

ELLIOTT B. LUSHIN

Aviation Expert Witness · Commercial Airline Operations, Military Flight & Standardization, and Aircraft Maintenance

Lushin Aviation Consulting LLC

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Available to plaintiff and defense counsel for analysis and opinion on 14 C.F.R. Part 121 commercial airline operations, military fighter and attack operations, flight instruction and student evaluation standards, pilot qualification and career-progression pathways, range and airspace safety operations, and aircraft maintenance program management. Brings over 28 years of aviation experience (beginning in General Aviation in 1998), combining current Part 121 international widebody (A-350) and prior narrowbody/widebody airline operations across five FAA jet type ratings with prior active-duty U.S. Marine Corps F/A-18 and T-6 flight instructor/stage-check operations, Indiana Air National Guard A-10C and Range Safety Officer (RSO) service, and school-trained Naval Aviation Maintenance Program (NAMP) division leadership.

MATTERS TYPICALLY ADDRESSED

- 14 C.F.R. Part 121 airline flight operations, standard of care, Flight Operations Manual (FOM) / QRH compliance, and MEL/CDL dispatch evaluation
- International widebody (ETOPS, trans-Pacific, North Atlantic Tracks, Europe, South America) and domestic narrowbody line operations
- Pilot performance, Aeronautical Decision-Making (ADM), Crew Resource Management (CRM), Threat and Error Management (TEM), and human factors
- Flight training, student pilot stage-check evaluation, training-jacket review, and military-to-airline pilot qualification & career-progression pathways
- Military fighter and attack operations (F/A-18, A-10C), Night Vision Goggle (NVG) operations, and air-ground (JTAC) coordination
- Range Safety Officer (RSO) operations, restricted airspace deconfliction, and live-fire / weapons-release safety authority
- Aircraft maintenance management, the flight-operations/maintenance scheduling interface, and NAMP division compliance
- Organizational standard operating procedures (SOPs), management accountability, and operational performance frameworks

CIVIL CERTIFICATES AND OPERATIONS

ATP — Multi-Engine Land. FAA Type Ratings (5): A-350; A-320; B-757/767; DC-9; ERJ-170/190.

Flight Instructor Qualifications: Former U.S. Marine Corps Primary Flight Instructor & Student Stage Check Pilot (T-6 Texan II, ~800 hours); prior FAA Certified Flight Instructor (CFI / CFII, 2005, ~100 hours).

14 C.F.R. Part 121 Operations: International Widebody First Officer (A-350). Prior Part 121 scheduled operations in A-320, B-757/767, DC-9 (MD-88), and ERJ-170/190 (ERJ-170/175).

MILITARY SERVICE

U.S. Marine Corps (August 2005 – January 2017, Former Active Duty) — F/A-18 Pilot, Squadron Flight Officer, Primary Flight Instructor & Student Stage Check Pilot (T-6 Texan II), and Aircraft Maintenance Officer.

Indiana Air National Guard (January 2017 – February 2025, Retired) — A-10C Pilot and Range Safety Officer (RSO). Completed military career and retired from the Air National Guard in February 2025.

FLIGHT TIME

Total: ~4,500 hours Turbine: ~4,000 hours 14 C.F.R. Part 121 Airline Jet: ~2,900 hours Instructor: ~900 hours (~800 military T-6 / ~100 civil)

Military Fighter / Attack Breakdown: F/A-18A–D (~450 hours) A-10C (~150 hours)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Lushin Aviation Consulting LLC — Principal *May 2026 – Present*

Expert witness and consulting practice. Available nationwide for case review, written reports, depositions, and testimony (plaintiff and defense).

- Retained as aviation expert witness in Florida Circuit Court litigation (2026–Present) evaluating military fighter and commercial Part 121 pilot qualification pathways, DoD/DoDMERB and FAA aviation medical and training standards, and career progression feasibility.

Major Legacy Airline — International Widebody First Officer (A-350) *December 2017 – Present*

- **International Widebody Operations (A-350, 2022–Present):** Conducts long-haul 14 C.F.R. Part 121 scheduled international ETOPS operations across Asia/Pacific (China, South Korea, Japan), Europe (including North Atlantic Tracks), and South America.
- **Narrowbody & Widebody Fleet Progression (2017–2022):** Flew domestic and international scheduled passenger operations across the DC-9 (MD-88), B-757/767, and A-320 fleets through high-density hub, adverse-weather, and oceanic airspace environments.

- **Standard Operating Procedures & Dispatch Evaluation:** Executes multi-crew Crew Resource Management (CRM), Threat and Error Management (TEM), Flight Operations Manual (FOM), and Quick Reference Handbook (QRH) normal, abnormal, and emergency procedures; conducts pre-departure flight-release, weather/fuel, and Minimum Equipment List (MEL) / Configuration Deviation List (CDL) airworthiness evaluations with dispatch and line maintenance.
- **Recurrent Qualification & Safety Reporting:** Participates in Part 121 Advanced Qualification Program (AQP) Line Operational Simulation (LOFT / LOE) training and Aviation Safety Action Program (ASAP) / Safety Management System (SMS) safety reporting.

