



From the Desk of President Rich Santa: Status of Negotiations of the Multi-Unit and Consolidated Collective Bargaining Agreements

Sisters and Brothers,

On January 30, 2024, NATCA notified the Agency of our intent to open negotiations on the Multi-Unit and Consolidated Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs), respectively known as the “Light Blue Book” and “Purple Book.” The existing Light Blue and Purple Books cover the Staff Support Specialists, Terminal and En Route Automation Specialists, Engineers, Office of Chief

Counsel, Aviation Technical Systems Specialists, Flight Procedures, Drug Abatement, Aircraft Certification, Airworthiness, Airports, Office of Finance and Management, and Office of Regional Administrators bargaining units.

Recognizing that most of the provisions of these agreements work well and don’t require amendment, NATCA proposed a limited reopener to address approximately ten articles per party. We also suggested consolidating the two CBAs in the successor agreement. The parties then convened on March 13, 2024, to initiate bargaining over the protocols to be used during these upcoming negotiations – the “ground rules” for bargaining.

On April 9, 2024, the ground rules agreement was fully executed, and the parties have begun an aggressive schedule to reach a voluntary agreement on a focused scope of bargaining consisting of 23 articles. NATCA’s negotiating team consists of Chief Negotiator, Executive Vice President Andrew LeBovidge, Mark Rausch (ENM), Ed Szczuka (ECE), Lisen Minetti (EAC), Corey Glaze (ENM), Jordan Klein (N90), and Nicole Vitale, NATCA Director of Labor Relations. This team will also have the resources of other activists and staff available to assist in the process.



As negotiations progress, we will be providing periodic updates from the negotiating team.

In solidarity,

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

Rich Santa
NATCA President

Leading the Flight Path: NATCA Members Shine at the 46th Professional Women Controllers Conference

NATCA members joined other aviation safety professionals at the 46th Annual Training Conference of Professional Women Controllers (PWC), held in Louisville, Ky., from April 10-13. This event, proudly sponsored by NATCA as a Diamond Sponsor, featured a rich agenda packed with opportunities for mentorship, professional development, and networking.

The conference kicked off with the inspiring "Run Your Own Race" theme, emphasizing individual and collective growth within the aviation industry.

NATCA representatives, including Cincinnati ATCT (CVG) Vice President and Southern Region Safety Representative Blythe Wolfe, along with NATCA Meeting Planning and Events Representative Mindy Soranno, were active participants, staffing the NATCA booth and engaging with attendees. Their representation underscored NATCA's commitment to supporting its members and fostering leadership among women in aviation.



National Air Traffic Controllers Association



NATCA Members Shine at the 46th Professional Women Controllers Conference Louisville, Ky. | April 2024

The event concluded with a celebratory Winners Circle Banquet, marking the end of a successful conference that not only enhanced skills but also strengthened bonds among participants. NATCA's role as a Diamond Sponsor highlights its ongoing dedication to leadership and excellence in the aviation community.

For more details on the conference and future events, visit PWC's [conference page](#).

Kansas City Center Member Attends U.S. Rep. Sharice Davids' Labor Roundtable

James Heath (Kansas City Center, ZKC) recently attended a labor roundtable hosted by U.S. Representative Sharice Davids (Kan.-3rd). Heath thanked Rep. Davids for signing onto the "Dear Colleague" letter supporting NATCA's two primary legislative goals with FAA Reauthorization. She expressed optimism about a reconciled bill being passed through both chambers of Congress before the expiration of the most recent short-term funding extension in May.



U.S. Rep. Sharice Davids Hosts Labor Roundtable

Kansas | March 2024

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NATCA | 1325 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, MD 20005

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Sent by natcanationaloffice@natca.net