

Submission #107701: Flight Crew Incident - Crew member hurt in flight

ID: 107701

Submitted By: Harold Manu

Submission Type: Flight Crew Incident

Event Date/Time: 03/02/2023 16:20 Central Time (US & Canada)

Event Title: Crew member hurt in flight

Flight Information

Flight Number: FFT 1369

Tail Number: N366FR

Aircraft Type: A320neo

Departure Airport: KMDW;MDW

Departure Runway: 4R

Scheduled Arrival Airport: KDFW;DFW

Landing Airport: KDFW;DFW

Landing Runway: 17R

Flight Phase at Start of Event: Descent

Seat Belt Sign: Off

Weather/Visibility

Meteorological Conditions: VMC

Thunderstorms: Yes, In-vicinity

Turbulence: Moderate

Windshear: Moderate

Temperature: 27 degrees Celsius

Wind: 180/21 gust 31

Narratives

Please provide a narrative about the event, including what happened, where and when the event occurred, and who was involved:

On our crew brief prior to departure, I told the crew that we would be expecting mostly smooth rides till we pass the STL area then a bumpy ride all the way to the destination DFW. We pretty much had the exact conditions as briefed as expected. I made a PA to ask the FAs to remain seated. Over half way through the flight, due to the rough ride we requested a deviation around the cells to the south of our course to get a smoother ride. ATC additionally gave us a re-route to transition us south of the weather and get back on the same arrival transitioning from the east to DFW. The ride got better and I turned off the seat belt sign.

On our arrival, we were given a descent clearance from our cruise altitude of FL280 to FL240 and maintain 290 knots or better. It was mostly smooth so I had the seat belt sign off. During the descent we started getting some light chop and all of a sudden we experienced one big bump unexpectedly and I immediately turned the seat belt sign on and made a call to the FAs to get seated. The A FA told me that one crew member fell and hit her head and hip and was unable to get up. I asked about her condition and was told that she in pain and was unable to get into her jump seat for the arrival and landing.

We immediately declared an emergency with ATC and sent an ACARS to DISP and requested paramedics on arrival at the gate. We were given priority to land and we requested runway 17R instead of 17C because it was closer to our gate of arrival.

The paramedics met us at the gate and upon assessment of her situation decided to take out from the aft galley through the aft exit door because they suspected that she may have a broken hip.

Please provide a narrative outlining suggestions for avoiding recurrence of this event (Debrief).:

Unfortunately unexpected turbulence can not be determined, so it is difficult to avoid incidents like this.

Types of Events

Types of Events: Turbulence - Severe or Greater