Indiana Air National Guard — A-10C Pilot & Range Safety Officer (RSO) *January 2017 – February 2025, Retired*

- **Range Safety Officer (RSO — 113th Air Support Operations Squadron [113th ASOS], Jefferson Proving Ground & Camp Atterbury, Aug 2019 – Feb 2025):** Coordinated and deconflicted restricted range airspace for live military aircraft operations; verified aircraft ordnance and laser configurations, briefed range procedures and weather minimums, coordinated with ground JTAC personnel, and held hot/cold range and weapons-release ("Terminate / Abort") safety authority across the range complex during live-fire and dry passes.
- **A-10C Fighter Pilot (163rd Fighter Squadron [163rd FS], Jan 2017 – Aug 2019):** Selected for and flew single-seat A-10C Thunderbolt II attack operations (including day and Night Vision Goggle [NVG] close air support and air-ground JTAC coordination) prior to transitioning to Range Safety Officer duties ahead of the squadron's aircraft conversion; retired from the Air National Guard in February 2025.

Lushin & Associates (Sandler Training) — Organizational Excellence Facilitator *2020 – 2022*

- Facilitated Sandler Training's Leadership for Organizational Excellence (OE) curriculum at Lushin & Associates (#1-ranked Sandler Training franchise globally) for executive leadership teams—implementing structured frameworks for standard operating procedure (SOP) formalization, management accountability, performance metrics ("Performetrics"), and the elimination of operational blind spots.
- Selected by Sandler Systems corporate leadership to lead multiple national discussions for fellow facilitators and franchise leaders on structuring and delivering the Organizational Excellence curriculum—translating complex operational, SOP compliance, and management-accountability frameworks into clear, actionable guidance for executive and lay audiences.

Republic Airways — ERJ-170/190 First Officer *January 2017 – December 2017*

- Conducted 14 C.F.R. Part 121 regional jet scheduled passenger operations (~75 hours in the ERJ-170/175) upon transitioning from active-duty U.S. Marine Corps service until joining Major Legacy Airline in December 2017.

U.S. Marine Corps — F/A-18 Pilot, Primary Flight Instructor & Aircraft Maintenance Officer *August 2005 – January 2017*

- **Primary Flight Instructor, Student Stage Check Pilot & Class Advisor (VT-2, NAS Whiting Field — T-6 Texan II, Aug 2013 – Jan 2017):** Logged ~800 military instructor hours training student naval aviators in contact, instrument, formation, navigation, and night operations; served as a Student Stage Check Pilot evaluating student syllabus checkrides; and served as Student Class Advisor outside of flying duties, conducting student training-jacket reviews, tracking syllabus progress, and mentoring student aviators (while concurrently completing a resident MBA).
- **F/A-18 Operations & Squadron Flight Officer (VMFA-314, Aug 2010 – Aug 2013):** Flew F/A-18A–D Hornet strike-fighter operations (including day/night NVG and JTAC air-ground coordination) and served as F/A-18 Section Leader (following Officer Commissioning, Naval Flight Training, and F/A-18 Fleet Replacement Squadron [VMFAT-101] qualification, Aug 2005 – Aug 2010). As Squadron Flight Officer, supervised the squadron scheduling officers, built weekly and monthly flight schedule flows, secured and scheduled range airspace and ranges, and served as the operational liaison with aircraft maintenance to align daily aircraft and ordnance availability with flight-schedule requirements.
- **Powerline Division Officer (VMFA-314 — WC 310 & WC 330, Aug 2010 – Aug 2013):** Voluntarily attended the U.S. Navy's Naval Aviation Maintenance Officer Course (MOS 6002) alongside F/A-18 pilot duties. Directed F404 engine/APU/AMAD propulsion, fuel systems, flightline Plane Captain launch/recovery (WC 310), and Support Equipment (WC 330) under COMNAVAIRFORINST 4790.2 (NAMP), overseeing Plane Captain, Engine Turn, Fuel Surveillance, NOAP, and SE Licensing programs.
- **Airframes Division Officer (VMFA-314 — WC 120, 12A–13B & 140, Aug 2010 – Aug 2013):** Directed structures (WC 12A), 3,000 PSI hydraulics, flight controls, landing/arresting gear, and brakes (WC 12B), corrosion control (WC 12C), ALSS (WC 13A), ejection seat/egress and environmental systems (WC 13B), and Phase maintenance (WC 140), overseeing Hydraulic Contamination, Tire & Wheel, Corrosion Prevention, Egress/Explosive Checkout, and ABO/ALSS programs.
- **Division NAMP Compliance & Qualification Oversight (NAMP Ch. 3, 7 & 10):** Executed Division Officer responsibilities (§ 3.4.7), interviewing and endorsing QAR, CDQAR, and CDI candidates (§ 7.4.9), conducting CSEC compliance audits and root-cause corrective actions (§ 10.7), reviewing MATMEP/ASM qualification jackets (§ 10.1), certifying non-delegable Support Equipment licenses (§ 10.16), and enforcing Tool Control, FOD, HAZMAT, and Technical Directive compliance.

EDUCATION, FORMAL TRAINING & AFFILIATIONS

Master of Business Administration — University of West Florida

B.S., Professional Aviation Flight Technology — Indiana State University (FAA CFI / CFII, 2005)

Naval Aviation Maintenance Officer Course (MOS 6002) — U.S. Navy / U.S. Marine Corps (Formal DoD Aircraft Maintenance Officer & NAMP Qualification)

Professional Affiliations: International Society of Air Safety Investigators (ISASI) — Associate Member; Lawyer-Pilots Bar Association (LPBA) — Affiliate Member.

Military Award: Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (2013)