



2007-2008

**National
Air Traffic Controllers Association
CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE**

*For Candidates for the U.S. Senate
and U.S. House of Representatives*



National Air Traffic Controllers Association
1325 Massachusetts Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20005
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www.natca.org

National Air Traffic Controllers Association, AFL-CIO

America's sophisticated air traffic control system, handles more than half of the world's air traffic and cargo. The men and women who make up our national air traffic control workforce serve as the lynchpin of this system, ensuring the safety of nearly 750 million aviation passengers per year. The National Air Traffic Controllers Association, or NATCA for short, represents air traffic controllers, engineers, and other safety related professionals. We are a federal sector labor union, a direct affiliate of the American Federation of Labor - Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO). Our membership is found in every state and territory of the United States.

NATCA is very proud to represent not only the interests of our membership, but the safety interests of the flying public as well. Our motto, Safety Above All, is the litmus test against which all our decisions are based. We continually strive to improve and enhance aviation safety, and we proudly provide the safest air traffic control system in the world.

Please complete and return the candidate questionnaire to your local NATCA representative. If a representative is not available, please fax the questionnaire to:

Jose L. Ceballos
Director of Government Affairs
NATCA
1325 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Phone: 202-628-5451
Fax: 202-628-5767

Candidate Information:

Name: _____ State: _____ District: _____

Address: _____

Phone: () - _____ Email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

NATCA POSITION

The federal government and its employees, including the workers represented by NATCA, run the world's safest and most sophisticated air traffic control system moving more than half of the world's airline traffic.

The Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) relationship with its employees has suffered due to the agency's failure to use a fair collective bargaining process with its employees. In September of 2006, the FAA unilaterally imposed work and pay rules on its controller workforce. As a result, veteran controllers are retiring at an alarming rate—in 2007, almost 8 percent of the workforce retired—and new hires are also leaving at an unprecedented rate. This has further aggravated the existing controller staffing crisis.

The modernization of air traffic control is also suffering due to continuing budget cuts. These cuts have led to a reduction in investments that would boost the system's capacity at a time when all government and industry projections point to decade of massive air traffic growth. Finally, some want to sell-off parts of the air traffic control system to private interests, while others believe the entire system should be privatized. Similar policy schemes implemented around the globe have starkly shown how dangerous it would be to sell-off America's air traffic control system to private interests.

NATCA ISSUES

- **Will you commit to support legislation that restores the collective bargaining rights of NATCA members at the FAA and restores the air traffic controllers' previous contract until one can be negotiated under a FAIR collective bargaining process?**

Yes, I support.

No, I do not support.

QUESTION OR COMMENTS:

NATCA ISSUES (cont.)

- Will you support sufficient funding to ensure the FAA is able to hire and train enough air traffic controllers to replace those slated to retire?

Yes, I support.

No, I do not support.

QUESTION OR COMMENTS:

- Will you support adequate long-term funding of the air traffic control system and the employees therein?

Yes, I support.

No, I do not support.

QUESTION OR COMMENTS:

NATCA ISSUES (cont.)

- Finally, will you oppose legislation or executive initiatives that would allow the sale of air traffic control system functions to private interests, either through ill advised contracting out, outsourcing or outright privatization of functions?

Yes, I oppose.

No, I do not oppose.

QUESTION OR COMMENTS: