

Russell Bohse, CFI / MCFI

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Professional Summary

Fire Investigator offering over 35 years of both public and private investigation experience specializing in origin and cause and case analysis. Offering peer review, consulting, and case evaluation for the private insurance and legal professions.

Certifications

- **CCAI-CFI** (Certified Fire Investigator)
California Conference of Arson Investigators (CCAI)
- **CCAI-MCFI** (Master Certified Fire Investigator)
California Conference of Arson Investigators (CCAI)

Skills

- Expert in Fire Origin & Cause Investigation
- Expert in Burglary Investigation
- Expert in Fraud Investigation
- Detailed Report Writing
- Certified Fire Investigator
- Certified K-9 Handler
- Certified Polygraph Examiner
- Licensed Private Investigator
- Over 2500 Fires Investigated

Experience

- **Owner/Fire Investigator** ▪ **05/2006 - Current**
 - **Peek Fire Investigations - Victorville, CA**
 - Completed over 1200 fire investigation for origin and cause.
 - Secured fire scenes, gathered evidence and questioned witnesses.
 - Responded immediately to calls involving fires.
 - Carefully documented statements, observations and evidentiary materials.
 - Conducted interviews with witnesses and clients.
 - Interviewed and interrogated suspects.
 - Prepared case reports from allegations, interview transcripts of interviews and physical evidence.
 - Seized evidence for investigations, including interviews of any and all potentially involved parties.
 - Collaborated with federal agencies, including ATF.
 - Prepared for and testified at depositions.
 - Conducted Peer review of other investigators reports
- **Firefighter/Investigator** ▪ **08/1994 - 03/2002**
 - **Los Angeles County Fire Department - Los Angeles, CA**
 - Responded to reports of emergencies including fires, accidents, and medical issues.

- Conducted ongoing training in fire suppression and tactics.
 - Assigned to complex Arson cases including conspiracies and homicides.
 - Liaison between the Police and Fire Departments in the City of Pomona.
 - Trained fire investigation personnel in advanced investigative techniques.
 - Participated in the San Gabriel Valley Arson task force.
 - Was a member of the F.I.R.S.T. regional arson strike team.
- **Owner operator/ Private Investigator ▪ 07/1988 - 08/1997**
 - **Crystal Investigations - Chino, CA**
 - Carefully documented statements, observations and evidentiary materials.
 - Conducted interviews with witnesses and clients.
 - Included both group and one on one training and role playing for interviews.
 - Employed up to 16 full time insurance fraud investigators.
 - Employed a full time and one part time fire investigator.
 - Insurance fraud.
 - **Captain Investigator ▪ 08/1988 - 08/1994**
 - **Pomona Fire Department - Pomona, CA**
 - Investigated on an average of 200 fires each year.
 - Was responsible for the Fire Investigation Detail.
 - Supervised a Fire Investigator and his duties.
 - Arrested on average 30 adults per year and successfully prosecuted them.
 - Conducted interviews with witnesses and suspects.
 - Drafted and executed subpoenas, search warrants and surveillance activities.
 - Collaborated with federal agencies, including the FBI, DEA, ATF and IRS.
 - Went undercover with the ATF to apprehend an arsonist for hire
 - Conducted numerous explosive investigations.
 - Supervised the code enforcement detail with 8 code enforcement officers and 4 clerical support personnel.
 - Supervised the graffiti program.
 - Supervised the N.I.C.E. team consisting of a police officer, building inspector, health officer, and secretarial support.
 - Oversaw the program designed to eliminate criminal elements in blighted areas through code enforcement.
 - Co-creator and member of the West Valley Arson Task Force
 - **Fire Investigator ▪ 09/1986 - 08/1988**
 - **Pomona Fire Department - Pomona, CA**
 - Investigated 200 fires each year for the purpose of determining the origin and cause.
 - Carefully documented statements, observations and evidentiary materials.
 - Conducted interviews with witnesses and firefighters.
 - Interviewed and interrogated suspects.
 - Drafted and executed subpoenas, search warrants and surveillance activities.
 - Prepared case reports from allegations, interview transcripts of interviews and physical evidence.

- Identified labels and stored evidence properly to verify that it was safe and secure.
 - Seized evidence for investigations, including interviews of any and all potentially involved parties.
 - Kept current on all agency and state policies, rules, regulations and statutes.
 - Presented information at professional forums, conferences and associations.
 - Conducted arrests and documented all relevant actions pursuant to the investigation.
 - Arrested and successfully prosecuted an average of 30 adults per year.
 - Prepared cases for criminal trial including in both municipal and superior court.
 - Conducted backgrounds on both sworn and civilian personnel.
- **Police Officer ▪ 09/1978 - 08/1986**
 - **Pomona Police Department - Pomona, CA**
 - Investigated [numerous] violent crimes each year, including homicide, sexual assault, robbery, child abuse and domestic violence.
 - Carefully documented statements, observations and evidentiary materials.
 - Conducted interviews with witnesses and clients.
 - Seized evidence for investigations, including interviews of any and all potentially involved parties.
 - Kept current on all agency and state policies, rules, regulations and statutes.
 - Obtained admissions of crimes using forensic interviewing techniques.
 - Conducted arrests and documented all relevant actions pursuant to the investigation.
 - Pursued leads, complaints and referrals to determine occurrence of criminal activities.
 - Presented evidence at criminal trials.
 - Developed presentation and training materials to educate colleagues and the community about local gang activity.
 - Analyzed criminal complaints and identified crime patterns.
 - Conducted interviews with witnesses.
 - Trained with and became a member of a K-9 team.
 - Graduated from a K-9 handler program and competed in K-9 Trials.
 - Member of the Commercial Burglary Task Force.
 - Wrote programs for reduction of residential burglaries within the City.
 - Member of the Residential Burglary task force resulting in the reduction of 80 percent reduction of burglaries in my assigned area.
 - Trained other officer in basic Patrol techniques.
 - Conducted community neighborhood watch presentations Was Officer of the Year in 1982.
- **Security Manager ▪ 02/1975 - 09/1978**
 - **Fedmart Corporation - Ontario, CA**
 - Identified loss prevention programs for the store that reduced theft.
 - Located and arrested shoplifters and provided reports for their prosecution.
 - Provided training to employees and demonstrated theft tendencies and patterns.
 - Had one of the largest single arrests for shoplifting in the County.

