



For more information contact:
John Niehaus
Director of Program Development
National Association of Flight Instructors
(269) 355-6500
jniehaus@nafinet.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ORLANDO VILLAVERDE EARNS NAFI MASTER INSTRUCTOR ACCREDITATION

KALAMAZOO, MI — 12/16/2022 The National Association of Flight Instructors is proud to announce that NAFI member Orlando Villaverde has earned his fifth NAFI Master Flight Instructor accreditation, granting him status as a NAFI Bronze Legacy Master Instructor.

Dr. Villaverde's educational background includes a doctoral degree in philosophy, Master of Science in aeronautical science with a specialization in management, and a Master of Science in aviation business administration. Villaverde also graduated from Nova Southeastern University's doctoral program with a business administration degree with a specialization in international management and finance, with numerous publications in graduate work. He has taught



aviation, criminal justice, business, and management classes at Miami Dade College School of Aviation and School of Justice since 1996. Villaverde has also taught at Broward Community College's business school, as well as at other universities in Florida and South America.

His experience in aviation includes teaching and working as a pilot and supervisor for the Miami Police Department's aviation detail, as well as other investigative and administrative units. His responsibilities and duties in the police department totaling 28 years of public service included training and certifying

new pilots and flying police missions. His greatest contribution was developing an air support unit to include a new pilot program, a computerized budgetary and management system, and an aviation safety program that resulted in a decline of incidents and zero aircraft accidents.

While employed with the Miami Police Department, he was also responsible for developing an uncrewed aerial system (UAS) program and worked with the state attorney's office and other municipal police departments in Dade, Broward, and Monroe counties. Villaverde trained and certified new remote pilots as a result of FAR Part 107 that was enacted in 2016, with the purpose of integrating autonomous UAS into the national airspace system. His last position prior to joining Bond Security Inc. as director of drone operation was as director/department chair of the Miami Dade College aviation department overseeing and administering the department's four aviation degree programs.

*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.*