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[October 22, 2008](#)

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Council 1 Elections, Candidates Answer the ALPAWatch Election Questionnaire

Candidates Answer the ALPAWatch Election Questionnaire

There are 6 LEC Candidates (plus possible write-ins) that are running for office in the MSP Council 1 LEC Elections. Only MSP Council 1 pilots vote in this election. If you are not a Council 1 pilot you don't need to read this email, but we would encourage you to take a look below at some of the qualities ALPAWatch recommends for union leaders. Also, if you have some MSP pilot buddies in your email address book, please forward this Newsletter to them.

Once again, ALPAWatch has presented the Candidates with a list of written questions known as the ALPAWatch Candidate Questionnaire. We have started receiving the answers to those Questionnaires. They are published at [ALPAWatch 2008 Candidates Page](#). Please read them before you vote.

If you are a Council 1 MSP pilot, please vote. In past NWA LEC elections voter turnout has been embarrassingly low. We know that part of the reason for low turnout is because the pilots often just don't know enough about the candidates to know who to vote for. The ALPA Watch Candidate Questionnaire is designed to help you understand the candidates better and cast an informed vote.

This is important people. After watching and reporting on this union for the last two years we can tell you that electing the best people into these positions is critical. It is critical because the LEC's are the core group that determines the direction of this union, good or bad. All the reasonable expectations you have about what this union should do for you and the entire pilot group depends on electing the people with the right capabilities, attitudes, and values.

- Are you tired of watching your profession go down hill?
- Frustrated with reports of political in-fighting in our union?
- Sick of special interests and narrow agendas controlling this union?
- Distrustful of your union?
- Fed up with missed opportunities to greatly improve your career?
- Disagree with attitudes and actions of NWA ALPA and ALPA National?
- Do you want a union that will set clear objectives to return this profession to what it has to be and then deliver on those objectives?

Here is your chance to make that happen. Your choice will either make this union stronger or encourage more business as usual. The future of your career – will it get better or worse – depends on elections like these. It's up to you.

What are some of the qualities to look for in a Candidate?

- Trust – Do you believe them? Are you comfortable or better yet are you excited about the candidate’s ideas and values?
- Determination – Do they have the fortitude to do what is best for the group in the face of adversity?
- Selflessness – Puts the needs of the pilots ahead for their own personal needs, or the needs of a small group, and ahead of their ALPA career.
- Vision – No more business as usual. Current policies and attitudes have not served this pilot group well. ALPA leaders of the past, distant past, were very effective. We need to learn from the past to secure a better future.
- Communication – Open, honest, clear and substantive communications to the pilots. Encourages and embraces input from the pilots.
- Receptive – Respects the values of the group over their own. Does not allow their ego to get in the way of doing what is right.
- Unifying – Heal the divides in this group and work to unite the entire NWA/DAL group. If the petty political turf wars going on now in this union continue into a merged DAL MEC, your career and everyone else’s will continue to suffer till the day you retire.

These elected positions are for 3 year terms, beginning March ‘09. They will survive the DAL merger, meaning that they will remain in their positions till 2012. That is the amendment date of this contract, which means the pilots elected will be shaping your next contract. If you expect any improvements in 2012, you better pay attention to this election.

There are 2 candidates running for each of these positions. Both are capable, but there are differences. ALPAWatch does not endorse candidates. It is up to you to learn which one more closely agrees with your vision and expectations for this union and your career. So learn all you need to know to cast a proud, educated vote. Do what you have to. Read their answers to the ALPAWatch Questionnaire and all their campaign letters. **Contact each of them, call the candidates and talk to them.** If you need help with contact information, it’s available at <https://crewroom.alpa.org/nwamec/> or [email](#) ALPAWatch and we will get it for you.

Tell them what your concerns and your expectations are. Put them on notice that if you vote for them, you expect things to change for the better. Force them to publicly take a position in their campaigns. They work for you!

Once elected, we will be watching to make certain they respect their campaign commitments.

Become comfortable with your choice and VOTE!

Thank you again for participating in ALPAWatch. With the participation of pilots such as you, ALPAWatch will be successful in obtaining the Union Leadership that the Pilot Group deserves, and in doing so regain our fair compensation, our quality of life, our future, and our dignity.

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