



Member Update

NATCA Leaders Inspire Unity, Action, and Innovation at ATX Closing

On the final day of NATCA's biennial Activism and Training Expo (ATX) at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, NATCA President Nick Daniels delivered a powerful keynote address, urging solidarity and focus among members as the union faces challenges tied to modernization, staffing, and safety.

Daniels began by highlighting the FAA's \$5 billion investment in modernization, encompassing new procedures and advanced technology for the National Airspace System (NAS). However, he emphasized that this significant investment underscores the importance of having NATCA's representatives involved to ensure these changes are implemented effectively and in the best interests of the profession. "Do you want these \$5 billion investments handled by your operations manager?" Daniels asked. "Do you want the Air Traffic Manager telling you how to implement the equipment you will be using every day?"



NATCA Leaders Inspire Unity, Action, and Innovation at ATX Closing

Las Vegas | Dec. 12, 2024

Daniels praised NATCA's 63 Article 114 Representatives, who serve as the union's voice in implementing these changes. "These representatives work hard to ensure that NATCA has a voice in rolling out these advancements at your facilities," he said. "They're not traveling or stepping away from the boards without purpose. They're orchestrating this entire effort, and it's their work that prevents changes from being forced upon us without our involvement."

Daniels acknowledged the frustration among members caused by understaffing, emphasizing that the blame lies squarely with the FAA's hiring plan over the past decade. He called on attendees to maintain unity and avoid internal conflict. "The battles are coming from all fronts," he said. "The last place we need them is internally."

He urged members to hold leadership accountable but stressed the importance of addressing concerns internally and collaboratively. "It's okay to seek improvement," Daniels said. "But it's not okay to turn on one another. Let's address the real issues, but let's not let our frustrations divide us. Together, we can shape the future of this union and face every challenge shoulder to shoulder."

National Safety Chair John Murdock followed Daniels' address, highlighting NATCA's global reputation as a leader in collaborative technological and safety advancements. "You are the experts, and the whole world knows it," Murdock said. He cited examples of international collaboration, including Japan seeking NATCA's expertise in collision prevention. "In Japanese culture, it is unheard of for managers to ask employees for input, but here in the U.S., NATCA's representatives are so integral to the successful implementation of technology changes that other countries look to us for guidance."

Murdock also emphasized NATCA's commitment to proactive safety measures and local solutions. "Twenty years ago, a mistake could end a career," he said. "Today, we're focused on voluntary reporting and fixing safety issues at the local level, because no one knows better than the people on the ground."

He encouraged members to continue submitting nominations for the Archie League Medal of Safety Awards, which celebrate excellence in air traffic safety, and expressed his pride in representing NATCA members. "The future of this union is in this room," Murdock said. "You have the answers, and you're part of the solution."

ATX concluded with a renewed sense of unity and purpose, as members left inspired to tackle the challenges ahead with the support of their union and one another. Daniels' and Murdock's messages served as a rallying call to maintain NATCA's leadership in safety and modernization while preserving the solidarity that defines its membership.

Standing Room Only at ATX: Air Traffic Controller Pay Facts and Myths Class Provides Insight into the History of ATC Compensation

At ATX 2024, no class received higher attendance than NATCA Special Counsel to the President Eugene Freedman's presentation, Air Traffic Controller Pay Fact and Myths. Held each day at ATX, the classes were standing room only as Freedman walked attendees through the history of ATC compensation and debunked myths and misconceptions that have recently circulated on social media.

