



From the Desk of President Rich Santa: An Update on the Fatigue MOU

Brothers and Sisters,

On July 24, [NATCA and the FAA announced](#) an agreement to secure adequate rest between shifts for air traffic controllers. This agreement was the result of a collaborative effort between NATCA and the Agency.

We have initiated the process of briefing facility leadership and members on the new fatigue rules.

Schedule templates are being shared throughout the facilities to help with building schedules that will reflect the agreed upon rest periods.

These changes to rest periods are based on a study by the Scientific Expert Panel on Air Traffic Controller Safety, Work Hours, and Health. The panel's findings are available for your review in this [report](#).

As NATCA reported on July 24, the agreement codifies the following guidelines beginning with the 2025 basic watch schedules:

- Have at least 10 hours off-duty between shifts, and at least 12 hours before and after a midnight shift.
- The agency will not require employees to work overtime (scheduled/called in) on their RDO on more than two consecutive sets of RDOs unless the employee volunteers to work a third consecutive overtime shift. The process and procedures for the implementation of the new fatigue OT rule are being developed. Once finalized, we will be sending out a message that will include joint guidance.
- We are collaboratively developing the educational material on sleep inertia that, once completed, will be disseminated to the field facilities.



After receipt of the educational material, employees will be permitted to nap during an authorized recuperative break while working a midnight shift.

Per the agreement, the FAA and NATCA are working on establishing the required workgroups and we will be standing those groups up in the near future.

In Solidarity,



Rich Santa
NATCA President

U.S. Representative Deborah Ross Meets with RDU Controller

The National Legislative Committee's North Carolina State Coordinator James Walsh (Raleigh-Durham ATCT, RDU) recently met with his member of Congress, U.S. Representative Deborah Ross (N.C.-2), in Washington, D.C.



**U.S. Rep. Deborah Ross Meets
with RDU Controller**

Washington, D.C. | June 2024

Rep. Ross was an advocate and a supporter of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024. Walsh thanked her for her support of the bill, and for her ongoing support of NATCA's priorities in her district, which includes Raleigh-Durham ATCT (RDU).

The congresswoman expressed confidence in the ability of North Carolina's members of Congress to work together to support North Carolina's growing air traffic needs.

NATCA Kicks Off 2024 Boots on the Ground Program

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