



[View in a web browser](#)

In this edition (July 16, 2022):

- Get the Facts: Bernstein and California Meal and Rest Break
- ICYMI: KCM Compliance Reminders and Checks
- Dial 988 - National Suicide Prevention Line

Get the Facts: Bernstein and California Meal and Rest Break



The U.S. Supreme Court issued a ruling in June that affirmed that Flight Attendants in California have access to the same labor laws that other California workers benefit from. Airline management had appealed to the Supreme Court to overturn a lower court's ruling in the case of Bernstein v. Virgin America.

Management has been heralding a "sky is falling" public relations campaign intended to deny us our rights in every state. Aviation is unique and we address issues with management all the time at the bargaining table and through legislative solutions. All it

takes to ensure our rights are upheld and the operation is not negatively effected is for airline management to work with us on a solution.

AFA will hold a virtual union meeting for Flight Attendants only on July 20th at 5pm eastern. Hear from AFA International President Sara Nelson, AFA General Counsel Joe Burns, and other experts on the facts surrounding the Bernstein case and what it means for Flight Attendants in California.

[RSVP here >](#)

California state law requires employers based in the state to provide breaks during a work shift that are sufficient for accessing a meal and breaks for physiological needs. Flight Attendants who were based in California sued Virgin America and won first in federal district court and subsequently at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit.

In an effort to address the potential implications of Bernstein, AFA International wrote to the heads of all the major airlines and to the CEO of the industry trade group Airlines for America (A4A) to make clear our position. In those letters, AFA expressed our commitment to working with industry to accommodate operational needs while also securing appropriate meal and rest breaks for Flight Attendants.

It's really simple. Flight Attendants need to eat during the course of their work day. We are human and we have basic needs like every other worker. We also know the realities of aviation and there's no reason we can't come to an agreement with the airlines for a legislative technical fix that allows airlines to comply with California meal and rest rules while maintaining the operation. We are ready to resolve this, and we hope they will get serious with us about doing that now too.

ICYMI: KCM Compliance Reminders and Checks



The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has recently provided a briefing regarding crewmember compliance with the Known Crewmember Program (KCM) regulations. Over the past

two and a half years (January 2020 – June 2022), the TSA continues to see a steady rate of KCM compliance violations in three main categories.

- **Prohibited Items:** Over this compliance period, the TSA has identified numerous prohibited items to include a number of loaded firearms. In some instances, the firearm was not discovered until a return segment in another domestic airport or in a foreign airport where firearms are not allowed in that country which can lead to incarceration in a foreign jail.
- **Other Person's Property:** The TSA continues to either observe or discover crewmembers bringing another person's property through KCM access points. KCM may be used for the crewmember and their personal property only.
- **Personal International Travel:** TSA continues to observe and investigate cases of crewmembers using KCM while on personal travel to international locations. KCM regulations explicitly prohibit use for personal international travel.

As a result of these and other continuing violations, the TSA is taking actions to improve compliance. Crewmembers using KCM access points may experience Transportation Security Officers (TSOs) and Transportation Security Inspectors (TSIs) asking questions or reminding them about the KCM regulations.

Additionally, the TSA will be adjusting the rate of crewmembers randomly selected for physical screening by the KCM system based on crewmember compliance performance. Therefore, it is important that KCM authorized crewmembers remain vigilant and always comply with the KCM regulations. [If you are not familiar with the KCM Rules for Use, they can be found here.](#)

The items that you can or cannot bring through the secured area may be found in the Prohibited Items List on the TSA website. The only exemption allowed for Flight Attendants while in uniform is from the 3-1-1 Liquids, Aerosols and Gels rule.

Every Flight Attendant should check to ensure that they have not inadvertently left a prohibited item in their belongings before they bring them to the KCM entry point. Your cooperation will strengthen the KCM program for the benefit of all.

Dial 988 - National Suicide Prevention Line



The United States phone number “988” has been designated as the new three-digit dialing code that will route callers to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. This dialing code will be available to everyone across the United States starting July 16, 2022.

Not just for Flight Attendants, but all people across the United States may call, text, or chat with 988 which connects the individual with trained counselors that are part of the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Network.

These trained counselors will listen, provide support, and connect the individual to resources, if necessary. Studies have shown that those who contact the Lifeline Network feel less suicidal, less depressed, less overwhelmed, and more hopeful after speaking with a counselor.

The current Lifeline Network phone number is (800) 273-8255, which has been in operation since 2005 and will continue to remain available in addition to the 988 number.

As always, AFA EAP is always available at 800-424-2406.

For more information about the Flight Attendant Drug and Alcohol Program, please contact FADAP at (855) 333-2327 or their website.



[Website](#)



[Facebook](#)



[Twitter](#)

© 2018 [Association of Flight Attendants-CWA](#) | 501 3rd Street NW, Washington, DC 20001

[Manage Your Subscription](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)