

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### RICHARD K. PETERSON

#### CFI II, California State Fire Marshal #870122

Mr. Peterson is a Senior Fire Investigator with Fire Cause Analysis. He retired as a Captain with the Santa Clara City Fire Department. Mr. Peterson had over 39 years experience in the fire service including eight years as a Deputy Fire Marshal with the Santa Clara City Fire Marshal's Office. His experience includes code enforcement and the regulation of hazardous materials. He has conducted over 200 environmental criminal investigations for the City. To date Mr. Peterson has conducted over 7,300 code-related fire safety inspections and 1,850+ investigations. He has testified on numerous occasions as an expert in both criminal and civil proceedings.

#### Area of Specialization:

- Fire Investigation
- Hazardous Materials

#### Professional Experience

- **Fire Investigator**, Fire Cause Analysis 1994 – Present
- **Private Investigator**, California BSIS License #8649, and #20057 for Flashpoint 1981 – Present
  - Testified as an expert witness relating to Fire Origin and Cause in the Santa Clara and San Mateo County Judicial Districts (see addendum)
  - Reserve Deputy Sheriff, Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office, 1980 – 1985
- **Fire Captain**, Santa Clara City Fire Department 1993 – 2012
  - Commander Engine 10
  - Hazardous Materials Unit 1995 – 2001
  - Counter Terrorism Officer 1998 – 2001, retired 12/31/2012
- **Deputy Fire Marshal**, Santa Clara City Fire Department 1985 – 1993
  - Inspected target and high hazard occupancies.
  - Enforced all fire and environmental related laws, codes and ordinances.
  - Investigated fires and incidents subject to Fire Department responsibility.
- **Fire Captain**, Santa Cruz City Fire Department 1983 – 1985
- **Fire Captain**, University of California Fire Department, Santa Cruz 1980 – 1983
- **Fire Specialist**, University of California Fire Department, Santa Cruz 1979 – 1980

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- **Firefighter/Engineer**, Madera City Fire Department 1977 – 1979
- **District Engineer**, Woodlake Fire Protection District 1976 – 1977
- **Firefighter**, California Department of Forestry, Tulare Ranger Unit 1973 – 1976

## **Education**

- **Bachelor of Science – Fire Prevention Technology**, Present  
**Bachelor of Science – Administration**  
Cogswell Polytechnic College, San Jose, CA  
Completing degree requirements, one class left.
- **Bachelor of Science – Law** 1993  
Taft University, Denver, CO

## **Professional Certifications**

- **California State Fire Academy Fire Investigator**
- **California State Fire Marshal Arson and Bomb Investigator**
- **State Board of Fire Services Fire Investigator I**
- **National Fire Academy Fire/Arson Investigator**
- **Continuing Education Advanced Fire Investigator (CCAI/TF)**
- **State Board of Fire Services Fire Officer I**
- **State Board of Fire Services Fire Investigator II**

## **Professional Associations**

- California Conference of Arson Investigators, Member
- International Association of Firefighters (Retired), Member
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Member (20 yr status 2003)
- California Hazardous Materials Investigators Association, Board of Directors 1989 – 1990
- Secretary to the Santa Clara County Arson Task Force, 1983 – 1989
- California Reserve Peace Officer's Association, Past Member
- California State Fireman's Association, Past Member
- National Fire Protection Association, Past Member

## **Teaching Experience**

- Alameda County Arson Task Force
- Cabrillo College Regional Occupational Training Program
- California Fire Chief's Association
- City of Santa Clara Fire Department
- City of Santa Clara Police Department
- City of Santa Cruz Fire Department

- Farmers Insurance Company
- Intel
- Life Safety Associates
- Los Medanos College Criminal Justice Training Center
- Santa Clara County Arson Task Force
- Santa Clara County Hazardous Waste Task Force
- Santa Clara County Joint Fire Academy
- University of California Fire Department, Santa Cruz
- University of California, Santa Cruz (Santa Clara Extension Program)

## **Professional Development**

[H = Hours]

• US DoJ-BATF – Basic & Advanced Electrical Fire Investigation	2014	32.00 H
• CCAI – NFPA 1033 16 Subject Matter Curriculum	2015	40.00 H
• Public Agency Training Council – Electrical Fire/Arson Investigation	2009	24.00 H
• US Homeland Security (LSU) – Sampling Techniques: Tech Level	2006	
• Public Agency Training Council – Fatality Fire Scene Investigation	2006	16.00 H
• National Wildfire Coordinating Group – Fire Behavior S290	2005	40.00 H
• Public Agency Training Council – Advanced Fire Origin and Cause	2004	24.00 H
• Public Agency Training Council – Fire Pattern Certification	2002	24.00 H
• National Fire Academy – Incendiary Fire Analysis & Investigation	2000	40.00 H
• Public Agency Training Council – Fire/Arson Investigation	2000	40.00 H
• California Specialized Training Institute – Hazardous Materials Technician and Terrorism/WMD Certified	1997	152.00 H
• National Fire Academy – Fire Dynamics	1995	40.00 H
• State Board of Fire Services – Fire Investigator II (Certified #870122)	1994	
• State Board of Fire Services – Instructor I (Certified #091690)	1994	
• National Fire Academy – Chemistry of Hazardous Materials	1991	80.00 H
• National Fire Academy – Fire/Arson Investigation	1988	80.00 H
• Gavilan College/Santa Cruz Sheriff's Office – POST Level I (ND) Certified	1985	168.00 H
• Southeast-Foothill Fire Chief's Assoc. – Advanced Fire Scene Investigation	1984	36.00 H
• State Board of Fire Services – Fire Officer I (Certified #000022)	1982	
• State Board of Fire Services – Fire Investigator I (Certified #880124)	1981	
• California State Fire Marshal – Arson and Bomb Investigation	1981	40.00 H
• Cabrillo College – POST Level II and III (PC832) Certified	1981	96.00 H
• California State Fire Academy – Fire Investigation (Levels I - IV)	1981 - 1984	160.00 H
• Continuing Education Advanced Fire Investigation – CCAI/TF		963+ H
• Informal Training		14000+ H
• Controlled burning of 51+ structures and 160+ different fire sets as well as study and conducting flammability tests.		