

Curriculum Vitae
Robert L. Drake

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Current Activities

International Aviation Safety and Security Consultant in private practice. Perform aircraft accident/incidents investigation and reconstruction; expert witness testimony; develop and implement business/corporate and commercial aviation flight safety and security programs that include crisis management/emergency response, incident/accident investigation, safety evaluations and compliance audits; and present aviation safety information via public forums.

Technical Background

Served more than 16 years with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Washington, DC and the Department of Transportation (DOT) Office of Inspector General, Washington DC in the following positions:

Team Lead, Air Safety Investigator:

Provided direction and assistance to six FAA Air Safety Investigators in their investigation of over 300 high-profile aircraft accidents, incidents and occurrences. Briefed top FAA and DOT management providing recommendations for FAA action on the way ahead for those investigations. Prepared FAA witnesses for participation in NTSB public hearings. Participated in NTSB public hearings as the FAA party spokesman.

Air Safety Investigator, Investigator-In-Charge:

Worked more than 300 high-profile aircraft accidents, incidents and occurrences. Personally conducted the investigations of general aviation and commercial air carrier aircraft incidents and accidents that included the reconstruction of all pertinent facts, conditions and circumstances to include performing engine tear-down examinations, propeller and component part inspections, aircraft structure re-association, and non-destructive and destructive tests, examination of pilot operational and human factors, meteorology, maintenance and radar telemetry. Participated in over ten Interagency Committee on Aviation Policy Aviation Resource Management Surveys as the team lead, operations, safety, or maintenance representative.

Aerospace Engineer

Project Manager that led an investigative team in the evaluation of FAA programs. Provided aerospace engineering, scientific, and technical consultative services to the aviation auditing staff of the Office of Inspector General. Provided analysis, review, and evaluation of engineering, safety, security, technical, managerial and scientific studies,

plans and specifications for professional merit, acceptability and reasonableness. Provided technical advice on the acquisition and operation of air traffic control and airways facilities equipment, avionics, security systems, system integration, cost estimating, procurement practices and contract administration, as well as aircraft operations and maintenance. Conducted a safety analysis of FAA's research efforts in evaluating the effects of aging on aircraft wiring. Also conducted a safety analysis of the Automated Surface Observation System and any possible contributory effects the system may have had on several aircraft crashes in the U. S.

Served over 2 years with JIL Information Systems and M. Rosenblatt and Son Inc., in the following positions:

Program Manager/Systems Engineer:

Directed ten personnel providing administrative and system engineering support for the Navy's Aircraft Launch and Recovery Equipment program office. Continued support of NATO, Inter-American Navies (ZAN) and Pacific Rim (RMPAC) nations with the Helicopter Operations on Ships other Than Aircraft Carriers (HOSTAC) working parties, maintaining close liaison with delegates from the other nations to resolve current issues.

Provided engineering and administrative services to the FAA Headquarters Offices of Air Traffic Systems Development on the Surface Movement Advisor system as part of a joint FAA/NASA team. Interfaced routinely with NASA counterparts on system engineering and system integration issues. Provided integration and acquisition expertise as the system transitioned from a prototype to a potential production unit. Direct liaison with NASA as a systems engineering team member in the development of the Surface Development and Test Facility, a simulation facility at NASA Ames. Assisted the FAA Security Equipment Integrated Program Team support services personnel in database development for tracking acquisition of their new bomb detection equipment.

As a Senior Engineer developed an aircraft drop tank stowage system to be placed in the hangar bay of the current aircraft carriers, CVN 68 class ships. Developed an aircraft/ship compatibility matrix for the U. S. Army Special Operations Aviation Regiment. Provided support for updates on aviation facilities design on the new Guided Missile Destroyer class, DDG 51 FLT IIA and the new amphibious Landing Platform Dock class ships, LPD 17.

