

ELLIOTT B. LUSHIN

Aviation Safety Expert Witness · Pilot Performance & Human Factors

Lushin Aviation Consulting

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Available to plaintiff and defense counsel for analysis and opinion on pilot performance, human factors, aeronautical decision-making, crew resource management, flight-training standards, and aviation safety-program effectiveness. Brings over 28 years of aviation experience (beginning in General Aviation in 1998), combining current 14 C.F.R. Part 121 international widebody airline operations with prior high-performance military fighter operations and hands-on aviation maintenance and safety-program leadership. Provides clear, operationally grounded analysis of standard of care, crew performance, and organizational factors that affect safety.

MATTERS TYPICALLY ADDRESSED

- Pilot error, judgment, and aeronautical decision-making
- Standard of care for Part 121 airline operations and military flight operations
- Crew Resource Management (CRM), crew coordination, and communication
- Human factors, situational awareness, workload, and multi-crew / high-performance operations
- Flight training, instruction, and standardization
- Airline operations, including international widebody and domestic narrowbody flying
- Aviation safety programs, the maintenance-safety interface, and Safety Management Systems (SMS)
- Fighter and high-performance aircraft operations; accident and incident support

CIVIL CERTIFICATES AND OPERATIONS

ATP — Multi-Engine Land. Type rated: A-350, A-320 family, B-757/767, DC-9/MD-88, ERJ-170/175/190.

Former CFI / CFII.

14 C.F.R. Part 121: International Widebody First Officer (A-350). Prior Part 121 domestic operations in A-320, B-757/767, MD-88/90, and ERJ-170/175.

MILITARY SERVICE

U.S. Marine Corps (Former Active Duty, Aug 2005 – Jan 2017) — F/A-18 Pilot and Aviation Maintenance Officer (MOS 6002). Rated in F/A-18A–D and T-6C Texan II.

Indiana Air National Guard (Jan 2017 – Feb 2025, Retired) — A-10C Pilot and Air Liaison Officer. Completed military flying career and retired from the Air National Guard in February 2025.

FLIGHT TIME

Total: ~4,500 hours Turbine: ~4,000 hours Instructor: ~1,000 hours (T-6C Texan II and general aviation)

F/A-18 A–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.

- Retained as defense aviation expert 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*

- Current Part 121 international widebody operations across Asia and Europe, plus extensive domestic operations.
- Prior scheduled passenger operations in A-320, B-757/767, MD-88/90, and ERJ-170/175.

Republic Airways — ERJ-170/175 First Officer *January 2017 – December 2017*

Part 121 scheduled passenger operations.

Indiana Air National Guard — A-10C Pilot and Air Liaison Officer *January 2017 – February 2025*

- Completed military flying career as an A-10C pilot and retired from the Air National Guard in February 2025.

U.S. Marine Corps — F/A-18 Pilot and Aviation Maintenance Officer (MOS 6002) *August 2005 – January 2017*

- Section Leader, Deputy Director of Training, Powerline Officer in Charge, and Airframes Officer in Charge.
- **Aviation Maintenance Officer (MOS 6002):** Graduated from the Naval Aviation Maintenance Officer Course; directed F/A-18 Powerline (WC 110: propulsion, fuel systems, flightline launch/recovery) and Airframes (WC 120: flight controls, hydraulics, landing gear, structures) divisions under the Naval Aviation Maintenance Program (COMNAVAIRFORINST 4790.2 / NAMP), supervising Collateral Duty Quality Assurance Representatives (CDQARs), Collateral Duty Inspectors (CDIs), and NAMP-monitored safety programs (Tool Control, FOD Prevention, Hydraulic Contamination, Tire & Wheel, and Corrosion Control) governing Safe-for-Flight aircraft release.
- Managed squadron safety programs and applied human-factors principles in maintenance and flight operations, including multiple combat deployments.
- Primary Flight Instructor and Stage Check Pilot in the T-6C Texan II.
- Top Graduate of every phase of military flight training (2007–2009); “Top Hook” Award for finishing #1 in F/A-18 carrier qualifications (2010); Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (2013).

Lushin and Associates — Organizational Excellence / Leadership Development *Concurrent with civilian career*

Led organizational-excellence and leadership-development programs for companies of all sizes, with emphasis on leadership decisions, culture, and operational blind spots that affect performance and safety.

EDUCATION

Master of Business Administration — University of West Florida

B.S., Professional Aviation Flight Technology — Indiana State University

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

AVAILABILITY

Nationwide. Case review, expert reports, depositions, and consulting. Plaintiff and defense.