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David T. Norton is a partner and head of the aviation practice at the law firm of SHACKELFORD, BOWEN, MCKINLEY & NORTON, LLP, in Dallas, Texas. He received his B.A. from the USAF Academy, his M.B.A. from Louisiana Tech University and his J.D., cum laude, from Southern Methodist University, where he was Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Air Law & Commerce, published by the SMU Law Review Association.

While his firm offers a broad array of legal services, Mr. Norton focuses solely on aviation law and has an internationally recognized practice that encompasses a broad range of business aviation regulatory, risk management, transactional, tax, and commercial dispute resolution issues. He actively participates in many business aviation industry-related committees and groups, including previously serving as: Manager of the 2015 Fair Sales Tax Initiative for Texas Aircraft, LLC, a coalition that interfaced with the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts and resulted in new statutory provisions designed to bring much more clarity and fairness to the assessment of sales and use taxes on aircraft in Texas; Industry Co-Chair of the joint FAA/Industry RVSM LOA Process Enhancement Team of the Performance based Advisory Rule Marketing Committee and the subsequent related efforts to re-write AC 91-85; a member of the Applicability Working Group of the Federal Aviation Administration's Part 135/125 Advisory Rulemaking Committee; and Chair of the National Business Aviation Association's Domestic Operations Committee. He currently participates on the NBAA's Tax Committee and Regulatory Issues Advisory Group, and serves as Chair of the NBAA's Operational Excellence Strategic Focus Team, a member and Secretary of Texans for General Aviation, as a member of the National Air Transportation Association Air Charter Committee, and as a member of the American Bar Association's General Aviation Committee. He is a past Chair of the Aviation Section of the State Bar of Texas, and is an advisory board member for the Journal of Air Law & Commerce, published by the Law Review Association of the Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law. Mr. Norton is a Life Fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation. He is also active in many community organizations, currently serving, for example, as Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Frontiers of Flight Museum, located at the Dallas Love Field Airport.

Mr. Norton was a regular commissioned officer in the U.S. Air Force from 1984 to 1993, serving primarily as a KC-10A pilot and aircraft commander. Before becoming a pilot, he also briefly served as a KC-135A navigator. Mr. Norton currently holds many civil certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration. He is an airline transport pilot (multi-engine land) with a DC-10 type rating, and a commercial pilot (single-engine land). He also maintains certification as a certified flight instructor, instrument and multi-engine, as well as an advanced ground and instrument instructor.