Served over 16 years in the United States Navy, in the following positions:

Naval Aviator - Integrated Program Team Lead – Naval Air Systems Command

Integrated Program Team (IPT) Leader directing the shipboard aviation facility and aircraft certification program for all U. S. Navy, Coast Guard, and Military Sealift Command ships and aircraft. Directed a team of over one hundred forty civilian and military personnel consisting of engineers, test pilots, technicians, budget analysts, and administrative personnel. The Program Team was responsible for; Conducting inspections and evaluations of shipboard aviation facilities; Oversight of the

development of helicopter launch/recovery wind envelopes and ship compatibility studies for military and civilian helicopters; shipboard compatibility design issues for the V-22 as well as design issues for the new SH-60R; shipboard aviation integration on new ship design teams providing systems engineering support on the guided missile destroyer DDG 51 FLT IIA, Amphibious Assault Ship LHD 7 and the landing platform dock ship LPD 17; development of the Air Traffic Control Tower for LPD 17 and a generic tower for all future surface combatant ships; lead U. S. delegate for NATO, Inter-American Navies, Pacific Rim, and Partnership for Peace on shipboard aviation facilities and operations, and airfield marking and lighting working parties.

Naval Aviator - Safety and Operations Officer – Helicopter Combat Support Squadron Sixteen

As the safety officer, conducted safety research and analysis for new shipboard and search and rescue procedures and equipment for the U.S. Navy's UH-1N pilots and aircrewmembers. Directed the squadron EPA, OSHA, and safety programs providing 5000 mishap free flight hours and zero lost work days due to job related accidents, winning the Chief of Naval Operations Safety Award. Directed a team of eight inspectors evaluating ship and squadron search and rescue capabilities. Directed a Naval Air Training and Operating Procedures Standardization evaluation team for the UH-1N aircraft. This team reviewed squadron and ship training in addition to the operations and mission effectiveness of their flight crews.

As the operations officer, directed squadron missions using the twelve assigned aircraft. Tasking included military and civilian search and rescue, training for mission readiness, scheduling, and ensuring readiness of detachments for deployment. Responsible for the security, maintenance and upkeep of squadron facilities. Additionally, served as the Airport Compatible Use Zones representative for Naval Air Station Pensacola outlying field, working issues with the Escambia County, FL commissioners.

As Assistant Chief of Naval Operations Search and Rescue Model Manager, managed the development and test and evaluation of various Commercial Off-The-Shelf Search and Rescue related equipment which included new rescue hoists, night vision devices, communications and navigation equipment and a Forward Looking Infrared system.

Naval Aviator - Air Officer – USS Coronado AGF-11

Directed all ship air operations and managed all shipboard aviation facilities. Responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of those facilities. Directed all Air Traffic Control operations for aircraft operated within 50 nautical miles of the ship. Persian Gulf Helicopter Logistics Coordinator coordinating movement of all passengers, mail, and cargo by helicopter and barge to U.S. units in the Persian Gulf region. Member Air Operations staff for Joint Taskforce Middle East, coordinating landing rights and security issues for executive transport and logistic aircraft flying in and out of nations in the Persian Gulf region. As Safety Officer directed all OSHA and EPA programs aboard ship in conjunction with all afloat and aviation safety programs. Additionally, served as

the Aviation Safety Officer for Joint Task Force Middle East, which was comprised of

various shore and afloat Navy, Marine, Army and civilian aviation units. Conducted shipboard aviation safety reviews of ships assigned to Commander, Naval Surface Group Mid-Pacific. Participated in the investigation of the Iranian Airbus shoot-down in the Persian Gulf in 1988. Managed all ship physical security including protection for embarked Flag Officers. Led a Special Operations support unit for operations in the Persian Gulf. Resided in Manama, Bahrain. Participated as an operations representative on various aircraft mishap investigation boards.

Naval Aviator – Helicopter Combat Support Squadron Six

Completed two deployments as detachment maintenance officer responsible for the maintenance of two CH-46D helicopters in at sea and desert environments; also served in administrative and training departments. Participated as the maintenance representative on two aircraft mishap investigation boards

Served over 4 years in the Federal Bureau of Investigation, in the following position:

Special Deputy U. S. Marshal

Employed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on the clerk-agent program serving in both clerical and law enforcement positions. Experience included physical security and protection of the FBI Academy facility and personnel as a Special Deputy U. S. Marshal and performing investigative and patrol assignments. Shift supervisor of five fellow Marshals. Assisted in the test and evaluation of police protective equipment and firearms.

