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Career & Workplace

# American Airlines now a defendant in lawsuit tied to uniform crisis

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An amended lawsuit filed in federal district court in Chicago on Thursday seeks to compel American Airlines to remove all Twin Hill uniforms from the workplace immediately. Some of those outfits are seen in this image.

By Lewis Lazare - Reporter, Chicago Business Journal  
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American Airlines has now formally been dragged into growing litigation stemming from the uniform crisis that has plagued the world's largest airline for more than a year.

On Thursday a group of AA employees amended a lawsuit initially filed in federal district court in Chicago in early August that listed only AA uniform supplier Twin Hill as a defendant. The amended lawsuit now names American Airlines (NASDAQ: AAL) as a defendant too.

Plaintiffs in the amended lawsuit include Dena and Joseph Catan.

Dena Catan is an AA flight attendant. Joseph Catan is Dena's husband and the AA pilot who famously noted at a crew meeting last March in front of AA top management that he had experienced what he believed to be symptomatic reactions triggered by the Twin Hill uniforms. Catan then went on to say he believed there was a safety issue in the cockpit tied to the Twin Hill uniforms.

In September of 2016, AA rolled out new uniforms supplied by Twin Hill to more than 70,000 airline employees. Since then thousands of flight attendants, pilots and other AA employees have experienced symptomatic reactions to the uniforms ranging from hives and rashes to headaches and severe respiratory problems.

Twin Hill is a unit of Men's Wearhouse, which is a unit of Tailored Brands (NYSE: TLRD).

In addition the lawsuit filed in Chicago, a second lawsuit listing around 100 AA flight attendants as plaintiffs and Twin Hill as the sole defendant also was filed on Wednesday in Alameda County Court in California.

• The text from both lawsuits are published below.

In the California lawsuit, the flight attendants, among other things, are seeking monetary restitution for damages they allege are due to wearing the uniforms supplied Twin Hill.

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