



## U.S. Rep Mike Carey Tours Columbus ATCT

U.S. Rep. Mike Carey (Ohio-15), accompanied by his District Director Blaine Kelly, visited Columbus ATCT (CMH) on Jan. 29 for a tour provided by Albert Navarro, CMH's Legislative Representative. The visit was Carey's first time seeing an air traffic facility. Expressing fascination with air traffic control operations, Carey emphasized his commitment to advocating for improved pay and stable funding for the FAA.



**U.S. Rep. Mike Carey (Ohio-15) Tours  
Columbus ATCT**

Columbus, Ohio | Jan. 2024

**Pictured, left to right:** CMH Operations Manager Alex Tussey, CMH FacRep Benjamin Hudak, Carey, Navarro, CMH Air Traffic Manager Stephanie Malody

“Air traffic controllers have a tough job and Congress needs to ensure they have the resources necessary to keep our airspace safe,” Carey said in a post about the visit on social media.

“The first issue he brought up to us is that he recognizes we are not paid enough for what we do,” Navarro said. “We were also able to convey the dire situation the air traffic organization is in with staffing levels, projections, and hiring pitfalls. The mutual goal of stable and predictable funding is something he is striving for, and he reassured us that he will not support legislation that would shut down the government.”

Navarro expressed NATCA’s gratitude to Carey for his support for our members.

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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## **CFS Planning Committee Meets in Las Vegas**

The CFS Planning Committee met recently to prepare for the 2024 Communicating For Safety Conference. At the meeting were NATCA Director of Safety & Technology Mark McKelligan, NATCA National Safety Representative John Murdock (Philadelphia ATCT, PHL), Dawn Johnson (Atlanta Center, ZTL), Richard Kennington (Portland ATCT, PDX), Samantha Navarro (Seattle ATCT, SEA), NATCA Deputy Director of Public Affairs Jill Blimline, NATCA Director of Public Affairs Thom Metzger, and NATCA Meeting Planning and Events Representative Mindy Soranno.



## **CFS Planning Committee Meets to Prepare for Conference**

Las Vegas | February 2024

CFS brings aviation professionals from around the world together to discuss our shared challenges surrounding aviation safety. 2024 is the 25th year since NATCA's first CFS. During their meeting, the planning committee met with the hotel and production company for the event, developed an agenda, and discussed possible speakers. They plan to open registration for the 2024 conference in coming months.

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

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### **NATCA Staff Spotlight: Deputy Director of Public Affairs for Events and Outreach Jill Blimline**

NATCA is incredibly fortunate to have a team at our National Office that exemplifies dedication and excellence. Each day, they pour their hearts and efforts into their work, driven by a commitment to deliver unparalleled service and representation. NATCA's members have every reason to be proud of this remarkable team, for they are the backbone that supports and uplifts our Union. Today, we are excited to shine the spotlight on a standout member of our National Office team: Deputy Director of Public Affairs for Events and Outreach Jill

Blimline.

Read more about Jill [here](#).



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