My fellow dispatchers,

My name is Jared Micou. I’m with Delta Air Lines and I’m honored to be taking over as the President of Airline Dispatchers Federation. First off, let me take the opportunity to thank Catherine Jackson for serving this organization for the last 6 years as the past president and her tireless contributions for years prior to her becoming the President. Catherine’s leadership of the organization, advocacy of our profession and her mentorship to me personally over the last few years is something I will always be grateful for. When Catherine first planted the seed of me succeeding her as President a couple years ago, my initial answer wasn’t just “no” but there may or may not have been a four letter word or two that preceded the “no”. Catherine enlisted the help of a few other people to continually plant and water that seed. Over time, as I became more involved with ADF as the delegate for Delta, my stance shifted slowly but surely.

A quick introduction of myself: I’ve been in the airline industry for about 14 years, 11 of which have been with Delta, and the last 8 years within Flight Control. I’m an airline brat. I’ve been around airplanes since I was about 5 years old. My mom was an above wing customer service agent for a few different carriers/ground handlers and retired from Delta Global Services aka DGS in 2014. My high school in the DTW area was based around aviation, primarily around A&P mechanics, and I graduated with my private pilot license. I was able to legally fly an airplane by myself before I could legally drive a car by myself. I started my career with Regional Elite Airline Services working below wing in DTW. I quickly moved into the Tower Operations side of the house where I realized where my passion really was. I was promoted into a leadership role until the company closed its doors in late 2012. I was able to get on with Delta in a leadership role, remaining in the Tower Operations department. Shortly thereafter, a coworker mentioned they thought I should look into getting my dispatch certificate. I took their advice and the rest, as they say, is history.

Thank you to those who were able to join us in IAD for the 2023 ADF Summit. Planning is underway for the 2024 Summit and we hope to have details finalized soon so you can save the date for later this year. Our next quarterly business meeting is scheduled for January 29 in TPA. You can find the events and meetings ADF is participating in, along with our business meetings on our calendar on the website.

The future of our profession is bright. Aircraft dispatchers have never been in more demand than they are now. Airlines are planning to continue the marathon hiring that started in 2021 as the travel demand picked back up. Hundreds of dispatchers will be hired in the next couple years industry wide. Now is the time for us to continue to foster relationships with our industry partners and ensure we have a seat at the table when industry discussions are being had about the future of aviation. If you are interested in volunteering in any capacity, please don’t hesitate to reach out to any ADF board member (our contact information can be found on the website) and/or your delegate and we will find something to get you involved in. Speaking of the ADF Board and delegates, please take the time to get to know a little bit about them within this newsletter.

Thank you again for allowing me the opportunity to lead this organization. I’m thankful to be here and I’m looking forward to the challenges ahead. My goal is simple: I want to leave this organization and this profession in better shape than I found it. I welcome your suggestions, questions, comments, concerns and/or feedback any time.

Stay safe,

Jared Micou

ADF President