



For immediate release:  
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## PRESS RELEASE

### RI Council 94 & Local 2873 RI Airport Corporation Question Kevin Dillon's Credibility

**North Providence** – Today, Rhode Island Council 94, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO and Local 2873, RI Airport Corporation questioned the credibility of Kevin Dillon.

Joseph Marcello, president of Local 2873, explained, “For the last few weeks we have made contract offers that would save the Rhode Island Airport Corporation hundreds of thousands of dollars. In return the Airport Corporation has laid off 22 employees and claimed that declining passenger traffic is causing a “death spiral”. However, RIAC’s presentation to a bond rating company on July 19, 2010 claims that the airport is in a strong financial position. Additionally, employee costs are down 25% in the past 2 years. While our members want to help the airport grow stronger and operate safely we will not cave into exaggerated claims of a ‘death spiral’.”

J. Michael Downey, President of RI Council 94, AFSCME, stated, “Council 94 will not stand idle while RIAC attempts to bypass bargaining and unilaterally impose new terms. We have filed an unfair labor practice with the Rhode Island State Labor Relations Board because the Airport Corporation has not bargained in good faith. We will also pursue every other legal remedy available. I find it particularly offensive that Mr. Dillon, who earns nearly \$300,000 a year from the Airport, has so cavalierly dismissed the union’s significant cost saving proposals, including pay reductions, while falsely claiming poverty. Our members deserve honesty and good faith negotiations from the airport.”

RI Council 94, AFSCME represents over 10,000 active and retired state, municipal and private sector employees.