

# NTSB INVESTIGATIVE HEARING DCA Midair Collision

JULY 30–AUGUST 1, 2025 • WASHINGTON, DC  
*Agenda, Panels and Issue Areas (continued)* **2**

**DAY 2: THURSDAY, JULY 31**

*Times are approximate (Eastern Time). Breaks will be announced.*

**Opening Statements** . . . . . 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

- Chairwoman’s Opening Statement
- Introduction of the Parties
- Introduction of the Exhibits

**PANEL 3** . . . . . 9:30 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.  
**Training, Guidance and Procedures  
Applicable to DCA Air Traffic Control**

Witness Panel	Technical Panel
Clark Allen, FAA Bryan Lehman, FAA Nick Fuller, FAA Eric Silverman, American Airlines Njuen Mandi Chendi, FAA Kenneth Allendoerfer, PhD, FAA James Jarvis, Leidos CW5 David Van Vetchen, US Army Rick Dressler, Metro Aviation, Inc.	Brian Soper Sarah Lewis Katherine Wilson, PhD Capt. Van McKenny
Issue Areas	
DCA’s airport traffic control tower (ATCT) facility type – Services, radar, visual, expectations	
Training and proficiency of controllers – From initial training of all controllers through individual training and certification at DCA ATCT. Initial, classroom, certification, simulation, refresher, recurrent – and compliance with the National Training Initiative (NTI) – and applicable documentation	
Training, guidance and procedures applicable to DCA ATC	
Resource management – Staffing within the tower, combined positions	
Separation standards – Radar, visual, IFR/VFR, application	
Conflict alerting – Explanation, controller response expectations, nuisance alert prevalence. Both in general across NAS, as well as specific to DCA ATCT and this accident	
System safety logic and alerting – Including design, adaptation, and human factors issues such as controller response	
Night vision goggles/“aided pilot” – Impact to ATC	
Helicopter holding within the DCA airspace	
Traffic flow management – Airport arrival rate (AAR), miles in trail, slot program, TBFM, hourly rate fluctuations	
Use of circling to runway 33 for offloading, traffic flow, risk mitigation	
ADS-B-in/out – Impact to ATC operations	
Safety risk management panels	

**Lunch** (*on your own*) . . . . . 1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

**PANEL 4** . . . . . 2:45 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.  
**Overview of Collision Avoidance Technology**

Witness Panel	Technical Panel
Steve Casner, PhD, NASA Ames (Retired) Matt Haskin, FAA Neal Suchy, FAA Wes Olson, PhD, MIT-Lincoln Laboratory Michael Gries, Collins Aerospace Stacey Rowlan, Sagetech Fabrice Kunzi, PhD, Avidyne Corporation LTC Paul Flanigen, US Army CW5 David Van Vetchen, US Army Capt. Grant Clow, PSA Airlines Capt. David Surridge, American Airlines	Capt. Rocky Stone John Flynn Chihoon Shin Capt. Van McKenny William Bramble, PhD
Issue Areas	
Description of collision avoidance technology	
FAA requirements for collision avoidance technology for Class B airspace	
Difference between the Traffic Alert and Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) and Airborne Collision Avoidance System (ACAS)	
Difference between ACAS and ADS-B Traffic Advisory System (ATAS)	
Pilot compliance with TCAS and ACAS advisories	
» Current state, and what can be done to improve compliance	
» Reduction in nuisance traffic alerts (TAs) and RAs to improve the workload of pilots	
Description of TCAS v7.0 and its inhibits (R-inhibit and aural alert inhibit)	
Description of collision avoidance technology on board the CRJ	
» TCAS configuration on the CRJ	
» Traffic display to the CRJ pilots	
» Limitations	
Description of US Army philosophy of collision avoidance technology	
» US Army use of ForeFlight for traffic awareness	
Description of the results of the TCAS/ACAS simulations using the geometry of this accident	
Reduction of RA threshold and effect would that have on operations and TCAS RA compliance	
Evolution of ACAS and safety payback/benefit	
ACAS-Xr for helicopters and ACAS-Xr standards	
Combinations of technology solutions to mitigate the risk of future mid-air collisions	
ADS-B-Out / In – affect aircraft onboard collision avoidance technology and operations	

**Chairwoman’s Closing Remarks** . . 6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

– DAY 2 ADJOURNS –