



Happy Labor Day!

Today is Labor Day when we celebrate the contributions of workers across the nation. We stand proudly with our union sisters and brothers who are coming together and organizing to make our lives and livelihoods better, across the country.



IT'S BETTER
— IN A —
Union

Labor Day is a reminder that the strength of our nation lies in its working

people. Today we recognize the strides that unions have made over the years in protecting and expanding the rights of workers. In the first six months of 2023, the National Labor Relations Board saw a 69 percent increase in the number of petitions filed by workers to exercise the freedom to join a union.

While we celebrate these achievements, we also acknowledge that the challenges facing all working people are far from over. The struggles for fair wages, safe working environments, and the right to organize are ongoing battles that require our continued collective dedication.

This Labor Day we know that together, we can overcome any obstacle. Here's to all the workers who keep America running. Your dedication is the foundation of our great nation, and we're honored to be alongside you in this fight. Happy Labor Day!

NATCA Hosts Meet and Greet for Academy Trainees in Oklahoma City

On Aug. 16, NATCA hosted an informal Q&A session for FAA Academy trainees in Oklahoma City. 30 Academy trainees attended the meet and greet where they received information on training, FAA funding, facility placement, Union benefits, NATCA's role, and more.



**NATCA Hosts Meet and Greet
for FAA Academy Trainees**
Oklahoma City | Aug. 2023

NATCA President Rich Santa, Eastern Region Vice President Brian Shallenberger, Organizing Committee Chair John Bratcher (Fort Smith ATCT, FSM), Reloaded Committee Southwest Region Representative Saja Cox (Oklahoma City ATCT, OKC), Union Synergy Chair Maurice Franklin (Potomac

TRACON, PCT), National Training Rep. Jamaal Haltom (Las Vegas ATCT, LAS), and Professional Standards Committee Member Chris Keyes (Washington Center, ZDC) represented NATCA at the event.

The next Oklahoma City Meet and Greet will take place on Sep. 6. We look forward to meeting with more trainees.

U.S. Rep. Ken Buck Staff Tour Denver ATCT

Denver ATCT (DEN) member Zac Ploch facilitated a tour recently for the U.S. Rep. Ken Buck (Colo., 4th)'s Chief of Staff Zach Mendelovici and Buck's Director of Scheduling Lucy Herrington. During the visit, the staff members were able to see firsthand how convective weather and the staffing challenges associated with it impact NATCA members nationwide and in Colorado.

"It was definitely an eye-opening experience for them, and both had, not only fantastic questions, but extreme praise and awe of the work we do," Ploch said.



**U.S. Rep. Ken Buck Staff Tour
Denver ATCT**
Denver | June 2023

PHOTO (left to right): Lucy Herrington, Zach Mendelovici, and Zac Ploch

Towards the end of the tour, the staff members asked what could be done to help with the many issues NATCA members face nationwide. Ploch discussed staffing and FAA Reauthorization, as highlighted at the most recent NATCA in Washington, as well as some specific local issues.

Learn more about NATCA's legislative activism, opportunities to get involved, and NATCA's efforts from your National Legislative Committee [here](#).

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NATCA | 1325 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC 20005

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Sent by natcanationaloffice@natca.net