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Editor's Forum

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Welcome to the winter edition of the Editor’s Forum of the JAAER. It is our pleasure to bring to you two interesting articles related to the legal aspects of aviation and aviation education.

In our “litigation happy” society it is important that all members of our industry be familiar with the “law” as we may find ourselves involved in these issues easier than we have hoped.

In our first piece, Dr. Richard Theokas brings us an issue that is close to us as it involves our workplace. His article “Workplace Conduct: One Company’s No-Nonsense Approach to Hate-Related Behavior” shows us how one company has taken on the legal issues and ramifications of hate-related activities. As he describes, there is a fine line between the freedom of speech and the activities that may legally offend others who may observe this behavior. The topic of “harassment” is a current and hot issue at many universities and workplaces in America. Dr. Theokas demonstrates through case studies the results of such activities. He also describes how one university has addressed this current issue. You may find the reading interesting and informative, and perhaps very useful in your workplace. Please feel free to respond to this issue by submitting an article to the JAAER.

Our second article addresses aviation law through a book review process conducted by Mr. Steve Dedmon. Mr. Dedmon uses his own experiences and case studies to review the issues facing the aviation industry and educational process from a legal standpoint. I think his book review will enlighten us all on the issues that may face us individually or our industry as a whole. We all could stand to be a little more educated in the legal realm.

Enjoy the reading and, by all means, be motivated to respond through the Forum section of the JAAER. In our Spring edition we will publish papers presented at the CRM Vectors Conference to be held at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University’s Daytona Beach campus at the end of February. Better yet, we’d love to see you at the conference!

Fly safe.

William A. (Bill) Kohlruss
Editor