees systemwide.

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