



NATCA & FAA Collaborative Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Workgroup Meets for First Time

NATCA representatives are a part of a collaborative Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Workgroup with the FAA. The BIL – technically the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act – is the legislation that will allow a once-in-a-generation investment in our nation’s infrastructure. The BIL includes \$5 billion for repair and maintenance in addition to replacement of FAA owned air traffic control facilities. The legislation also invests \$20 billion in airports to address repair and maintenance backlogs, reduce congestion and emissions, and drive electrification and other low-carbon technologies. This \$20 billion includes funds for repair and maintenance as well as replacement of airport-owned towers.

NATCA’s representatives on the BIL Workgroup are Executive Vice President Andrew LeBovidge, Chief of Staff Dean Iacopelli, Region X Vice President Brad Davidson, National Program Management Organization Office Rep Dan Hamilton (San Francisco ATCT, SFO), NATCA Director of Safety and Technology Tom Adcock, and NATCA Deputy Director of Labor Relations Akua Brempong-Smith.



Last week, the BIL Workgroup had its first meeting. During this meeting, the

FAA briefed the group on the methodology that the FAA intends to use to make decisions about how to allocate these resources. NATCA's representatives on the BIL Workgroup will collaborate on that distribution of funds and other aspects of this process. Last year, NATCA surveyed all local presidents to create a prioritized list of maintenance and construction needs. NATCA will make sure this priority list is included in these discussions.

NATCA Member Attends Reception & Tournament with Congressman Swalwell



On May 5, NATCA member Juan Serna-Spuler (San Francisco ATCT, SFO) attended a reception with Congressman Eric Swalwell, D-Calif. The event was attended by 20 or so other supporters. On May 6, Serna-Spuler also joined Congressman Swalwell for a benefit golf tournament. Serna-Spuler and the Congressman played the tournament in the same foursome. The Congressman invited

Serna-Spuler to participate when they met in Swalwell's office during NATCA in Washington. The tournament benefited Castro Valley High School where Serna-Spuler's stepson went to school. In addition, NATCA member Brian Delucchi (SFO) was also a part of the foursome. It was a great opportunity to build a personal relationship, Serna-Spuler said.

PHOTO: (left to right) Juan Serna-Spuler and Congressman Eric Swalwell

NATCA Member Attends Reception with Congressman Levin

On April 30, Gillespie/San Diego ATCT (SEE) FacRep Christopher Marovich attended a reception with Congressman Mike Levin, D-Calif., and Congressman Levin's assistant

Colby Rogers who helped facilitate the meet and greet. Marovich thanked Congressman Levin for his support of NATCA and for being a co-signer on H.R. 4042 (the Aviation Funding Stability Act of 2021) as well as other legislation supported by NATCA. They discussed the importance of stable predictable funding and the deterioration of some facilities in the National Airspace System (NAS),



including Carlsbad Palomar ATCT (CRQ) in Levin's district. Congressman Levin expressed an interest in visiting CRQ at McClellan-Palomar Airport – 35 miles north of downtown San Diego in Carlsbad, Calif., and Marovich offered to coordinate that visit. During the event, former Congresswoman Susan Davis surprised everyone by attending to show her support for Congressman Levin and thank him for all his hard work in the 49th Congressional District. Marovich thanked her for her support of NATCA's issues through the years.

PHOTO: (left to right) Congressman Mike Levin, former Rep. Susan Davis, and Christopher Marovich

Narciso Torres: Husband, Father, Brother, MIA FacRep, Friend, Remembered for Selfless Nature, Positivity, and Passionate Leadership

Narciso Torres, an air traffic controller and NATCA member at three different facilities since 2008 who served as FacRep at Miami ATCT (MIA) since Oct. 1, 2019, and whose selfless nature and positive energy made him beloved by many, passed away on Saturday, May 14 in a tragic aircraft accident. He was 36.

Torres was piloting a Cessna 172 that lost engine power, according to the FAA, crash-landed on the Haulover Inlet Bridge north of Miami Beach, Fla., and struck a vehicle. Two passengers flying with Torres, his brother-in-law and cousin, were injured but able to escape the aircraft.

"This is a terrible tragedy that has sent shock waves throughout our NATCA family," President Rich Santa said. "Our hearts go out to Narciso's wife, Jennifer, his entire family, and the many fellow Union brothers and sisters that loved him so much and are now dealing with an unspeakable loss. Narciso touched so many people with his warmth and kindness, both within

NATCA, in the facilities he worked, and in every interaction he had.”



Celebrating the Life of our NATCA Brother Narciso Torres



Remembered for Selfless Nature, Positivity, and Passionate Leadership

Torres was at MIA since June 2015. He began his FAA career in May 2008 at Orlando ATCT (MCO), transferred to New York TRACON (N90) for one year in 2010, and returned to MCO in July 2011, where he served as FacRep from January 2013 to May 2015.

Southern Regional Vice President and former MIA FacRep Jim Marinitti, who was at the facility to console members on Monday, called Torres “my FacRep,” and praised his passion and leadership. “Narciso was full of positive energy and passionate about his family and NATCA, which was an extension of his family,” Marinitti said. “He recognized how one complemented the other. He was driven by the need to help people and work towards solutions.”

MIA Vice President Nick Candelier, who worked with Torres since 2015, called him an “extraordinary and talented individual. His passion and dedication for the Union was limitless, and he sacrificed so much time to support his NATCA brothers and sisters. A true leader, his positive attitude and humor had ways of pulling people together, creating lasting bonds. MIA and so many others will truly miss this charismatic and loving individual.”

Read more [here](#).

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