

John J. Petrakis

Aircraft Certification Service
Federal Aviation Administration

Mr. Petrakis has over 39 years of experience in aviation safety with the FAA and the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB).

He is a senior aerospace engineer at FAA Headquarters and is currently responsible for the development of policy and guidance, and operational airworthiness requirements for aircraft in the areas of fire and cabin safety, water survival, and crashworthiness. He has been the primary sponsor for safety research on interior materials; passenger protective breathing equipment; child restraint systems; life preservers; cabin water spray systems and halon replacement agent fire suppression systems. He also has served as the Headquarters Aging Aircraft Program Manager.

At the Safety Board, Mr. Petrakis served as a structures and survival factors investigator in over 40 major aviation accident investigations, which resulted in over 100 safety recommendations.

While in the military, Mr. Petrakis designed and developed prototype energy absorbing crashworthy helicopter troop and gunner seats.

Prior to his military service, he was a structural design engineer for Boeing and McDonnell Aircraft Company.

Mr. Petrakis holds a BS Degree in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Maryland.