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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **NATHAN BALLARD EARNS NAFI MASTER FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR ACCREDITATION**

**KALAMAZOO, MI — 7/19/2024** The National Association of Flight Instructors is proud to announce that NAFI member Nathan Ballard has earned accreditation as a NAFI Master Flight Instructor.

Ballard began flying in 1991 and earned his private, instrument, and commercial certificates and ratings by age 18. After a career in information technology, Ballard became a CFI in 2020 and has been actively teaching ever since. He specializes in training flight instructor applicants.

Ballard is an ATP, CFII, and IGI. He teaches at KLZU and KPDK, northeast of Atlanta, Georgia. He is an FAA Safety Team Lead representative and the safety officer for his flying club.

Ballard enjoys creating safety-related content for his YouTube channel, @NathanBallardSaferFlying. Ballard focuses both his teaching method and video content on "Attacking Aviation from a Critical Angle," offering thought-provoking aviation concepts and flying practices.

Ballard has presented for NAFI's MentorLIVE program and was a guest on the More Right Rudder podcast. He was a speaker at the inaugural NAFI Summit on the topic of how CFIs may overcome a student who is locked on the flight controls.

In his spare time, Ballard enjoys backcountry hiking trips with his wife and attending college football games at their kids' universities.



*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 thirty 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).*