

CURRICULUM VITAE

RICHARD “CRAIG” CESARIN

CFI®

Mr. Cesarin’s background consists of education and technical training with over 49 years of professional fire service experience. He worked in a major municipal fire department for 37 years, working in progressively more responsible positions during the course of his career, retiring in 2004 at the rank of Deputy Fire Marshal. One of his responsibilities while working in the Suppression Division with a Truck Company was to achieve qualification as a State Certified Hazardous Materials Specialist/Technician.

During the course of his career, Mr. Cesarin responded to numerous emergencies, supervised and investigated many fires as an Acting Fire Captain. In 1997 Mr. Cesarin was promoted to Deputy Fire Marshal and conducted approximately 250 fire investigations before his retirement. As a Deputy Fire Marshal, his primary responsibility was to conduct Origin and Cause investigations, prepare detailed written reports, coordinate criminal complaints with law enforcement, and perform complex code enforcement inspections within the City of Mountain View, CA.

Mr. Cesarin was a member of the Santa Clara County Fire Investigation Task Force Team and assisted in major mutual aid fire investigations such as the Orthodox Church Fire in Los Altos, the Minton Lumber Yard Fire and Postal Express Fire in Mountain View, CA, and the Santana Row Fire in San Jose, CA. Between 2004 and 2012 Mr. Cesarin was again retained by the City of Mountain View, CA to train, supervise and oversee the development of the full time deputy fire marshals within the city.

Mr. Cesarin is employed by Fire Cause Analysis as a forensic fire origin and cause investigator and has investigated numerous large loss fires in a variety of commercial and industrial buildings within the states of California and Nevada, as well as on the Lahaina fires in Hawaii, categorizing and collecting evidence. Mr. Cesarin is a certified Level II Fire Investigator and Fire Inspector through the California State Fire Marshal’s office. He has been a member of the California Conference of Arson Investigators for over twenty years and a member of the International Association of Arson Investigators. He is also permitted to work in the Hawaiian Islands and Washoe County, Reno as a fire investigator.

To further his knowledge, training, experience and understanding of fire, Mr. Cesarin has conducted many live-fire scenarios in controlled settings to observe and analyze fire behavior, fire spread, fire patterns and fire dynamics in structures. The live-burn test included the use of multiple accelerants to observe their effects on carpet, flooring material and common furnishings.

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Mr. Cesarin attended the Santa Clara County Investigators meetings, and attended a minimum of two seminars a year since 1997 relating to interview and interrogation techniques, investigative skills in structures, vehicles and wildland fires.

Professional Experience

- **Forensic Fire Investigator**, Fire Cause Analysis 2004 – Present
Expertise in: fire and explosion investigation; evidence collection and handling; interviewing; forensic report preparation; detailed investigation documentation; and legal testimony.
- **Senior Deputy Fire Marshal**, City of Mountain View, CA 2004 – 2012
Trained and evaluated newly hired Deputy Fire Marshals.
Conducted skilled and detailed fire safety building inspections.
Recommended the proper design and installation of fire protection equipment.
Enforced fire safety standards in the construction, operation and maintenance of various types of occupancies as specified in Title 19 and 24 of the California Administrative Code.
Conducted and or participated in over 250 fire investigations which included rendering the opinion of its origin and cause, writing comprehensive reports and working with the District Attorney's Office and a law Enforcement Agencies in the apprehension of individuals who purposely set fires.
- **Deputy Fire Marshal**, City of Mountain View, CA 1997 – 2004
Conducted skilled and detailed fire safety building inspections.
Recommended the proper design and installation of fire protection equipment.
Enforced fire safety standards in the construction, operation and maintenance of various types of occupancies as specified in Title 19 and 24 of the California Administrative Code.
Conducted and or participated in over 250 fire investigations which included rendering the opinion of its origin and cause, writing comprehensive reports and working with the District Attorney's Office and a law Enforcement Agencies in the apprehension of individuals who purposely set fires.
- **Acting Captain**, City of Mountain View, CA 1990 – 1997
Responded to emergency alarms and directed firefighting personnel in extinguishing fires, saving lives and property.
Supervised, inspected and ensured proper maintenance of assigned station equipment and vehicles.
Conducted programs, lectures and demonstrations about fire safety and prevention methods.
- **Fire Engineer**, City of Mountain View, CA 1984 – 1997
Maintain apparatus and its readiness.
Made routine and emergency repairs.
Transported firefighting crews safely to emergency scenes
Operated firefighting apparatus, pumps, nozzles and hydraulic equipment Shift trainer in the

operation and driving techniques of the department's 110-foot tiller truck.

- **Firefighter**, City of Mountain View, CA 1974 – 1984
Emergency Medical Technician.
Conducted fire station maintenance.
Responded and took orders on emergency scenes.
Rescued victims and provided necessary emergency health care.
Participated in mock fire drills and medical scenarios.
Maintained stations fire inspection programs for company officers.

Education

- **Fire Science Advanced Certificate – Fire Science Technology**
San Jose City College, San Jose, CA
- **Associate of Arts Degree – General Education**
Canada College, Redwood City, CA

Professional Certifications & Special Seminars

- **California State Fire Investigator Level II**
Requirements:
Completion of:
Fire Investigator I
PC 832 (Laws of Arrest – Search and Seizure)
Officer Safety and Field Tactics for Arson Investigators
Expert courtroom testimony
- **California State Fire Investigator Level I**
Requirements:
Minimum of 1 year in a full time paid fire department
The responsibility in a California Fire Department to conduct origin and cause determination of at least 100 fires
- **California State Fire Marshal Hazardous Materials Responder, Technician and Specialist**
California Specialized Training Institute; includes 200 hours of initial training plus periodic 24 to 40 hour refresher courses
- **Firefighter I and II**
California State Board of Fire Services
- **Juvenile Firesetter Counselor**
Federal Emergency Management Agency U.S. Administration

- **Certified Videographer and Photographer**

Professional Associations

- Santa Clara County Fire Investigation Task Force Team
- International Association of Arson Investigators
- California Conference Arson Investigators
- Santa Clara County Fire Prevention Officers Association

Professional Development

- **CFITrainer.net**
 - Basic Electricity 2020
 - Appliance Fires 2020
 - Arc Mapping 2020
 - Accreditation, Certification and Certificates 2016
- **Chimney Safety Institute of America**
 - Chimney Fires 2020
- **Terracon (Berkeley, CA)**
 - OSHA Class IV Asbestos Awareness 2018
 - Lead Exposure Awareness 2018
- **Fire Cause Analysis**
 - Case Study 2022
 - Evidence & Engineering 2021
 - Evidence 2019
 - Lidar & 3D Scanning 2019
 - Dryer Fires 2019
 - Investigator & Engineer Coordination 2018
 - Case Study 2018
 - NFPA 921 updates, Hal Lyson, IAAI-CFI, NFPA 921 Committee member Ret., Instructor
- **Safety Unlimited**
 - Asbestos Awareness Training 2021
 - Lead Awareness Training for General Industry 2021
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- **California Conference of Arson Investigators**
 - Fire Science & Fire Dynamics 2022
 - Truck Fires & Exhaust Systems Update, Sacramento 2018
 - Domestic Terrorist & their Incendiary Devices
- **Public Agency Training Council**
 - Electrical Fire Investigation
 - Electrical Fire Investigation Skills
- **Northern California Fraud Investigators Association**
 - Fraud Course of Instruction
- **Wildland Fire Litigation Conference, Reno, Nevada** 2009

- **Santa Clara County Fire Investigation Task Force**
Gas & Electrical Appliance Fires
Vehicle Arson & Fraud 2004
- **California State Fire Chiefs Association**
Inspecting Fire-Resistive Construction & Components 2003
Hospital Inspection Seminar 2003
Forensic Fire Scene Reconstruction
- **Santa Clara County Investigations Unit**
Wildland Fire Investigations
- **IFC**
Seminar in the transition of the 2000 UFC to the 2006 IFC 2007
- **California Fire Prevention Institute CFCA/CFPO**
Fire Prevention Workshop & Joint Committees 2002
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- **National Fire Sprinkler Association, Inc.**
Inspection, Testing & Maintenance of Water-based Extinguishing Systems Seminar 1998
- **Fire Service Training & Education Program**
Confined Space Rescue Awareness 1996
- **Mountain View Fire Department**
Rapid Intervention Crew Tactics 2002
State Fire Marshal Rescue Systems 1
- **Air Products**
Cylinder Gasses & Emergency Response Seminar 1993
- **Interview & Interrogation Techniques**
- **PC 832 – Laws of Arrest – Search & Seizure**

Investigative Experience

- California Conference Arson Investigators Workshops 1997

Investigative Experience

- 750 Structures Fires
- 50 Vehicle Arson Fires
- 2 Marine Vessel Investigation
- 75 Structure Arson Fires

Professional Association Honors & Awards

- Certificate of Commendation by The City of Mountain View – Rendering Valuable and Distinguished Service 1991

Deposition & Trial Testimony

- United States of America v. Jamal Shehadeh, et al.
Case No. 2:16-cr-00038-MCE

- May 14, 2018
- CSAA Insurance Exchange v Dan Randall d/b/a Randall Electric, et al.
Case No. PC 2014041
May 20, 2015
- Crusader Insurance Company Plaintiff v. Robert McGaha
Case No. 151763
Superior Court of California
April 15, 2013
- AAA v. Johnson
Case No. SCV0032631 Ref. Code 87701.99175
Superior Court of California
February 28, 2014
Deposition
- Michelle Fletcher Plaintiff vs. Mission Apartment Holdings
Case No. CV806095
Consolidated with No. CV806098
May 16, 2003
Deposition