



Issue Date: 28 May 2015

CASE NO.: 2014-AIR-00006

IN THE MATTER OF

RAFAEL SANTIAGO-CRUZ
Complainant

v.

MILLION AIR
Respondent

DECISION AND ORDER APPROVING SETTLEMENT

This case involves a complaint arising under the whistleblower protection provision of the Wendell H. Ford Aviation Investment and Reform Act for the 21st Century (“AIR 21”), 49 U.S.C. § 42121, brought by Complainant against Respondent. On May 8, 2014, the parties executed their settlement agreement, and it was officially filed with the Court on May 22, 2015.

Under AIR 21, the Secretary of Labor must agree to the terms of the settlement agreement. *See* 49 U.S.C. § 42121(b)(3)(A); 29 C.F.R. § 1979.111(d)(2). Because of this, settlement agreements under AIR 21 must be submitted to the administrative law judge in their entirety for approval. The document entitled Settlement Agreement and Release in Full of All Claims (hereinafter “Settlement and Release”) is a fully executed settlement agreement. I have reviewed the agreement, and it appears to be fair, reasonable and consistent with public policy. To the extent the Settlement and Release contains provisions that may relate to actions by Complainant or Respondent under any other statute, this Decision and Order makes no determination regarding the propriety of such provisions.

IT IS ORDERED that the settlement agreement is **APPROVED**, and this case is **DISMISSED** with prejudice.

Finally, the parties have designated the settlement agreement to be confidential commercial information in accordance with 29 C.F.R. § 70.26 and shall be afforded the protections thereunder.

SO ORDERED this 28th day of May, 2015, at Covington, Louisiana.

**CLEMENT J. KENNINGTON
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE**