

# LAX Alert

*Improving Safety, Security and Service Standards at Los Angeles International Airport*

## Why the LAX Alert?

Airlines at LAX regularly approach the Board of Airport Commissioners and the City Council seeking additional gates, expansion or opposing rental increases.

But, as a decision-maker, we want to make sure that you understand fully the airlines' economic and security impacts at LAX. LAX airlines subcontract over 5,000, mostly low-wage, service jobs, from baggage and cargo handling to wheelchair attendants, document checkers, skycaps and security personnel. Most of these workers are African-American and Latino and live in some of LA's poorest neighborhoods. Besides low-wages workers report that many of these airline subcontractors provide inadequate training and have extremely high turnover.

We look forward to working with you to help raise standards at LAX and ensure that airlines and the airport have the highest security standards in the nation and good jobs for our communities

## Passenger Service Workers Launch Campaign to Improve Service, Safety, Security

At LAX today, there are roughly **1,200 workers** employed by airline subcontractors **Aviation Safeguards** and **Aero Port Services**. These workers perform jobs including searching planes for dangerous items, checking IDs, providing security, handling luggage before and after it is screened, and providing wheelchair assistance to elderly and disabled passengers. This work is outsourced by airlines like **Southwest, Northwest, Continental** and the airlines at **Tom Bradley International Terminal**.

Despite the critical service and security functions that these workers play, the workforce suffers from poverty wages, high turnover rates and a lack of training. ***LAX Workers, the City of Los Angeles, and LAX Travelers Deserve Better!***

## Union-Busting Firm Reportedly Brought to LAX

LAX Airlines and contractors should be working together with their employees to improve standards at LAX. Instead, at least one contractor, Aero Port Services has decided to fight workers' efforts by reportedly hiring a well-known union-busting firm, Littler Mendelson. APS' airline clients have tacitly endorsed this attack on the workers by remaining silent.

Ultimately, **APS and their airline clients are failing to take steps to resolve the dispute. This hurts the airport, the City and the traveling public.**

*"We want to provide the best service possible to our passengers, but low-wages, poor training and high turnover make that very hard."*

- Tim Maddox,  
Baggage Handler,  
- Aero Port Services

