

CURRICULUM VITAE

THOMAS A. PIERCE, IAAI- CFI, (ECT) CCAI- MCFI,

F.I.R.E- CFCI, IFE-GIFireE

Areas of Specialization

Fire & Explosion Investigations, Chimney and Woodstove Venting and Fire Causation, Commercial Kitchen Fires, and Commercial Pyrotechnics.

Background and Professional Experience

Mr. Pierce has over 25 years of experience in firefighting. He currently holds the position of Principal Fire Investigator and owner of Pierce Fire Investigations and Consulting Inc. in California and The Pierce Fire Consulting Group LLC in Montana. He has been involved in the fire service and law enforcement since 1974. He has over 1,750 hours of training specific to origin and cause, and explosion investigations, including classes from the National Fire Academy, the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms agency, California State Fire Training, the California Conference of Arson Investigators, and the International Association of Arson Investigators.

During the course of Mr. Pierce's career, he has participated in over 2,500 origin and cause investigations, including vehicles, structures, explosions, commercial, chimneys, and vegetation fires. He has accumulated 18 years of experience as a solid fuel contractor and inspector.

Mr. Pierce currently serves on the National Fire Protection Association's Technical Committee for the NFPA 211 Standards for Chimneys, Fireplaces, Vents, and Solid Fuel-Burning Appliances. Also, the NFPA 1123-24 Fireworks Display and Transportation, as well as NFPA 1122, 1125, and 1127 for Model Rocketry.

Mr. Pierce serves the fire investigation community as a member of the training committee and as a Past President of the California Conference of Arson Investigators, as well as on the Board of Directors of the Montana Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators. Mr. Pierce also serves on the recertification committee for the IAAI Certified Fire Investigator program and is a facilitator for the Evidence Collection Technician certification program for the IAAI.

Mr. Pierce has been accepted to the Expert Witness Panel for the Superior Court of Los Angeles, California, and for the State of Montana in the category of fire investigations.

Mr. Pierce is well-versed in commercial pyrotechnics and has just celebrated his 45th year in the industry.

Mr. Pierce serves on the Technical Committee for the American Society of Testing and Materials International (ASTM) for the following committees. E05 (Fire Standards), E30 (Forensic Science), including E30.17 (Evidence Collection).

Specialized Training

- California State Fire Training, Instructor, Oil and Gas Fire School- 1986, thru 1993 and 1998. (Instructor)
- Chimney Relining School, Wood Energy Institute 1987.
- Masonry Restoration School, Southwestern Technical Institute 1989.
- Fire Origin and Cause - California State Fire Marshal 1989.
- Wildland Interface Fire Operations, California State Fire Training 1990.
- Tactical Considerations for Structure Fires, San Bernardino Fire Department 1991.
- Arson Detection for the First Responder, National Fire Academy 1999.
- Methods of Enhancing Safety Education, National Fire Academy 1999.
- Arson Scene Search & Evidence Recovery- Public Agency Training Council 1999.
- Electrical Fire Investigation- Public Agency Training Council 1999.
- Basic Air Operations-S270 United States Forest Service 2001.
- Interagency Incident Business Management- S260 United States Forest Service 2001.
- Introduction to the Incident Command System. California Department of Forestry 2001.
- Fire Investigation 1 A (40 hours-tested), California State Fire Training 2001.
- Fire Investigation 1 B (40 hours-tested), California State Fire Training 2001.
- Fire Investigation 2 A (40 hours-tested), California State Fire Training 2001.
- Advanced Fire/Arson Investigation, California Conference of Arson Investigators (22 hours tested) 2001.
- PC832, with firearms, P.O.S.T. Certification (64 hours-tested) 2001.
- Level III P.O.S.T. Certification (116 hours-tested) 2001.
- Level II P.O.S.T. Certification (277 hours-tested) 2002.
- P.O.S.T. Correctional Deputy Academy (296 hours-tested) 2002.
- Fire Investigation 2B (40 hours -tested), California State Fire Marshal 2004.
- Vehicle Fire Investigation, Sonoma County Arson Task Force (12) hrs. 2004.
- Hands on Fire Investigation, San Bernardino Arson task Force (8) hrs. 2004.
- Fire Investigation 2 B (40 hours-tested), California State Fire Training 2004.
- Expert Testimony Program (20 hours - tested), IAAI – 2005.
- Investigation of Gas and Electric Appliance Fires, Fire Findings (30 hours-tested) 2005.
- Certified Fireplace Inspector, (48 hours-tested) F. I.R.E - 2005 (cert #110).
- Advanced Fire/Arson Training. CCAI. (20) hrs. 2005
- Insurance Fraud Training. SCFIA. (15) hrs. 2005.
- Introduction to Fire Dynamics and Modeling, IAAI - 2005 (4 hours- tested).
- Understanding the Arsonist, (8 hours) San Bernardino Fire Department 2006.
- Prosecution of Fireworks & Explosive Device Crimes, (4 hours) San
- Fire Instructor IA, State Board of Fire Services (40hours) 2007.
- Advanced Fire/ Arson Investigation. CCAI. (20) hrs. November 2008.
- Serial Arson Analysis, San Bernardino Fire department (8hours) 2008.
- Fireworks Safety, Pyro Spectaculars (8hours) 2009
- Motion Picture/Television- Fire Safety Officer, California State Fire Marshal, 2009.

