



## Celebrate Freedom on Juneteenth

On June 19, the United States commemorates the ending of slavery in our country. From its Galveston, Texas, origin in 1865, the observance of Juneteenth as the African American Emancipation Day has spread across our nation.

Today, Americans come together in remembrance, commemoration, appreciation, reconciliation, and celebration. We must remember all our history, learning from both the good and bad, the tragic and the inspiring. We commemorate our ancestors who suffered and fought the horrific institution that was slavery. We appreciate the strength in the American spirit that was necessary to fight that evil and work to make our nation a more perfect union. We reconcile with the fact that we must continue fighting to fully realize the promises of the Declaration of Independence and achieve greater equality. Finally, we celebrate freedom.



19 JUNE

# JUNE TEENTH

FREEDOM DAY

On this day, our Union commits to continuing to work toward greater equality within our Union for all our NATCA brothers and sisters.

Have a proud Juneteenth Commemoration!

# *The Delegate*

*Update about NATCA's 19th Biennial Convention*



DAY 1 | MONDAY, JUNE 19, 2023

Welcome to NATCA's 19th Biennial Convention

NATCA Brothers and Sisters:

It is truly an honor to officially welcome NATCA's 830 delegates from 310 facilities to our Union's 19th Biennial Convention in Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood, Florida.

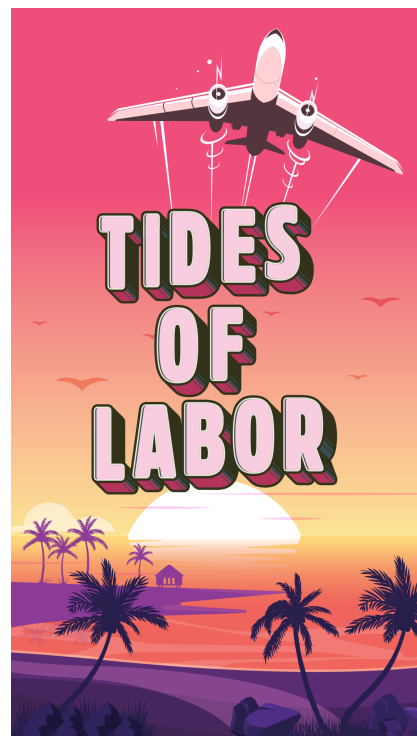
As with past conventions, we come together this week to discuss the vital issues that face our Union and build toward a better future for every member. Like those NATCA members that came before us, we will continue to join in solidarity to work for fair pay, a voice on the job, and the right to collectively bargain.

NATCA is one of the most influential unions in the federal sector. These Convention discussions are vital to the continued success of our Union because they allow the voices of our members to be heard, regarding the issues that members consider to be important. The National Airspace System is growing more complex every year, so it is vital that we have adequate staffing, hiring, and training of air traffic controllers and up-to-date facilities to maintain the NAS as the safest and most efficient in the world.

In addition to the important work at each Convention, this year marks a return to our full schedule of in-person events including our receptions, regional dinners, and NATCA Charitable Foundation events. At our last convention in Houston, we did the right thing by focusing on the business of the Union and masking up to protect each other as we continued the long recovery after the pandemic. Staying strong, we made it through, and now, we can return to our normal Convention activities. The planning committee for this Convention, arranged for great evening events where Convention attendees can network with their Union siblings, get to know each other better, and learn about working in other facilities throughout the country, while having fun and experiencing food and culture of NATCA's Southern Region.

Speaking about the planning committee, we need to extend our thanks to these excellent member volunteers and NATCA's staff, who worked tirelessly for many months to plan this Convention and all of the related events and make it as productive and memorable an experience as possible for every delegate.

The planning committee was chaired by Amy Sayers (Fort Lauderdale ATCT, FLL) and Southern Regional Vice President Jim Marinitti. The NATCA members on the planning committee for this Convention include: Danny Aguerre (Miami Center, ZMA); Corrie Conrad (NATCA Charitable Foundation President and Portland Tower, PDX, President); Charles Howell (Oakland Center, ZOA, President); Chris Martinez (NATCA Credentials Committee Chair and Myrtle Beach ATCT, MYR, President); Brittany Nortmann (Miami Center, ZMA); Amanda Richardson (Oakland Center, ZOA); Corey Soignet (Houston Intercontinental ATCT, IAH); and Sandy Tighe (retired member, Minneapolis Center, ZMP). It also includes the following NATCA staff: Deputy



Director of Public Affairs Kelly Richardson, Meeting Planning and Events Representative Mindy Soranno, and Director of Public Affairs Thom Metzger.

I can't tell you how thrilled and excited we are to begin this Convention and start the important discussions and debates that have become the hallmark of this event. For even when we disagree on the path forward, we come together as one Union to do what we collectively believe is best for every NATCA member.

We ask you to take this opportunity to listen and learn from each other. Focus on the business at hand and please, but after we adjourn each day, take advantage of the beautiful venue and all that Fort Lauderdale and Hollywood, Florida, have to offer.

Let's get to work!

In Solidarity,

Rich Santa  
President

Andrew LeBovidge  
Executive Vice President

## Welcome to NATCA's Southern Region



NATCA Brothers and Sisters:

Our Union's Southern Region is proud to welcome you to Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood, Florida, for NATCA's 19th Biennial Convention.

NATCA's Southern Region represents 117 locals (60 FAA facilities, 56 contract towers, 1 DOD facility) in eight states (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee) and the U.S. territories of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. NATCA's Southern Region is geographically the largest air traffic region among our Union's regions and has more coastline than any other NATCA region. NATCA's Southern Region also has more members than any other region in our Union.

NATCA's Southern Region includes the busiest airport in the world (Hartsfield–Jackson Atlanta International Airport, ATL); the busiest air traffic control facility in the world (Atlanta Center, ZTL); and the busiest ATC-11 facilities in the country (Jacksonville Center, ZJX, and Miami Center, ZMA) that are busier than any other facility except for ZTL. Our Union's Southern Region also has more centers than any other region (ZTL; ZJX; Memphis Center, ZME; ZMA; and San Juan Center, ZSU). NATCA's Southern Region includes the nation's tallest air traffic control tower (ATL, which stands at 398 feet) and newest air traffic control tower (at Charlotte Douglas International Airport, CLT), which opened in April 2022.

NATCA's Southern Region is some of our nation's busiest airspace. The region is full of big cities that host the headquarters of some of the world's largest companies like The Home Depot, Coca-Cola, FedEx, UPS, and Delta Air Lines; a huge number of sports teams and international sporting events such as the Kentucky Derby, Daytona 500, Orange Bowl, and Masters Golf Tournament; cultural centers like Nashville and Miami; and tourist attractions like Disney World, Universal Studios, and many world-famous beach communities like Fort Lauderdale. Many of the space launches that take place in the U.S. occur here.

The planning committee for NATCA's 19th Biennial Convention has arranged evening events that highlight the diverse music and culinary scenes for which our region is famous.

We welcome you and hope you enjoy your time here!

In Solidarity,

Jim Marinitti  
Southern Regional Vice President

Amy Sayers  
Fort Lauderdale ATCT (FLL)  
Convention Planning Committee  
Chair

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## **NATCA Members Can Live Stream the General Sessions from Our Union's 19th Biennial Convention**

NATCA's 19th Biennial Convention will be live streamed on the members-only [natca.org](http://natca.org) website (requiring a password) beginning on Wednesday, June 21, at approximately 9 a.m. EDT. The live stream will continue on Thursday, June 22, at approximately 9 a.m. EDT.



For the link to the live stream and all news and information about NATCA's Convention – before, during, and after the event – click [here](#).

**NOTE:** Videos from the Convention will be available to view on demand after the event on the members-only side of the NATCA website.

## Proposed Amendments and Resolutions

A few weeks ago, NATCA members should have received a Convention package containing all the proposed amendments to the NATCA constitution, resolutions, and policy and position statements in the mail. The booklet is also available electronically on the NATCA Convention resources page.

# CONVENTION PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE ONLINE

Find it on the NATCA Convention  
resource web page.



Proposed Amendments  
and Resolutions

Proposed Policy and  
Position Statements

If you have further questions, reach out to the National Constitution Committee at [ncc@natca.net](mailto:ncc@natca.net).

## Robert's Rules of Order

Robert's Rules of Order, which is used at all Union meetings including the upcoming NATCA 19th Biennial Convention, provides procedures for deliberation and debate in order to place the whole membership on the same footing and speaking the same language.



NATCA's parliamentarian Jim Slaughter provided this quick guide to help our members understand the fundamentals of Robert's Rules.

To view it, click [here](#).

[Visit our Website](#)



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