

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### Russell Armstrong, IFSAC-CFI

Mr. Armstrong is a certified fire investigator through the International Fire Services Accreditation Congress and conducts fire and explosion origin and cause investigations, meticulously examining scenes. His investigation process centers on a systematic approach, adhering to the Scientific Method, guided by *NFPA 921 Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations* and *NFPA 1033 Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigator*, while applying extensive knowledge of fire and safety hazards and county municipal codes to accurately reconstruct the fire scene and determine the ignition sequence.

#### Professional Experience

- **Certified Fire Investigator** 09/2025 - Present  
Fire Cause Analysis, Spanaway, WA
- **Deputy Fire Marshal** 12/2021 - Present  
Pierce County Fire Prevention Bureau, Tacoma, WA  
Conducts fire and explosion investigations. Trains and guides Deputy Fire Marshals. Conducts special studies and projects on fire-related legislation, policies, and procedures. Conducts inspections. Emergency vehicle incident prevention instructor.
- **Deputy Fire Marshal III** 05/2019 - 12/2021  
Renton Regional Fire Authority, Renton, WA  
Conducts fire and explosion investigations. Trained and guided Deputy Fire Marshals. Conducts special studies and projects on fire-related legislation, policies, and procedures. Conducts inspections.
- **LT. Fire Officer / EMT-ILS (F140)** 10/2000 - 10/2013  
Stevens County Fire Protection Dist. #1, Loon Lake, WA  
Conducts fire and explosion investigations. Trained and guided Deputy Fire Marshals. Conducts special studies and projects on fire-related legislation, policies, and procedures. Conducts inspections. Response officer, scene command providing fire response both

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wildland and structural, along with emergency care for the sick and injured. Taught firefighters and starting officers. Created specifications for ordering three new water tenders.

- **Prevention Officer / District Public Information Officer / District Safety Officer,**

Stevens County Fire Protection Dist. #1, Loon Lake, WA 10/2000 - 10/2013

Director of the Prevention Department including, fire investigation, public education, public information, medical training for staff and public sector as well as medical and fire CEU training.

- **Tender Operator - Volunteer**

Stevens County Fire Protection Dist. #1, Loon Lake, WA 07/2017 - 09/2018

Volunteer Tender Operator for Fire Suppression for both wild-land and structural fires. Setting up mobile water supplies through porta-tanks along with operating large emergency vehicles and water tenders. Conducted commercial vehicle inspections.

- **Division Supervisor**

Department of Natural Resources, Olympia, WA 01/2002 - 01/2018

A Division Supervisor, overseeing multiple units assigned during wildland fire operations on state or federal type 1, 2 and 3 incidents. Served many years on the Washington State Prevention team through this agency. Worked on various Arson Task Force assignments throughout Washington State.

- **Emergency Medical Instructor**

Health Training Network, Spokane, WA 01/2008 - 01/2017

EMS Instructor / EMS Evaluator for On-going Training Evaluation Program and various pre-hospital emergency medical classes including but not limited to: Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support, GEMS, Pediatric Emergencies, Traumatic Brain Injuries. American Heart Association CPR, First-Aid Bloodborne Pathogens training. CEU's Instruction.

- **Emergency Medical Technician -ILS**

Deer Park Ambulance, Deer Park, WA 01/2001 - 01/2011

Emergency Medical Technician – Intermediate (Advanced). Performed EMT-ILS skills in the care of the sick and injured. Worked with multiple fire agencies and other ambulance companies. Transported the sick or injured to area hospital emergency departments both code and no code.

- **Emergency Medical Instructor**

East Region EMS Training Council, Spokane, WA

01/2003 - 01/2008

EMS Instructor / EMS Evaluator for On-going Training Evaluation Program and various pre-hospital emergency medical classes including but not limited to: Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support, GEMS, Pediatric Emergencies, Traumatic Brain Injuries. American Heart Association CPR, First-Aid Bloodborne Pathogens training. CEU's Instruction.

- **Safety Coordinator**

Wearteck Industries| Spokane, WA

09/2000 - 04/2001

Developed and trained Wearteck Industry employees on OSHA Safety Standards as well as coordinated with the State of Washington Labor and Industries. Investigated work related injuries.

- **Firefighter - Volunteer**

Adams County Fire Protection Dist. #7, Washtucna, WA

06/1998 - 09/2000

Volunteer Firefighter for fire suppression for both wildland and structural fires. Operating medium to large structural fire trucks.

- **Firefighter / EMT 1A**

General Dynamics, San Diego, CA

12/1986 - 09/1989

Conducts Life and Safety, along with HazMat inspections throughout the facility per company fire-related, policies, and procedures and fire codes. Responds to fire and emergency medical incidents. Responds to hazardous material incidents at a technician level.

- **Reserve – Paid Call Back Firefighter / EMT 1A**

CDF – Deer Springs Fire Protection District, Escondido, CA

07/1983 - 03/1998

Provided fire suppression and fire prevention for both commercial and residential properties. Performed community risk assessments and mitigation within the Urban interface of the fire district.

- **Licensed Pyrotechnician**

Pyro Spectaculars North Inc., Spokane Valley, WA

01/2016 – Present

Licensed Pyrotechnician in the State of Washington. Overseeing the setup, shooting and take down of professional permitted public fireworks displays. Solely responsible to sign

off on each show following Washington State Revised Codes of Washington and the Washington Administrative codes.

