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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**JASON DEPEW EARNS NAFI
MASTER INSTRUCTOR
ACCREDITATION**

KALAMAZOO, MI 4/15/2015 The National Association of Flight Instructors is proud to announce that NAFI member Jason Depew has earned accreditation as a NAFI Master Flight Instructor.

Depew was the kid who was terrible in Little League because traffic at the airport next to the



soccer field constantly distracted him from the game. He started flying at Colorado Contrails Aviation during high school and moved on to instruct in gliders as a cadet in the USAF Academy's soaring program.

Since the academy, Depew has accumulated more than 1800 combat hours on deployments to Afghanistan, Djibouti and elsewhere. He's served as an Instructor and evaluator pilot and has flown the B-1B, U-28A, T-6A, T-38C, E-11A, TG-4A, and TG-10B/C/D.

Unable to fully satisfy his appetite for flying at work, Depew is also active in general aviation. He has flown as a mission pilot, instructor and evaluator with the Civil Air Patrol any time his

deployment schedule allowed. He's given civilian glider instruction as a member of the Black Forest Soaring Society and the Black Hills Soaring Club. As chief pilot of EAA Chapter 1493, Depew has helped introduce dozens of young people to aviation through the Young Eagles program. He also gives tailwheel and military-to-GA transition training in his 1950 C-170A.

Depew's favorite students so far are his two children who fight over the copilot seat in the family Cessna. He's worked with some friends to publish "The Flying Adventures of Panda and Bailer on," a series of eBooks based loosely on his daughter and her dog. He hopes they'll inspire kids, especially girls like his daughter, to get excited about aviation.

*The **NAFI Master Flight Instructor program** is the longest running and most prestigious FAA accredited master flight instructor program in the industry. The NAFI Master 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).*

*The **National Association of Flight Instructors' (NAFI)** purpose is to establish and promote a high level of professionalism among aviation educators and to provide recognition for their contributions to aviation safety, education and training. NAFI members teach in 17 countries in flight schools, universities, FBOs, corporate flight departments, the military and as independent flight instructors. Founded in 1967, NAFI works with industry and government to help shape the direction of flight training and to serve as a voice for flight instruction. For more information about NAFI or the NAFI Master Instructor program call **866-806-6156** or visit www.NAFINet.org.*