# BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WASHINGTON, D.C.

U.SHAVANA PUBLIC CHARTER AUTHORIZATIONS	) ) DOCKET OST-2020-0011 )
	)

## ANSWER OF CARIBBEAN SUN AIRLINES, INC. d/b/a WORLD ATLANTIC AIRLINES

Communications with respect to this document should be sent to:

John R. Mietus, Jr. Law Office of John Mietus, LLC 12505 Park Potomac Ave., 6th Floor Potomac, MD 20854 (202) 747-5212 john@mietuslaw.com

Counsel for CARIBBEAN SUN AIRLINES, INC. d/b/a WORLD ATLANTIC AIRLINES

August 18, 2020

### BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WASHINGTON, D.C.

U.SHAVANA PUBLIC CHARTER AUTHORIZATIONS	) ) DOCKET OST-2020-0011 ) August 18, 2020
	)

## ANSWER OF CARIBBEAN SUN AIRLINES, INC. d/b/a WORLD ATLANTIC AIRLINES

By application dated August 11, 2020 in the above-captioned docket, Allegiant Air, LLC requested the distribution of 205 charters from the U.S.-Havana public charter pool. Caribbean Sun Airlines, Inc. d/b/a World Atlantic Airlines ("WAA") objects to Allegiant's application. WAA's concern is not with Allegiant. Rather, it is with the proposed charter operator, Anmart Superior Travel LLC ("Superior"). WAA respectfully submits that Allegiant's request to fly for Superior is not in the public interest and should be rejected.

Superior stumbled badly in attempting its first Cuba charter program. Havana Air's February 12, 2020 objections in the above-captioned docket described the first-day collapse of Superior's 2019 program and the resultant stranding of passengers. WAA, which was to have flown for Superior under prospectus PC-19-147, concluded during this year's charter allocation proceeding that it could no longer support Superior's attempts to begin Cuba charters.

After allocating Havana charters in Order 2020-5-7, the Department opened 10% of the available annual charters to pool requests. No carrier proposed in that first pool round to conduct an operation for Superior. As it was, the 10% pool was not sufficient to satisfy the full requests of any carriers or charter operators in that first round.

What's available today is a pool refilled by charters returned because Cuba continues to prohibit Havana charters during the COVID-19 crisis. The carriers and operators making these returns have already requested reallocation of the meager COVID return pool to reprogram what will remain of the charter year. And only now does Superior, newly doing business as Anmart Air, reappear with what must be considered a speculative proposal to re-attempt Cuba service. In the unusual (and hopefully time-limited) circumstances posed by this year's COVID return pool, the Department's priority should be to maintain access to charters for the carriers and operators it has already selected for the first charter year.

World Atlantic Airlines Comments August 18, 2020 Page 3

Accordingly, World Atlantic Airlines respectfully urges the Department to deny Allegiant Air's application.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Mietus, Jr.

Counsel for CARIBBEAN SUN AIRLINES, INC. d/b/a WORLD

ATLANTIC AIRLINES

August 18, 2020

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of this letter was served by email this 18th day of August, 2020, on the following persons:

Aerocuba, Cubazul,

Havana Air jmaddux@ggh-airlaw.com

Allegiant Air laura.overton, joanna.hufhand@allegiantair.com

American robert.wirick, john.b.williams@aa.com

Cuba Travel Services lpera@kmazuckert.com

Delta alex.krulic, chris.walker, steven.seiden@delta.com

Invicta esahr@eckertseamans.com, dderco@eckertseamans.com

JetBlue robert.land, reese.davidson@jetblue.com
Southwest bob.kneisley, leslie.abbott@wnco.com
Anmart Superior Travel anmartsuperiortravel@yahoo.com
United dan.weiss, steve.morrissey@united.com

Xael romanow@pillsburylaw.com

John R. Mietus, Jr.