



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS' ASSOCIATIONS

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PRESS RELEASE

Accident at LaGuardia Airport, New York City, United States of America

On behalf of Air Traffic Controllers around the world, the International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers' Associations (IFATCA) would like to express its deepest condolences to all those affected by the tragic accident on 23 March 2026 at LaGuardia Airport in New York City, where an Air Canada Jazz CRJ-900 collided with a fire truck.

Our thoughts are first and foremost with the victims and their loved ones. We also recognize the extraordinary efforts of the first responders who act swiftly under extremely difficult circumstances. We extend our support to the colleagues, friends and the broader aviation community who are impacted by this event, both directly and indirectly.

We are in contact with our colleagues in the United States and have offered them assistance. It is of utmost importance that all involved are provided with appropriate support to help them cope with such a traumatic event. We acknowledge the immense challenges they face in the aftermath of such incidents and remain committed to providing support as needed throughout both the grieving process and the investigation.

The IFATCA Executive Board understands and respects the need for the families of the victims and the general public to seek answers and closure. However, this cannot be achieved through premature speculation about the causes of the tragedy. Aviation accidents are typically caused by a complex interaction of multiple factors that result in a tragic outcome. A thorough, independent investigation is essential to establishing the facts and identifying lessons that can enhance aviation safety. Preserving the integrity of this process is crucial to maintaining trust, accountability, and the highest standards of safety within the aviation community and across the aviation system.

We stand in solidarity with the members of the National Air Traffic Controllers Association (NATCA) during this very difficult time.

The International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers' Associations (IFATCA) represents more than 130 associations around the world and, as such, over 50.000 Air Traffic Controllers. We enjoy a worldwide reputation amongst all partners in Air Traffic Management with representation in many areas, including ICAO and Eurocontrol. Promoting safety and efficiency in international air navigation is paramount to us.