NATCA UPDATE

NATCA President Rich Santa Advocates for Members Amid Shutdown Concerns; Meets Top Congressional Leaders

NATCA remains focused on ensuring our Union's agenda advances in Congress. In October, NATCA President Rich Santa met with several top Congressional leaders to urge passage of a long-term FAA reauthorization bill to improve staffing and address the ongoing air traffic controller shortage. He also had discussions about a possible government shutdown next month, what this would mean for NATCA members, and the detrimental effects it would have on the National Airspace System.

Santa met with House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries (N.Y.-8), House Democratic Whip Katherine Clark (Mass.-5), Senator Ben Ray Lujan (N.M.), Senator Gary Peters (Mich.), and Senator Sherrod Brown (Ohio).

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Washington | Oct. 2023

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Congress has until Nov. 17 to reach an agreement on funding the government. FAA's authorization expires Dec. 31.

"Ahead of the holidays, I met with NATCA to discuss how to make our aviation system safer and more reliable to get you home safe and on time," Senator Ben Ray Lujan (N.M.) posted on social media about the meeting. "With government funding set to run out in a month, our air traffic controllers and Federal Aviation Administration are at risk. I'm fighting to support them."

NATCA leadership, the National Legislative Committee, and national office staff will continue to make our members' voices heard in Washington.

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

IT Committee Meets at National Office

NATCA's IT Committee members met at our National Office on Oct. 3-4. The group discussed the current process for receiving and responding to requests for support, including reviewing some tools that would allow NATCA to potentially use artificial intelligence to automate some of this process to provide quicker responses to member requests. In addition, the committee discussed the administration of NATCA email accounts and Office 365/Teams Licenses, the continued effort to complete our Union's new database MyNATCA, planning around improving NATCA's website, and possible meeting dates in 2024.

IT Committee Meets at the National Office
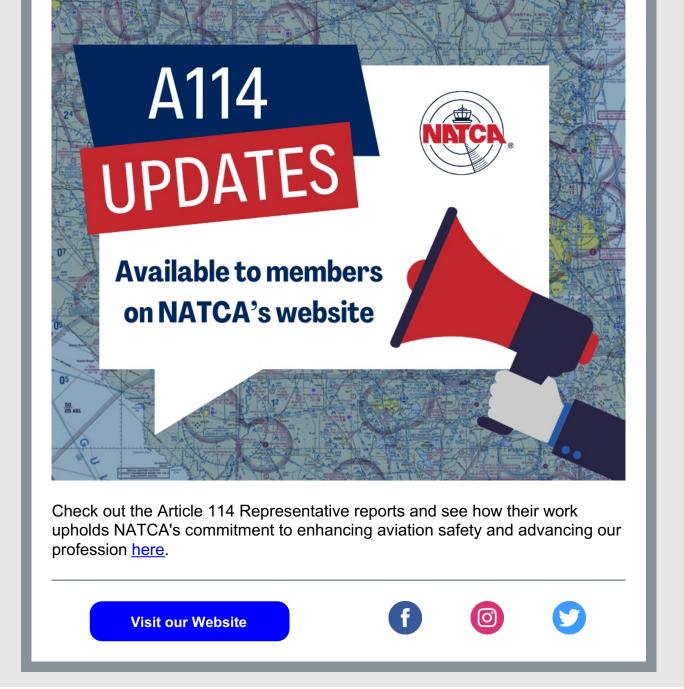Washington, D.C. | Oct. 2023

ITC members who participated in the meeting included: ITC Chair Jason Doss (Jacksonville Center, ZJX), Joe Allen (Boston Center, ZBW), Ryan Durbin (Anchorage Center, ZAN), Matt Fritz (Andrews ATCT, ADW), Kristena Jones (Washington Center, ZDC), Jason Michaud (Boston TRACON, A90), Pam Rusk (Engineer/Central Region, ECE), and John Tornatore-Pili (San Francisco ATCT, SFO). ITC Committee RVP Liaisons Nick Daniels (Fort Worth Center, ZFW) and Aaron Merrick (Kansas City Center, ZKC) joined the meeting. Also, the following NATCA staff participated: Public Affairs Director Thom Metzger, Senior Social Media Representative Meagan Roper, Website Administrator Julian Weaver, and Information Technology Manager Phil Yanchulis.

Learn more about the ITC [here](#).

Article 114 Updates Available on our Website

NATCA's Article 114 Representatives collaborate with the FAA to introduce and implement new technologies, systems, and procedures in the National Airspace System. The involvement of these NATCA members ensures that aviation safety professionals have a seat at the table and a voice in decisions affecting the safety of the flying public and the operation of NATCA-represented facilities. Many of these members serve in their roles under the leadership of NATCA's Safety and Technology department and share regular updates about their programs and activities that are available on the NATCA website.

Check out the Article 114 Representative reports and see how their work upholds NATCA's commitment to enhancing aviation safety and advancing our profession [here](#).

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