

Academy of Model Aeronautics

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MEDIA RELEASE

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AMA releases statement: NTSB ruling - FAA v. Pirker

M U N C I E, IN –Bob Brown, president of the Academy of Model Aeronautics, released the following statement in response to the National Transportation Safety Board's Administrative Law Judge's decision to uphold the motion to dismiss in the <u>FAA v. Pirker Order of Assessment case</u>.

"We are carefully reviewing the decision and the judge's findings. Though the ruling deals primarily with administrative procedures, the safe operation of unmanned aircraft, be it for commercial or recreational purposes, is the primary concern. The members of the Academy of Model Aeronautics have operated unmanned aircraft (model aircraft) in the national airspace for decades and have set the example for operating small unmanned aircraft systems (sUAS) in a safe and harmonious fashion."

"This current situation underscores the immediate need for programing to support and govern this activity. The Academy stands ready to lend its expertise and to assist the FAA in developing a safety structure that will enable and allow all sUAS to operate safely and responsibly in the national airspace."

The Academy of Model Aeronautics has been the nation's collective voice for approximately 164,000 modelers in 2,400 clubs in every state and Puerto Rico since 1936. A nonprofit association headquartered in Muncie IN, AMA sanctions more than 2,000 events and competitions each year under the auspices of the National Aeronautic Association.