



Santa to Join FAA-NASA Press Conference Sept. 28 on ATD-2



NATCA President Rich Santa will participate in a virtual press conference on Sept. 28 at 1 p.m. EDT with the administrators of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Steve Dickson, and NASA, Bill Nelson, and several airport and airline representatives.

They will discuss NASA's Airspace

Technology Demonstration 2 ([ATD-2](#)) research project, which will eventually become Terminal Flight Data Manager (TFDM). NATCA members can watch the press conference on the [FAA's YouTube channel](#) or [NASA TV](#).

Nominations to Agencies Important to Federal Employees Set to Begin in the Senate

The Biden administration has been busy the last couple of months making many nominations for key positions in important agencies tasked with overseeing labor-management relations for federal employees and adjudicating appeals of adverse actions. Now,

the focus shifts to the Senate, which will consider the nominees. Among them is a familiar name to NATCA, Susan Tsui Grundmann. The former chairwoman of the Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) and former NATCA general counsel was nominated to fill the second seat on the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) controlled by the president's party. The FLRA administers the labor-management relations program for 2.1 million non-Postal federal employees worldwide, approximately 1.2 million of whom are represented in 2,200 bargaining units. If confirmed, Grundmann would join Chairman Ernest DuBester, who has already been nominated to a new term, giving the president a majority on the panel.



[Read more.](#)

Central Region: T75 Member Honored by Union Plus as a Union Member Going Above and Beyond



St. Louis TRACON (T75) member Pete Seddon is among a select group of winners of the Union Plus “Unions Power America” contest, honoring extraordinary union members who are going above and beyond at home, work, and in their communities to help power America and continue to build it back better. Seddon is one of only 100 union members from around the country chosen as winners from more than 4,000

applicants. He will be receiving a check for \$1,000. Every 2-3 weeks for the past eight years, Seddon spends over two hours hooked up to a centrifuge as his platelets are separated and collected from his blood. These platelets are then donated to patients fighting cancer, chronic illness, and major injuries. “I am very proud to have won,” Seddon said.

[Read more.](#)

MacQueen, Marinitti at National Office as Part of NEB In-Person Work on Key Issues

Individual National Executive Board members have begun meeting in small groups at the National Office in Washington, D.C., each week to work with President Rich Santa, Executive Vice President Andrew LeBovidge, and some members of the staff in addressing many key issues. This week, it has been Great Lakes Regional Vice President

(RVP) Drew MacQueen (left) and Southern RVP Jim Marinitti (right). Masks are required in the National Office and meetings are kept small and distanced for safety. MacQueen and Marinitti, in addition to their regular RVP duties, discussed OSHA matters, particularly HVAC and air filtration systems in facilities as we continue to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic.



ATOMS Update



Air Traffic Operations Management System (ATOMS) Update

The Air Traffic Operations Management System (ATOMS) is a program intended to replace the aging CRU-X/ART system. The first release is nearing completion with key site testing expected to commence next month.

Approximately 100 towers and tower/TRACONS can expect to see this first release in their facility in early 2022. Three additional releases are awaiting development and will be deployed to facilities once development and thorough testing is completed.

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