



ASSOCIATION OF FLIGHT ATTENDANTS-CWA, AFL-CIO

501 Third Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001-2797

afacwa.org | PHONE 202 • 434 • 1300

---

March 11, 2019

Dan Elwell  
Acting Administrator  
Federal Aviation Administration  
800 Independence Ave., S.W.  
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Administrator Elwell,

The Association of Flight Attendants-CWA is incredibly grateful to you for your constant efforts to maintain the safest transportation system in the world. Your leadership has been extraordinary in some of the most challenging times and we are so thankful.

We write today to advise you that crew and passengers are expressing concerns about the 737 MAX 8 after the March 10, 2019 crash of Ethiopian Airlines Flight 302, relatively closely following the tragedy of Lion Air Flight 610 on October 29, 2018. We fully support the investigative process and caution the public to avoid drawing conclusions prior to uncovering the facts of the incident. However, the second accident in less than five months involving the same model airplane gives rise to concerns and a quick jump to conclusions that undermine full confidence in the aircraft type. We encourage the relevant authorities to take steps immediately to address concerns and ensure the safety of the 737 MAX fleet.

We support and encourage the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to work closely with Boeing and its suppliers, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), the U.S. airlines that operate this airplane model, maintenance and training providers, and affected employee groups, to review all potential issues that could contribute to these two catastrophic outcomes. This review should be comprehensive, considering at minimum the certification basis, maintenance practices, operational procedures, and crew training aspects of the 737 MAX program, and it should be open and transparent, to ensure the public's confidence in its conclusions and recommendations.

It may be helpful to communicate the steps that U.S. airlines have taken to implement the requirements outlined by the FAA in the December 6, 2018 737 MAX Flight Control Airworthiness Directive.

Thank you for all your work to keep U.S. commercial aviation safe.

Sincerely,

Sara Nelson  
International President

---

AVIATION'S FIRST RESPONDERS

