



Member Update

Member Update: Putting Professionalism First

NATCA Family,

Our professionalism is the foundation of our collective strength. As air traffic controllers and aviation safety professionals, we share a deep connection and mutual respect.

NATCA reminds our membership and supporters that talking to the media, posting comments on social media, and distributing anything other than facts publicly disseminated by the NTSB potentially jeopardizes the sanctity of the investigation, the professionalism that comes with the title of Certified Professional Controller, and ultimately the safety of the national airspace system.

The collision over the Potomac River last Wednesday night has affected each of us as Americans, and especially as aviation safety professionals. Many of us are moved to defend our fellow controllers and our profession in the wake of this accident and the media attention it has received. However, the best thing we can do for the future and safety of the aviation system and our beloved profession is to avoid comment and speculation and, in doing so, support the critical work of the trained professional investigators working around the clock to gather time-sensitive, factual evidence.

NATCA has built a long-standing, strong relationship with the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). Our membership is known for our professionalism, talent, and technical expertise. When the NTSB launches an investigation into the air traffic component of an aviation accident or incident, NATCA's Air Safety Investigators (ASIs) participate fully in the investigation and provide invaluable insight from their perspective as air traffic controllers. NATCA's ASIs have been fully engaged in this investigation from the very beginning of the process because we have earned the industries and the NTSB's deep respect and trust.

NATCA is committed to supporting NATCA's ASIs and the NTSB Investigative team in finding the facts surrounding the accident so that evidence-based safety recommendations can be made to protect our profession and the flying

public. The NTSB is an independent, non-regulatory agency charged by Congress to seek and find facts and make recommendations for transportation safety. The integrity of this process is one part of why the United States is recognized as having the safest airspace in the world.

Please send any media inquiries to NATCA Deputy Director of Public Affairs, Galen Munroe at media@natca.org.

In Solidarity,

The National Executive Board

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