Dear Valued Customers,

We wish to inform you of the ongoing negotiations between the International Longshoremen's Association (ILA) and the United States Maritime Alliance (USMX), which remain unresolved. As a result, there is a possibility of a second strike affecting the U.S. East and Gulf Coast ports.

The current conditional agreement is set to expire on January 15. If no resolution is reached by then, a strike may commence on January 16. This potential strike could significantly disrupt supply chains, causing delays in cargo movement, increased costs, and logistical challenges, particularly for businesses dependent on these ports. Prolonged disruptions could further impact import and export activities, container availability, and overall operational efficiency.

From January 16, vessel operations may face uncertainty. Arkas Line is committed to closely monitoring the situation and will keep you updated with relevant information. In accordance with our Bill of Lading Terms and Conditions, we must inform you that this situation is beyond our control.

We strongly recommend that all customers collect laden containers from terminals and return empty units by January 15. Please stay informed by monitoring terminal updates and our advisories.

Given the fluid nature of this situation, we are dedicated to keeping you informed and working closely with you to address any challenges that may arise. We understand the inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your patience, understanding, and continued support.

Please note that the strike is beyond the control of Arkas Line, and we are doing everything possible to minimize its impact on your shipments.

For any questions or concerns, please contact the following:

- Booking inquiries: <u>usbkg@arkas-usa.com</u>
- SI and BL inquiries: <u>usexp@arkas-usa.com</u>
- Invoice and payment requests: <u>usacc@arkas-usa.com</u>
- Equipment requests: <u>usequ@arkas-usa.com</u>
- General inquiries: <u>usmng@arkas-usa.com</u>
- Accounting: usac2@arkas-usa.com

Sincerely,

Arkas Line