- Ethical leadership in the Classroom, State Fire Service Training, 2009
- The Scientific Method for Fire and Explosion Investigation, IAAI (3 hours-tested)
- Forensic Fire Scene Reconstruction, Dr. John DeHaan, Dr. David Icove, 2010
- Advanced Vehicle Fire Investigation CCAI 2010 (co-instructor)
- Utilizing NFPA 1033 and 921, IAAI CFITrainer.net (4 hours tested) 2010
- A Ventilation Focused Approach to the Impact of Building Structures and Systems on Fire, IAAI CFITrainer.net (4 hours tested) 2010
- Understanding Fire Through the Candle Experiment IAAI CFITrainer.net (4 hours tested) 2010.
- Effective Investigation and Testimony, IAAI, CFITrainer.net (3 hours tested) 2010
- Ignitable Liquids and Other Burn Patterns, Fire K9.org (2 hours tested) 2011
- Introduction to Wildland Investigation, CVAI, (4 hours) 2011
- Wildland Fire Investigation, IAAI CFITrainer.net (5 hours tested) 2013.
- Wildland Fire Litigation Conference 2013 (2 days).
- Advanced Wildland Fire Investigation FI-210 NWCG (40 hours tested) 2013
- How First Responders Impact the Fire Investigation, CFITrainer.net, (2 hour tested) 2013
- Investigating Commercial Kitchen Fires (16 hrs.) (Phil Ackland & Associates 2014.
- Advanced Fire/Arson Investigation, California Conference of Arson Investigators (20 hours) March 2014.
- Advanced Fire/Arson Investigation, California Conference of Arson Investigators (20 hours) November 2014.
- Subrogation College (8 hrs.) National Association of Subrogation Professionals (NASP).
- NFPA 1033 compliance course. 40 hours. California Conference of Arson Investigators March 30-April 3, 2015.
- Advanced Fire/Arson Investigation, California Conference of Arson Investigators (20 hours) March 2016.
- International Training Conference, International Association of Arson Investigators. Las Vegas NV. (32 hours) May 2017.
- Advanced Fire/Arson Investigation, California Conference of Arson Investigators (20 hours) October 2016.
- Ethics and the fire Investigator CFI Trainer.net 3hrs. January 2017
- Advanced Fire/Arson Investigation, California Conference of Arson Investigators (20 hours) March 2017.
- Advanced Fire/Arson Investigation, California Conference of Arson Investigators (20 hours) November 2017.
- Advanced Fire/Arson Investigation, California Conference of Arson Investigators (28 hours) (tested) March 2018.
- International Training Conference, International Association of Arson Investigators. Frisco TX. (32 hours) May 2018.
- Advanced Fire/Arson Investigation, California Conference of Arson Investigators (28 hours) (tested) September 2018.
- Documenting the Event. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 8-2018

- What Happens in the Lab? IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 8-2018
- Introduction to Evidence. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 8-2018
- NFPA 1033 and your Career. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 8-2018
- Physical Evidence and the Fire Scene. IAAI. CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested)8-2018.
- The Practical Application of the Relationship Between NFPA 1033 and NFPA 921. IAAI. CFITrainer.Net (2) hrs. (tested) 8-2018.
- The Scientific Method for Fire and Explosion Investigation. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 8-2018
- DNA. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 8-2018
- Accreditation, Certification and Certificates. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 8-2018.
- Ethics and the Fire Investigator. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 8-2018
- Advanced Fire/Arson Investigation, California Conference of Arson Investigators (28 hours) (tested) (Cognitive Interviewing) February 2019.
- International Training Conference, International Association of Arson Investigators. Jacksonville, Fl. (32 hours) May 2019.
- Advanced Fire/Arson Investigation, California Conference of Arson Investigators (28 hours) (tested) September 2019.
- Advanced Fire/Arson Investigation, California Conference of Arson Investigators (28 hours) February 2020
- Evidence Collection (International Association of Arson Investigators) (8hours) (tested) October 2020
- California Conference of Arson Investigators Fall Seminar. October 2020 (28 hours) (tested)
- Unified Command for All-Hazard Incidents. January 16,17, 2021. (16 hours.) FEMA- National Fire Academy.
- California Conference of Arson Investigators. Online, Wildland Fire Investigation. January 25, 2021. 3 hrs.
- California Conference of Arson Investigators Spring Seminar. February 2020 (28 hours) (tested)
- Integrated EOD Concepts February 8-10. Serial Wildland Arson Investigation
- Incident Safety Officer. National Fire Academy February 2021 (16 hours) tested.
- California Conference of Arson Investigators Fall Seminar. September 2021 (28 hours) (tested)
- Montana Chapter of IAAI Fall Semester. September 2022. Vehicle Fire Investigation. 16 hours (tested)
- California Conference of Arson Investigators Fall Semester 2022 (28 hours) (tested) (explosives instructor)
- Idaho Chapter of IAAI. October 2022. 24 hrs. (tested) Vehicle fire Investigation, ATF explosives. Montana Chapter of IAAI. May 2023. 20 hrs. (tested) Fire Dynamics, Li-on Batteries, smoking ignition fires.
- Wyoming Chapter of IAAI. June 2023. 20 hrs. (tested) Li-on batteries.
- California Conference of Arson Investigators Fall Semester (2023) 28 hrs.(tested)

