#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 02/19/2024

Airline Dispatch Federation 2020 Pennsylvania Ave NW#821 Washington, DC 20006 adfboard@dispatcher.org

Washington DC:.

The Airline Dispatch Federation is celebrating #ADFblackhistorymonth by spotlighting members who are proud dispatchers in our profession.

Joe Jackson was Delta Air Line's first African American dispatcher back in 1968. Joe led the way for additional African American dispatchers to join the profession.

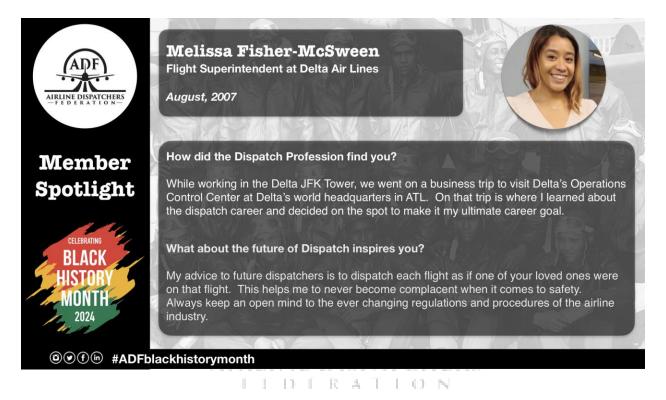
Link to Joe Jackson First Black Dispatcher

ADF would like to spotlight the below members in honor of Black History Month

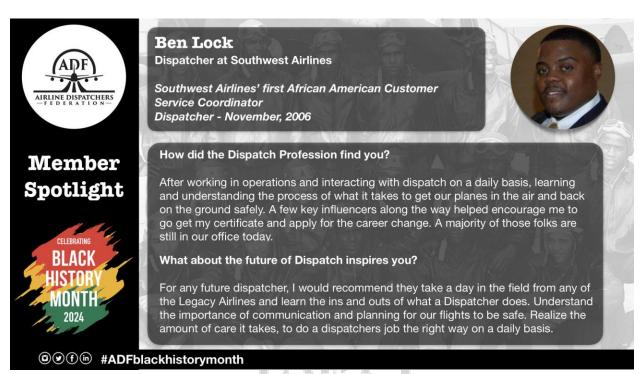
## Kevin Daniels – Dispatcher/ ATC Coordinator American Airlines



## Melissa Fisher-McSween – Flight Superintendent - Delta Air Lines



#### Ben Lock – Flight Dispatcher - Southwest Airlines



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#### Zaffrenarda "Z" King – Dispatch Trainer - Southwest Airlines



# Zaffrenarda "Z" King

AIRTINE

**Dispatch Trainer at Southwest Airlines** 

January, 2016

#### How did the Dispatch Profession find you?

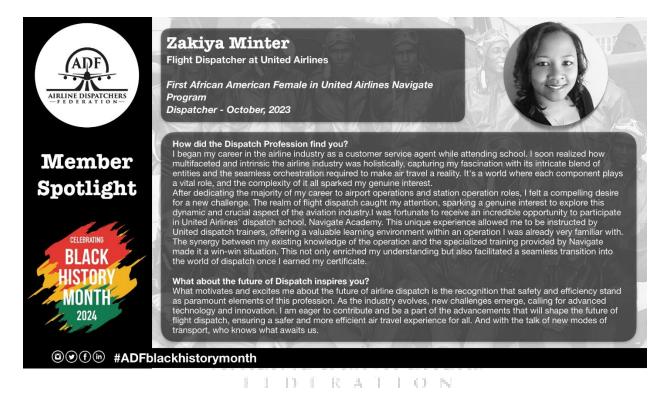
I got my start in aviation through an aviation program at my high school. There I was exposed to different careers in aviation and also eventually earned my private pilot certificate shortly after graduating. I went on to college at Middle Tennessee State University. It was there where I first learned about dispatch after a school trip to Delta OCC in Atlanta. I mainly focused on Air Traffic control CTI program while in college but I graduated with my dispatch certificate as well. It wasn't until I started my first dispatch job at GoJet airlines is when I really developed a passion for dispatch.

What about the future of Dispatch inspires you?

The advice I would give to future dispatchers is to gain as much knowledge as possible from all aspects of the operation. Learning how every role works together as a team will help you become a better dispatcher along the way.

**◎**●f **i** #ADFblackhistorymonth

## Zakiya Minter- Flight Dispatcher - United Airlines



### About ADF:

The Airline Dispatchers Federation represents the professional interests of the dispatch profession. ADF's constituency is comprised of licensed aircraft dispatchers and operational control professionals from aerospace companies, regional and cargo carriers and every major U.S. airline. ADF's membership as of January 2024 stood at 2,734 members. The vast majority of airline passengers traveling each day in the United States, do so under the watchful eye of ADF members.

The ADF is an all volunteer organization (all working dispatchers) and in accordance with our bylaws is an advocacy organization for working dispatchers and not a labor organization.