

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
NEWS RELEASE**

Contact: Gina Fernandes

Gina@jurisproductions.com

626-356-3006

American Airlines Employees Sue Manufacturer for Dangerous Uniforms That Cause Illness

(OAKLAND, CA) September 28, 2017 – A group of nearly 150 American Airlines employees filed a lawsuit on Wednesday in Alameda County Superior Court against clothing manufacturer Twin Hill Acquisition Company Inc. and its parent company Tailored Brands Purchasing, LLC for health problems they claim were caused by company-issued uniforms.

Twin Hill shipped roughly 1.4 million garments and accessories to more than 65,000 American Airlines employees worldwide in the fall of 2016. Shortly after introducing the uniforms into the workforce, many employees began experiencing a wide range of health problems as a result of exposure to various chemicals ultimately found in the synthetic materials.

According to the Association of Professional Flight Attendants, more than three thousand flight attendants and about 200 pilots have made complaints that the new uniforms have caused a range of illnesses that include, but are not limited to, rashes, hives, respiratory problems, cognitive problems, headaches, ear and throat irritations, fatigue and various auto-immune conditions.

The plaintiffs' attorneys argue these health problems have impacted the ability of these employees to do their jobs. "If a pilot or a flight attendant is suffering from physical and cognitive impairments that puts the safety of airline passengers at risk," said plaintiff attorney Brian Kabateck.

The lawsuit contends the fabric used in the uniforms is dangerously defective by creating an unreasonable risk of physical harm to those who wear them and to those who are exposed to them. The complaint also states the manufacturer failed to warn consumers about the dangers associated with wearing these garments.

"Most of us washed our uniforms dozens of times to get rid of the chemicals but that didn't work. We even soaked them in vinegar. Nothing worked. There was nothing we could do to insure we weren't being exposed to poison," said plaintiff Heather Poole.

The chemicals detected in the fabric include formaldehyde, pentachlorophenol, monochlorophenols, tetrachlorophenols, trichlorophenols, toluene, cobalt, cadmium, captafol, chromium, copper, nickel, antimony, benzyl benzoate, hexyl cinnamic aldehyde and benzaldehyde. Several of these substances are known to cause dermatological, respiratory, neurologic and allergenic/immunological conditions.

“We believe these employees are experiencing an immunological response due to exposure to multiple chemicals,” said lead plaintiff attorney Andrew Spielberger. “These immunological responses can result in a cascade of symptoms that are described and supported by the applicable medical literature,” added Spielberger.

The plaintiffs’ legal team includes attorneys Andrew Spielberger and Daniel Balaban with the Brentwood law firm Balaban & Spielberger and Brian S. Kabateck with the Los Angeles law firm Kabateck Brown Kellner, LLP.

###