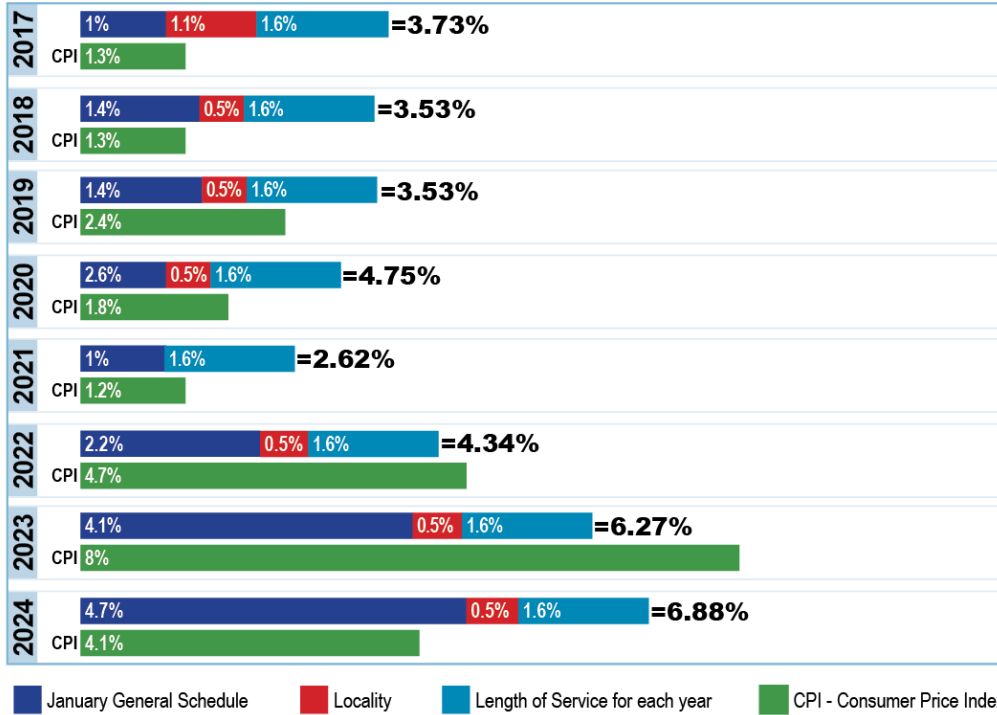


Freedman delved into all aspects of ATC compensation, from when it was covered by the Federal Government's General Schedule Pay Scale, to when it was first negotiated and connected to the Green Book, to the Imposed Work Rules, to the Red Book, to where it now stands in the Slate Book.

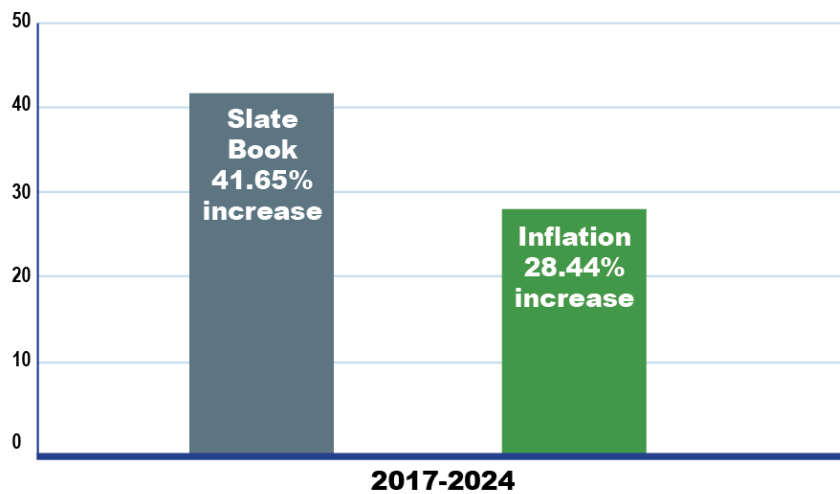
Through data-driven analysis, Freedman showed that ATC pay increases have not only outpaced inflation, but secured pay increases that equaled or exceeded pilots at major carriers, TSA workers, and Amtrak employees over the Slate Book years.



NEGOTIATED PAY INCREASE COMPARED TO INFLATION (CPI)



SLATE BOOK TOTAL WAGE INCREASES



As a practical example, Freedman compared ATC pay increases in the Slate Book with the recent raises secured by the Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA) for Delta pilots. Over the period of 2020-2026, ATCs will receive an increase in total of 34.3 percent. Delta’s increase for its airline pilots over the same period is 34 percent.

Slate Book and Delta Air Line Pilots



NATCA 34.3%+ Increase 2020-2026
2020-23 = combined 19.375% increase;
2024 6.88%; 2025 3.63%;
2026 1.6%+government wide
increase+locality (1.975%* average during
last Trump Presidency)
Total = **36.95%***



Delta 34% Increase 2020-2026
2020-23 = 18% increase;
2024 5%; 2025 4%; 2026 4%

To view more comparisons between the Slate Book increases and other employers in the aviation industry, follow this [link](#).

[Visit our Website](#)



NATCA | 1325 Massachusetts Ave NW | Washington, DC 20005 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)