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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **ED PATAKY EARNS NAFI MASTER INSTRUCTOR AND MASTER GROUND ACCREDITATIONS**

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The National Association of Flight Instructors is proud to announce that NAFI member Ed Pataky has earned accreditation as a NAFI Master Flight Instructor and also his second Master Ground Instructor accreditation.

Pataky says he has been interested and involved in aviation almost all his life. He is now a professor, assistant chief pilot, and flight instructor at Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas. After soloing on his 16th birthday and obtaining his private



certificate one year later, Pataky earned commercial certificates for both glider and airplane categories with land and sea classes. Pataky is an advanced and instrument ground Instructor, CFI, and aircraft dispatcher, serving six years with Continental Express Airlines and over 10 years at Continental Airlines in various Flight Operations capacities.

Pataky holds masters degrees in economics and political science and an M.B.A., as well as several baccalaureate degrees, and has over 34 years experience as a college professor. He also has extensive experience as a radio disk jockey and commercial radio station engineer in the Houston market.

Pataky says he enjoys flying his much-loved Cessna 150 named Mary Lou, ham radio, playing guitar and most of all, teaching, flight instruction and mentoring aspiring aviators to be as safe and competent as possible. He believes study never stops. "One can't ever stop learning. I enjoy what I do more than I can say, and look forward to every day, be it in the classroom or in the air, and intend to stay there in that capacity as long as I am able. It's not work if you do what you love," he said.

*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 [www.NAFINet.org](http://www.NAFINet.org).*