



## **From the Desk of President Rich Santa: Congressional Hearings: An Invaluable Platform to Advocate for Our Issues**

This past month, I had the honor and privilege of testifying on behalf of NATCA at hearings in front of subcommittees in both the [U.S. House of Representatives](#) and the [U.S. Senate](#). These official interactions with members of Congress who provide oversight of the Federal Aviation Administration are an invaluable opportunity to advocate for our issues with key decisionmakers in a public forum.



In both hearings, the members of Congress, representatives and senators alike, overwhelmingly expressed their support for our members, especially referencing those who are required to work mandatory overtime because of the staffing crisis. They also committed to finding solutions to solve the crisis.

These hearings built upon the great work our member activists, our National Legislative Committee, and NATCA's staff to advocate for our Union in the halls of Congress. The conversations NATCA members have directly with members of Congress and their staffs are critical to enacting the real change that will improve the lives of every aviation safety professional.

Without these efforts, FAA Reauthorization bills that address the staffing crisis would not exist in both the House and Senate. Both call for the adoption of the Collaborative Resources Workgroup (CRWG) staffing targets in the FAA's annual Controller Workforce Plan (CWP).

The House bill ([H.R. 3935](#)) also includes maximum hiring of air traffic controller trainees throughout the duration of the bill. NATCA applauds the Senate

Commerce Committee for including in the Senate bill ([S. 1939](#)) key enhancements to controller training, both by requiring the FAA to have tower simulator systems for each tower and by expansion of the FAA's training academy capacity, something that serves as a bottleneck in the current hiring and training process.

It is our hope that by continuing to advocate directly with members of Congress and raising awareness of NATCA's issues in public forums like these Congressional hearings, actionable and realistic solutions to the staffing shortage will be passed into law.

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rich Santa', written in a cursive style.

Rich Santa  
President, National Air Traffic Controllers Association

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## **National Finance Committee Meets in Washington, D.C.**

NATCA's National Finance Committee (NFC) recently held their annual meeting Nov. 7-8, at the NATCA National Office. During the meeting, the committee met with NATCA's National Executive Board to discuss the Union's budget and financial policies.



## Finance Committee Meets at NATCA National Office

Washington, D.C. | Nov. 2023

The NFC is responsible for the oversight of finances for NATCA, both nationally and locally. The NFC's tasks include: reviewing NATCA's budgetary requests, proposing a balanced yearly budget, auditing local finances, tracking local tax filings, developing and recommending financial policies to the NEB, and most importantly, continuing education of our facility representatives and treasurers.

You can find accounting forms, a virtual audit questionnaire, and contact information in the event you have any questions on the [NFC webpage](#).

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### **FAA Accepting Applications Nationwide for Experienced Air Traffic Control Specialists**

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is accepting applications nationwide for Experienced Air Traffic Control Specialists. This announcement will serve as a resume repository that may be used to fill positions. This public notice is for candidates who have maintained at least 52 consecutive weeks of air traffic control experience involving the full-time active separation of air traffic after receipt of an air traffic certification or facility rating within five years of application while serving at: an FAA air traffic control facility, or a civilian or military air traffic control facility of the Department of Defense and any National Guard Facility, or a tower operating under contract with the FAA under section 47124. Applicants must be willing to work at any FAA air traffic control facility.





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