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Release Date: 02/03/2023



STATEMENT

Jessica Pearson and the East Wind

Singing for passengers on a grounded plane during a windstorm

The purpose of this statement is to clarify misinformation surrounding a viral video about <u>Jessica Pearson</u> singing for passengers on a grounded plane during a storm. The video was taken out of context and reframed with a false narrative that does not reflect the true story.

Passengers were unable to deplane due to an extreme wind storm that made it unsafe to do so. The crew did an excellent job of taking care of the passengers while they waited out the storm. After about 6 hours of being grounded, the pilot asked the girls if they would sing for the passengers having noticed their instruments upon boarding. The girls were happy to help in any way possible.

They performed a few original songs and then started taking requests. Passengers joined in singing and playing impromptu instruments like the spoons. The crew asked if the girls would move to the front of the plane for a few songs because passengers there wanted to hear them as well. The whole session lasted 45 mins. It lifted the mood and helped pass the time.

The crew and passengers gave the girls chocolate and compliments and when finally deboarding, passengers clapped for them, tagged them in their own videos on socials and thanked them for playing. People stopped the girls in the airport to compliment and thank them.

"You ladies made a lot of people much happier today, thank you! That last original was incredible" @jessevandermaas

"5 hour later... Thanks for the music! @jessicapearsoneastwind" @ggaluppoart

The airline <u>posted</u> about it on their socials with gratitude and the feel good story was picked up by <u>lceland</u>, <u>New Zealand</u> and <u>Ottawa</u> news outlets.

Jessica posted a short video about the event to her TikTok page on Jan 23rd with the following copy: "We got stranded on our plane in Iceland for 10 hours due to 115 km winds...luckily we had our instruments on the plane and decided to start a sing-along". In retrospect, the copy in the post did not accurately frame the entirety of the story.

On Feb 1st, that video went viral with a narrative that the girls arbitrarily decided to sing for stranded passengers on a plane for 10 hours. This **false** narrative incited a swift negative response and the hate escalated to a level of death threats. The video was taken down in response.

However, the video had already been stitched and has now been picked up and reposted by major outlets perpetuating this **false** narrative and contributing to the cyber bullying which is irresponsible and dangerous.

"I am shocked and discouraged that a shared moment of joy has been turned into a vicious attack. The sheer level of hate is incomprehensible. I was told to kill myself because I played songs for people on a plane. That's insane." - Jessica P.

Jessica Pearson is a consummate professional. She is an accomplished and well respected artist in the music community both in Canada and abroad. She was asked to share her music to help bring comfort to the passengers in a difficult situation and she agreed.

It was a beautiful memory shared by the passengers, the crew and the artists because music connects us all. That's the only story here.

#changeyouraltitude #planeandsimple #eastwindstorm

For questions or comment contact Tara Shannon (admin@willow-sound.com) 613.445.3340

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ABOUT WILLOW SOUND RECORDS

Willow Sound is a record label dedicated to the development and distribution of independent music. With a special focus on education, Willow Sound provides full A&R services to fully understand the business of music while empowering the artist in becoming the CEO of their own music enterprise. Together with its network of service providers, Willow Sound partners with the artist providing the support and guidance they need to understand what it means to be "indie" in this new music industry while strategizing the most effective ways to Create. Capture. Connect™ their music with the world and become successful Musicpreneurs.