Aircraft Accident Investigations

Served as the IIC, group member, or FAA advisor to U.S. Accredited Representative for the following notable accident investigations conducted by the National Transportation Safety Board or foreign accident investigation authorities (partial list):

- **Malaysian Airlines Flight MH-370**, Boeing 777, satellite and radar analysis
- **Asiana Airlines Flight 214**, Boeing 777, San Francisco, FAA Hearing Officer
- **UPS Flight 1354**, Airbus A300, Birmingham, Alabama, FAA Hearing Officer
- **American Airlines Flight 1420**, McDonnell Douglas MD-83, Little Rock, FAA performance group member
- **China Airlines Flight 611**, Boeing 747, Taiwan Strait, Taiwan
- **Caribbean Airlines Flight 523**, Boeing 737-800, Georgetown, Guyana
- **US Airways Flight 1549**, Airbus A320, Hudson River, assisted the FAA IIC
- **Omega**, Boeing 707, Point Mugu, California
- **Air Midwest Flight 5481**, Hawker Beechcraft 1900D, Charlotte, North Carolina
- **Sudan Airways Flight 139**, Boeing 737-200, Port Sudan, Sudan
- **UPS Flight 1307**, Douglas DC-8, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- **China Airlines Flight 120**, Boeing 737-800, Naha, Okinawa, Japan

- **East Coast Jets**, Hawker Beechcraft 125, Owatonna, Minnesota

- **Southwest Medevac**, Hawker Beechcraft 90, Ruidoso, New Mexico
- **Ryan Blake Air Charter**, Fairchild Swearingen Metroliner, SA-226, Mount Kenya, Kenya
- **ERA Aviation**, Sikorsky S-76A, Gulf of Mexico, Galveston, Texas
- **Mercy Air**, Bell Helicopter 412, Victorville, California
- **Copterline**, Sikorsky S-76C++, offshore Tallinn, Estonia
- **Washington Times Aviation/Unification Church**, Sikorsky S-92A, Gapyeong, Republic of Korea
- **Steve Fossett**, Bellanca 8KCAB, Mammoth Lake, California

Flight Experience and Licenses

FAA certified Commercial Pilot, Airplane Single Engine Land, Rotorcraft-Helicopter, BV-107.

Military Instructor Pilot, Instrument Check Pilot and Functional Check Pilot for CH-46D and UH-1N.

Flight Time in excess of 2,000 hours accumulated over 30 years experience in military, public use, and general aviation flying.

Education and Training

- Master of Science, Aeronautical Engineering – U. S. Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California
- Bachelor of Arts, Psychology – University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky
- Diploma, System Acquisition, Program Managers Course, Defense Systems Management College, Fort Belvoir, Virginia
- IS-BAO Auditor Workshop and Training, Alexandria, Virginia
- TapRoot Incident Investigation and Root Cause Analysis Course, Washington DC
- Aviation Safety Officer, General Services Administration
- Aviation Safety Program Management (SMS) - Transportation Safety Institute
- Turbine Engine Accident Investigation - Transportation Safety Institute
- Rotorcraft Accident Investigation - Transportation Safety Institute
- Aircraft Cabin Accident Investigation - Transportation Safety Institute
- Boeing Aircraft Company B-767 Systems Familiarization Course
- Aircraft Accident Investigation - Transportation Safety Institute
- Basic Safety School Accident Investigation – Air Line Pilots Association
- Aircraft Certification Process – FAA
- Introductory Auditor Training – Government Accounting Office

- Special Operations Course, U. S. Air Force

Awards and Special Recognition

- Meritorious Service Medal - for sustained superior performance
- Navy Commendation Medal - for sustained superior performance
- President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency – Two Awards for Excellence
- DOT/IG - Certificate of Special Achievement - for superior work on the audit of Runway Incursion Technologies
- FAA Southern Region Safety Award – for work in solving engine issues with the Boeing 717

Organizational and Professional Affiliations:

- International Society of Air Safety Investigators (ISASI)
- General Aviation Air Safety Investigators (GAASI)
- American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) Senior Member

Teaching, Public Service and Media Activities

- Transportation Safety Institute, Oklahoma City, OK- Instructor of Advanced Accident Investigation (AAI) and Rotorcraft Accident Investigation course designed to teach the basic and advanced airplane and helicopter accident investigation skills and techniques and promote aviation safety.
- Washington DC Air Guard Safety Stand Down.
- Public speaking engagements before live audiences ranging from non-aviation groups to professional aviation and trade associations, such as numerous presentations to General Aviation Manufacturers Association, General Aviation Air Safety Investigators Conference, and American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

Depositions and Testimony

Records of testimony and depositions from 2002-2014, as Air Safety Investigator for the FAA are on file with the Office of The General Counsel, Washington, D.C. 20594

Security Clearance

Top Secret with Sensitive Compartmented Information