

Paul Rinaldi
President, National Air Traffic Controllers Association

Paul Rinaldi became the sixth president of the National Air Traffic Controllers Association in October 2009. In March 2012 Rinaldi was re-elected by acclamation. In March 2015, Rinaldi was re-elected, again by acclamation, for an unprecedented third term as NATCA president.

Since taking office in 2009 Rinaldi and Executive Vice President Trish Gilbert have worked as a team, along with the NATCA National Executive Board, to elevate NATCA to new levels of success. NATCA's team is committed and focused on building collaborative relationships among the Union, the Federal Aviation Administration, the Department of Transportation, and the entire aviation industry. Collaboration has led to decisions on important issues involving airspace, procedures, technology, staffing and training while cementing NATCA's leadership role and voice in the aviation industry.

Prior to being elected NATCA President, Rinaldi served three years as NATCA's Executive Vice President, after 16 years as an air traffic controller at Washington-Dulles Tower (IAD). Rinaldi currently holds positions on the NextGen Advisory Committee (NAC), the FAA Management Advisory Council (MAC), and the AFL-CIO Executive Council. Rinaldi also serves on the Board of Advisors for the Eno Center for Transportation, the RTCA Policy Board.

In October 2016, Rinaldi received the Air Traffic Control Association's (ATCA) prestigious Glen A. Gilbert Memorial Award, one of the most significant awards in aviation and ATCA's highest honor. The Glen A. Gilbert Memorial Award is dedicated to the memory of one of the "Fathers of Air Traffic Control" and honors the lifelong achievements of an individual in the field of aviation.

In May 2016, Rinaldi received the Sons of Italy Foundation's Humanitarian Award at its National Education & Leadership Gala in Washington, D.C. The SIF is the philanthropic arm of the Order Sons of Italy, the nation's largest and oldest organization for people of Italian heritage.

Rinaldi is a native of Island Park, N.Y. He resides in Manassas, Va., with his wife, Debra. He has two sons, Anthony and Nicholas, and a daughter, Olivia.