

## NAATS HQ E-Mail Update April 07, 2006

**FLRA** – The FLRA’s decision in the proceeding where the FAA sought to have NAATS decertified is posted on this web site. This was a big win for us because the FLRA basically left our certification intact. As a result, the current contract protecting our public sector members in Alaska and at the Command Center will remain in full force and effect.

**NLRB** – We are trying to pin down a time-line as to when the ballots will be sent out and then counted. I’ll update you when we get more information from the NLRB.

**1.7% issue** – This is a tremendously important issue for us -- it directly affects me as well. It will continue to be an ongoing issue during the coming year and as information becomes available, I’ll share it with you promptly.

**LM** – The corrected W-2s are supposedly done but I have yet to see mine. If NAATS were your certified bargaining representative, I’d have been able to sit down with LM and work out this problem long before now. As it is, we’ll just have to hope we get our forms before April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Web Site** – Jose and Denise are working on a comprehensive overhaul.

For those of you who are unsure whether a union is necessary in the private sector, please take a minute to look at the following web site set up by SEIU: [www.changetowin.org/facts.html](http://www.changetowin.org/facts.html). Some of the statistics are disturbing. For instance, in 1960 the average CEO made 41 times more than the average worker; in 2004 the average CEO made 431 times more; and I understand that the average CEO is now making 1000 times more. Check out the many vitally important statistics on employee wages and benefits. Remember, unions not only protect their members’ wages and benefits, but also their basic jobs by affording a contractual grievance/arbitration process that is not available to non-union, “at-will” employees.

Of course, private-sector negotiations will be very different from having to negotiate with the FAA, OMB and Congress in a legal strait jacket. Fortunately, we will have more bargaining tools and clout, as well as backup from professionals in NAGE/SEIU -- but only if you vote in favor of the union in the upcoming NLRB election. And if you do, you will also have the opportunity to vote on a new constitution and new officers. After all, NAATS belongs to, and will be accountable to, YOU, its members.

Kate Breen