

### **Statement from Boeing:**

Mr. Pierson describes concerns he raised with Boeing management about conditions on the 737 production line in 2018. Boeing is deeply committed to encouraging its employees to raise issues—particularly those that might involve safety or quality—and provides several internal avenues for employees to do so.

The circumstances described by Mr. Pierson illustrate the seriousness of Boeing's commitment to assessing such concerns. As Mr. Pierson recounts, in mid-2018 he was able to raise his concerns directly with the head of the 737 program, who subsequently communicated with Mr. Pierson, including in an in-person meeting. Although Mr. Pierson did not provide specific information or detail about any particular defect or quality issue, Boeing took his concerns about 737 production disruption seriously. After Mr. Pierson retired and raised this issue again in late 2018 and 2019, those concerns received renewed scrutiny at the highest levels of the company, and were reviewed by multiple senior executives responsible for the 737 program, including the head of the 737 program and the head of quality for BCA. On both occasions, company executives and senior leaders on the 737 program were made aware of Mr. Pierson's concerns, discussed them in detail, and took appropriate steps to assess them.

As was explained to Mr. Pierson at the time, Boeing senior leadership was aware of production challenges with the 737 line in 2018, and devoted significant attention and resources to addressing those issues and maintaining production quality. Boeing closely monitors production quality data, as well as other data related to the overall health of the production system, including, and especially, during periods of disruption. Moreover, all Boeing aircraft are subject to rigorous inspection before they are certified, delivered, and enter into service. Boeing also has access to data concerning the in-service performance and reliability of the 737 fleet, and reviews such data continuously to identify potential emergent issues.

Importantly, the suggestion by Mr. Pierson of a link between his concerns and the recent MAX accidents is completely unfounded. Mr. Pierson raises issues about the production of the 737 MAX, yet none of the authorities investigating these accidents have found that production conditions in the 737 factory contributed in any way to these accidents. And the suggestion of such a linkage is inconsistent with the facts that have been reported about these accidents. We are confident that the NTSB and other accident investigative authorities and regulators are adequately assessing all potential causes of these accidents over the course of their rigorous, extensive, and independent reviews.

Mr. Pierson did the right thing by elevating his concerns, and the fact that he was able to personally brief the head of the program and the company's General Counsel demonstrates Boeing's commitment to safety and to hearing employee concerns.