

For more information contact: John Niehaus Director of Program Development National Association of Flight Instructors (269) 355-6500 jniehaus@nafinet.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KENNETH SOLOSKY EARNS NAFI MASTER GROUND INSTRUCTOR ACCREDITATION

KALAMAZOO, MI – 11/17/2023 The National Association of Flight Instructors is proud to announce that NAFI member Kenneth Solosky has earned accreditation as a NAFI Master Ground Instructor.

Solosky began learning to fly in 1988 and earned his private, instrument, commercial airplane, and ATP ratings at Farmingdale Republic Airport.

Originally from Mineola, New York,



Solosky retired from the New York City Police Department Aviation Unit as a lieutenant/chief pilot in 2007. He was chief pilot and helped lead the aviation unit during the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. Upon retirement, he served as the chief pilot for the Newark, New Jersey police department for three years.

Currently, Solosky is an ATP-Airplane and Helicopter, CFI-Helicopter, Advanced Ground Instructor, Instrument Ground Instructor, and sUAS Part 107 (drone) pilot. He teaches at the Airborne Public Safety Association's annual conference and has taught domestically and internationally on aviation related topics He is a regular contributor to the Airborne Public Safety Association Association's magazine Airbeat. Solosky is a ground instructor for Nassau Flyers and teaches its private and instrument ground school courses. Additionally, Solosky is associate professor of aviation at the State University of New York Farmingdale and teaches undergraduate aviation courses.

Solosky serves as a FAA FAAST Team Representative for the Farmingdale FSDO. He is currently employed by Northwell Health and among his varied duties is the chief pilot for its sUAS program. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from St. John's University in public administration and a Master of Arts degree in criminal justice from City University of New York, John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

Solosky currently lives in Mineola, New York with his wife Susan and their two sons, Kenneth and Patrick.

The **NAFI Master Flight Instructor Accreditation** is earned by aviation educators based upon a system of advanced professional standards and peer review. The accreditation identifies and publicly recognizes those teachers of flight who demonstrate an ongoing commitment to excellence, professional growth, and service to the aviation community. The NAFI Master Instructor accreditation is for two years and may be used to renew an FAA flight instructor certificate. Applicants must have been a CFI for two years and have given 1,000 hours of flight instruction. In addition, candidates must meet and document activity in four NAFI Master Instructor categories (Instructor, Educator, Service to the Aviation Community, and Professional Activity).

Members of the **National Association of Flight Instructors** work as independent instructors, at flight schools, universities, FBOs, corporate flight departments and in the military. Since 1967, NAFI and its members, who teach in 30 countries, are dedicated to increasing and maintaining the professionalism of flight instruction. NAFI members influence active pilots daily: students working to become pilots, current pilots training to advance their skills with new ratings or certificates and pilots who seek to improve their skills with recurrent training. NAFI also serves as an advocate with industry and government as a voice for flight instruction. NAFI helps shape the current and future direction of flight training. For more information about NAFI or the NAFI Master Instructor program call **866-806-6156** or visit <u>www.NAFINet.org</u>.