- NFPA Hot Work Practices Certification # 7302614 (1-6-24) Tested
- Fire Investigation Master Class. Unlocking the power of AI in forensic fire scene assessments. Englewood, CO. 3-14-16, 2024. 24hrs. non tested
- California Conference of Arson Investigators Fall Semester (2024) 28 hrs.(tested)
- 32 hrs. tested Montana Chapter IAAI ATC. 2025
- Commercial Kitchen Fire 1 IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 6-25
- Commercial Kitchen Fire 2 IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 6-25
- Legal Aspects of Youth-Set Fires, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 6-25
- Introduction to Youth-Set Fires, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 6-25
- Writing the initial Origin and Cause Report, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 6-25.
- Fire Investigation for Fire Officers Multi-Program, CFITrainer.Net (25) hrs. (tested) 6-25
- Photography Beta Test, CFITrainer.Net (8) hrs. (tested) 7-25
- Evidence Collection Beta Test, CFITrainer.Net (8) hrs. (tested) 7-25

Professional Experience

2019 – Present

Fire Investigator and Fire Ground Safety Officer. Miles City Fire Rescue. Miles City, MT.

2015- 2018

Instructor, Investigating Commercial Kitchen Fires, Phil Ackland & Associates

2011- Present

Fire Investigator/Owner, Pierce Fire Investigations Inc., Bakersfield, CA.

2004- 2011

Origin and Cause Investigator, Training Officer, Fire Cause Analysis, Bakersfield, CA.

2002-2004

Reserve Deputy, Correctional Officer, Inyo County Sheriff's Department, Independence, CA.

1980-2002

Fire Investigator, Fire Fighter, Fire Apparatus Engineer, Fire Prevention Coordinator, Bishop Volunteer Fire Department, Bishop, CA.

1982-2000

Chimney Sweep - Owner/Operator - Ye Olde Chimney Sweep, Bishop, CA.

Solid Fuel Contractor - Educator of fire prevention safety programs, inspections for real estate and insurance companies. Past National and State Certified Chimney Sweep. Conducted over 10,000 Level 1 & 2 chimney inspections.

1980-2020

Pyrotechnician, California State Licensed Pyrotechnic
Operator # 122-02

Professional Certifications

Certified Fire Investigator (California State Fire Marshal) 092782.

Certified Fire Investigator (California Conference of Arson Investigators) 587.

Master Certified Fire Investigator, California Conference of Arson Investigators.

Certified Fire Investigator (International Association of Arson Investigators)
22-032119 (Pro Board Certified).

Fireplace and Chimney Inspector F.I.R.E. (Fireplace Inspection Research and
Education Service) (110).

Certified Solid Fuels Inspector (Independent Safety Commission) (1395).

Fireplace Technician F.I.R.E. (Fireplace Inspection Research and Education Service)
(009)

Certified Gas Appliance Technician (Cal Gas)

California Pyrotechnic Operator (California State Fire Marshal) 1222-02

Fire Fighter I (California State Board of Fire Services) (1995751)

Certified Evidence Technician (International Association of Arson Investigators)(603)
Graduate, Institute of Fire Engineers. GIFireE, 2018

Awards

Firefighter of the Year, Bishop Volunteer Fire Department 1997

Professional Affiliations

California Conference of Arson Investigators (President 2014-2015) (Life Member)

International Association of Arson Investigators (Member) (Past Foundation
Member)(Certifications Committee).

California State Fire Fighters Association (Past Director) (Life Member)

National Fire Prevention Association (Member) (Technical Committee to NFPA (211)
Institution of Fire Engineers (Member) (IFE)

National Association of Fire Investigators. (NAFI) (Member)

American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) (Committee Member to E05 Fire
Standards and E30 Forensic Science)

European Association of Fire Investigators (Member) (E-AFI)

Professional Licenses

California Private Investigator #26477 Bureau of Security& Investigative Services
Montana Private Investigator # 38184 Board of Private Security

Professional References

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