- **Licensed Pyrotechnician**

Entertainment Fireworks, Inc., Spokane Valley, WA 03/2006 – 01/2016

Licensed Pyrotechnician in the State of Washington, Oversaw the setup, shooting and take down of professional permitted public fireworks displays. Solely responsible for signing off on each show following Washington State Revised Codes of Washington and the Washington Administrative codes.

- **CDL Driver and Heavy Equipment Operator**

J & M Farms, LaCross, WA 03/1998 – 09/2000

Driving and maintaining Semi tractors and trailers. Hauling grain to port locations and commercial feedlots pulling single and double grain hopper trailers. Hauling all heavy equipment to different field locations on Lowboy equipment trailers. Worked on Truck, and heavy equipment maintenance and repair in the shop.

- **CDL Driver and Heavy Equipment Hauler**

Rebel Rents/McArthur Equipment Rental, Escondido, CA 09/1996 – 03/1998

Hauled heavy equipment to and from job sites. Maintenance and repaired equipment in the field and the maintenance yard. safety inspections on vehicles with DOT and California Vehicle Code.

- **Manager/ Heavy Tow Operator**

El Norte Towing, Escondido, CA 03/1993 – 09/1996

Managed towing service which had contracts with AAA, California Highway Patrol, San Diego County Sheriff's Office. Operated a heavy duty tow truck used for towing large trucks and trailers and RV motorhomes. Performed field mechanical repairs. Supervised safety inspections on vehicles with DOT and California Vehicle Code.

- **Over-The-Road Driver – Flatbed Freight**

Roadrunner Trucking, Albuquerque, NM 11/1992 – 03/1993

Operated semi tractor with a 53-foot flatbed trailer. Hauled commodities within all 49 continental US states and into Canada. Truck maintenance and safety inspections on vehicles with DOT regulations.

- **Chief Commercial Pilot**

Armstrong Enterprises, INC., Escondido, CA

06/1990 – 11/1992

Owner and operator of the Hot Air Balloon Ride Operation as the Chief Commercial Pilot, as well as managing the Bungee Jumping Operation. Responsible for pre-flight weather forecasting and obtaining weather briefings from the National Weather Service. Responsible for maintaining all flight and maintenance records.

- **Assistant lab manager**

PSI – American Engineering Laboratories, San Diego, CA

11/1989 – 10/1991

Supervised and performed various laboratory testing and documentation on construction materials per ASTM, Cal-Tran, State of California, Public Works Department and the Department of Defense Specifications.

- **Owner – Sole Proprietor**

Armstrong Landscaping and Maintenance, Escondido, CA

01/1984 – 01/1989

Our company established and maintained both fuel and fire breaks around communities as part of the required State of California requirements weed abatement program. Ran and maintained heavy equipment along with small engine repair. Maintained landscaped properties on a weekly basis for homeowners and commercial clients. Provided landscape design and installation to home owners and commercial clients.

## **Education**

- Emergency Medical Technician, Palomar College, San Marcos, CA
- Emergency Medical Technician, Clark County Community College, North Las Vegas, NV
- Electronics Certificate, Southern Nevada Vocational Technical Center, Las Vegas, NV

## **Designations and Certifications**

- June 2021 IFSAC Fire Investigator - Cert. No. rarms03021964
- September 2008 ICC Fire Inspector II – Cert. No. 8007559

- March 2008 ICC Fire Inspector I – Cert. No. 8007559
- February 2007 State of Washington WSP – Fire Instructor II
- January 2004 State of Washington WSP – Fire Instructor I
- June 2002 S-203 Prevention Education Information Specialist
- August 1979 Professional Association of Diving Instructors -  
Open Water Diver - Cert. No. 8260-OW

### **Professional Licenses**

- State of California Private Investigator, License # PI11582
- Washington State - Pyrotechnic Operator License, No. P-04298
- FAA Commercial Pilot - Lighter-Than-Air Free Balloon, No. 525252404

### **Professional Associations**

- International Code Council, No. 8007559
- National Association of Fire Investigators, International, No. 27891
- International Association of Arson Investigators, No. 1422179
- International Fire Service Accreditation Congress, IFSAC ID. rarms02021964
- National Fire Protection Association
- Washington State Fire Marshals Association
- Washington Fire Chiefs Association

### **Professional Association Honors and Awards**

- Pierce County Standing Ovation Award, *Entrepreneurial Climate* 2023
- Stevens County Fire Protection District, *Chiefs Award* 2010
- Washington State Department of Ecology, *Environmental Excellence Award* 2004

## **Teaching Experience**

- IFSAC Fire Instructor 1 Certification
- IFSAC Fire Instructor 2 Certification
- Arson Investigation Intro, Pierce County Skills Center - Fire Science Class
- Arson Investigation Intro Basic, Pierce County Sheriff's Department; Pierce County Fire and Puyallup Police Department
- Crowd Management Training, Pierce County Fair Grounds Management and Staff
- Emergency Vehicle Incident Prevention Program - Classroom and Road Course Instruction
- Wildland Instruction - RT-130; S-131; S-215; S-230; S-290; S-330; S339; S-390; ICS 200; ICS-300; ICS-400; and ICT4
- Emergency Medical Instructor / Evaluator - Including but not limited to: WA-OTEP Program; TBI Instruction; PHTLS; GEMS, Pediatric Emergencies; AHA Instruction