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**\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\***

## **Drew Egerton Earns Elite Balloon Instructor Accreditation!**

**7/10/2020** The Elite Balloon Instructor Committee is proud to announce Mr. Drew Egerton as an Elite Balloon Instructor!



Egerton, From Statesville, NC, is a second-generation pilot who has been a pilot for over 13 years, accumulated over 600 hours as pilot in command time, and has won numerous hot air balloon competitions including the US Team Championships, Thurston Classic, Ohio Challenge, and Carolina BalloonFest 3 times.

As an instructor, Egerton has been the recommending instructor to four private pilots but involved in the training of many others. Former student and current commercial pilot Daniel Sasser writes, "in-flight Drew's calm demeanor put me at ease while also challenging me in various tasks to enhance my flying abilities. Perhaps even more impressive since my own instruction is Drew's continued commitment to education and instruction of student pilots." Drew spends countless hours with his students on the ground providing one on one ground instruction.

As an educator, Egerton has developed pre-solo knowledge tests, assisted students in ground school education, and presented at hot air balloon safety seminars and Youth Camps Webinar.

Egerton has provided great service to the aviation community and has kept his own professional education up to date. He has served as Vice President of the Carolinas Balloon Association, been elected to the Balloon Federation of America (BFA) and BFA Hot Air Competition Division Board of Directors. Egerton has served as Assistant Event Director, and Assistant Safety Officer at hot air balloon competitions.

### **Elite Balloon Instructor**

*The Elite Balloon Instructor Program fueled by the National Association of Flight Instructors (NAFI) was created to differentiate between commercial balloon pilots. In the ballooning community, all commercial pilots are considered flight instructors. The Elite Balloon Instructor Program will separate those who provide flight instruction and are raising and maintaining the professional standing of the flight instructor in the ballooning community.*

*To learn more about the program visit: <https://www.theballoontrainingacademy.com/ebi/> or email [theballoontrainingacademy@gmail.com](mailto:theballoontrainingacademy@gmail.com)*

### **The Balloon Training Academy**

*The Balloon Training Academy is a 501c3 nonprofit organization with a mission to bring the launch field to students across the USA. Through online ground schools, flight instructor refresher courses, continuing education courses, and flight training syllabus we make quality hot air balloon education readily available. To learn more visit: [www.theballoontrainingacademy.com](http://www.theballoontrainingacademy.com)*

### **National Association of Flight instructors**

*Since 1967, NAFI dedicates its efforts exclusively to “raising and maintaining the professional standing of the flight instructor in the aviation community.” NAFI’s renowned Master Flight Instructor program is recognized by the Federal Aviation Administration and showcases CFIs who are raising the bar on flight instruction. NAFI is proud to fuel the Elite Balloon Instructor program! To learn more about NAFI visit [www.nafinet.org](http://www.nafinet.org)*