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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANDREW DOW EARNS NAFI MASTER INSTRUCTOR ACCREDITATION

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The National Association of Flight Instructors is proud to announce that NAFI member Andrew Dow has earned accreditation as a NAFI Master Flight Instructor. This is Dow's fifth consecutive NAFI Master Instructor Accreditation and fourth consecutive NAFI Master Ground Instructor Accreditation.

Dow was about 12 years old traveling to Washington D.C. when he could



remember one of his first flight on an airline. He said he remembers being pushed back in his seat when the airliner lined up on the runway and applied full takeoff power to the engines. He also remembers taking road trips with his mom and she made sure to always point out the airports they drove by and the airplanes that flew overhead. It was when he enrolled in an Explorer's Post for Aviation through the Boy Scouts of America that becoming a pilot became a career focus.

Dow enrolled in the Aviation Program at Iowa Central Community College, where he earned an Associates Degree in Aviation along with earning Commercial and Flight Instructor certificates. He started his career in aviation in 2003 working as a flight instructor for Great River Aviation in Quincy, IL. It was during this job that he discovered a passion of teaching others how to fly. Dow worked up through the roles of assistant chief flight instructor to chief flight instructor in the flight school's FAA Part 141 Program and became the chief pilot and director of operations for its Part 135 Charter certificate. Dow also started teaching at Quincy University as an adjunct instructor of aviation in 2005

and eventually became an assistant professor of aviation and the aviation program coordinator, which helped him start a career as an educator and full-time flight instructor.

Dow recently started working as an independent flight instructor training students in the Quincy, IL and surrounding airports and as contract pilot for a corporate aviation department. Dow also became a FAA Designated Pilot Examiner for the Springfield, IL FSDO in 2017, conducting pilot practical test examinations for various pilot certificates and ratings. He currently has administered over 200 practical tests and said he enjoys giving back to the aviation industry, which has given me so much over the years.

Dow, who earned his Eagle Scout from the Boy Scout of America several years ago, now has the privilege of being an aviation merit badge counselor and has helped 87 Boy Scouts earn their aviation merit badge to date. He also is a Federal Aviation Administration FAASTeam Representative for the Springfield, IL District Office hosting and presenting aviation safety seminars throughout the region. He belongs to several aviation organizations and currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Illinois Aviation Trades Association.

In 2014, he was awarded the “Brown Jacket Award” at the EAA AirVenture from the IMC Club, and was awarded “Coach of the Year” award by the National Intercollegiate Flying Association for Region VIII during the 2014 and 2016 SAFECON competitions. Dow was also recently honored as a “Distinguished Flight Instructor” through AOPA’s Flight Training Experience Award in both 2017 and 2018.

*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.*