May 07, 2020

Dear Front Line Hero,

 My name is Dana Murgita Springfield College Class of ’84 and I am an SC Alumni volunteer with the Pioneer Valley Alumni Association in Springfield Mass. I would like to Thank You and all the members of the Northeast Chapter of the Society of Critical Care Medicine for continuing to provide exceptional service and care during what will probably be considered one of the most extraordinary events of our time.

 I too am a front line employee and first responder, however not in the same capacity. I train and serve as an Officer with the Transportation Security Administration. You know the ones that take your shampoo away. While airport passenger throughput has decreased by about 96% over the last couple of months, TSA continues to show up to work to screen passengers and their property to ensure safe freedom of movement for people and commerce. Those that seek to do harm often take advantage of situations like the one we are currently experiencing as they perceive this as a vulnerability and an opportunity to strike while we are preoccupied. We encounter daily individuals with no personal protective equipment or those that may be carrying the virus but are asymptomatic. Our procedures have been drastically altered due to this pandemic but there is always that risk that we will be exposed or become infected ourselves.

 Please accept this letter of gratitude for all that you do and continue to stay safe.

Sincerely,

Dana Murgita BS ’84, MS ‘86