

Justice Building 1162 Court Street NE Salem, Oregon 97301-4096 Telephone: (503) 378-6002

July 28, 2025

Mr. Andrew Levy Chief Executive Officer Avelo Airlines 12 Greenway Plaza, Suite 400 Houston, Texas 77046 alevy@aveloair.com

Re: Avelo Airlines in Oregon

Dear Mr. Levy:

As Oregon's Attorney General, I am committed to upholding Oregon priorities and the rule of law. In many cases, this means supporting businesses that promote tourism and invest in local economies in our state. It also means stepping in when Oregon's values are under threat.

Avelo has been a valuable contributor to Oregon's communities and economies. In October 2023, Avelo's arrival at McNary Field (Salem-Willamette Valley Airport) brought commercial routes back to the airport for the first time in nearly 15 years. Since then, Avelo has been the only commercial airline offering flights to and from our state's capital.

However, in recent months, our office has heard from hundreds of Oregonians in Salem, Eugene, and surrounding areas expressing significant concerns that Avelo Airlines may have entered into a contract to operate charter flights in service to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Immigration Control and Enforcement Agency. Reports of such flights are downright horrifying: separating parents from children, deporting residents overseas in direct defiance of court orders to return, transporting people in chains without measures to ensure basic safety. Such abusive practices are not required to keep Oregon communities safe or enforce immigration laws. Instead, they are cruel by design – not to mention incredibly wasteful of taxpayer dollars. No business should be complicit in such action. The Oregon Department of Justice is prepared to uphold the rule of law and hold accountable any business that is.

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I am aware that Avelo recently announced its decision to <u>stop service from Salem in August</u>, and to <u>stop service from Eugene</u>, <u>Redmond</u>, <u>and Medford later this year</u>. I am hopeful that this decision means no unlawful, inhuman flights will depart from Oregon soil. At the same time, I strongly encourage Avelo to immediately halt *all* such flights, even outside of our state's borders. Such cruelty has no place in Oregon – and no place in the United States of America.

The Office of the Attorney General is committed to protecting Oregon's laws and values. Should it come to our attention that our laws and values have been breached, we will investigate with the full authority granted to us on behalf of all Oregonians.

Sincerely,

Dan Rayfield

Oregon Attorney General