Education

- Certificate of Training: Advanced Fire Investigation - Current California Conference of Arson Investigators - San Luis Obispo, CA
 - Ongoing training in advanced fire investigation to include legal updates. NFPA 921 training in all areas required by NFPA 1033.
 - These are ongoing seminars of 20+ hours each that are given twice a year. The following are the most recent training in specific subjects 1033 related and their dates.

▪ Burn Pattern Recognition	October 2020
▪ Vehicle fire investigation	March 2018
▪ Fire Dynamics	October 2020
▪ Computer Fire modeling	March 2018
▪ Hazardous materials	April 2017
▪ Fire analysis	October 2020
▪ Analytical tools	October 2020
▪ Fire Investigation	October 2020
▪ Fire Science	October 2020
▪ Interview techniques	March 2018
▪ Fire Chemistry	April 2019
▪ Thermodynamics	April 2019
▪ Thermometry	February 2019
▪ Explosion Dynamics	April 2015
▪ Fire investigation methodology	October 2020
▪ Fire Investigation technology	October 2020
▪ Failure analysis and analytical tools	October 2020
▪ Fire protection systems	February 2019
▪ Evidence documentation, collection, and preservation	March 2018
▪ Electricity and Electrical systems	April 2015
▪ Report writing	October 2020
- Certificate of Training (tested) California Conference of Arson Investigators 921 and 1033 training conducted.
 - 40-hour class taught by Dr. John Dehann and Jim Allen – 2014
- Certificate of Completion: Writing Origin and Cause Reports – 2012
- International Association of Arson Investigators – CFITrainer.net
 - Online Classes Offered for Fire Investigation Specialty Areas.
- Certificate: Advance Fire Investigation – 2012
 - California State Fire Marshal’s Office – Apple Valley, CA
 - 40-Hour Class Toward Certification
- Certificate: Electrical Fire Investigation – 2006

- Public Agency Training Council – San Diego, CA
- California Certified Polygraph Examiner: Polygraph – 2001
 - Strategic Security & Training Academy – Fontana, CA
 - A 320-hour course to be certified in Polygraph examination to include training from industry leaders. Graduation included 20 live polygraph tests and numerous testing requirements. Passing of a state test was required.
 - 4.0 GPA – State of California Training & Certification Course
- Certificate: Fraud Investigation – 1994
Southern California Fraud Investigators Association – Fullerton, CA
 - Investigative Training Certification
 - Criminal Law, Criminology and Penology Coursework
- Certificate: Surveillance Techniques – 1992
National Association of Investigative Specialists – Pomona, CA
 - Investigative Training Certification
 - Specialized Surveillance Techniques
- Certificate: Advanced Fire Investigation – 1988
Riverside City College – Riverside, CA
 - Investigative Training Certification
 - Criminal Law, Criminology and Penology Coursework
- Certificate: Advanced Fire Investigation – 1987
California State Fire Academy – Monterey, CA
 - Investigative Training Certification
 - Advanced Fire Investigation Techniques
 - Collection of Evidence and Procedures
 - Explosive Training and Hands on Identification
 - Search Warrant Preparation
- Certificate: Advanced Fire Investigation – 1987
Bakersfield City College – Bakersfield, CA
 - Investigative Training Certification
 - Fire Analysis
 - Basics of Fire Chemistry
 - Burn Pattern Identification & Analysis
 - Vehicle Fire Investigation
 - Thermodynamics
- Certification: Sex Crimes – 1984
Rio Hondo College – City of Industry, CA
- Vocational Teaching Credential: Criminal Investigation – 1981
U.C.L.A – Los Angeles, CA
- Certificate: Law Enforcement Instructor Development – 1981
F.B.I. Training School – City of Industry, CA
- Certificate: Fire Prevention and Fire Systems – 1988

Crafton Hills College – Yucaipa, CA

- Credits: Advanced Fire Investigation – 1983-1991
Fresno City College – Fresno, CA
- Basic P.O.S.T. Certificate: Law Enforcement – 1979
Department of Justice – California – Sacramento, CA
- Police Academy: Law Enforcement – 1977
San Bernardino Valley College – San Bernardino, CA
- Basic Fire Academy: Fire Science – 1994
Pomona Fire Department – Pomona, CA
- Associate of Science: Administration of Justice – 1984
Mount San Antonio College – Walnut, CA
- Certificate Level 1 Reserve: Police Reserve Academy – 1977
Los Angeles City College – Los Angeles, CA

Organizational Involvement

- Member – International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI)
- Member – California Conference of Arson Investigators (CCAI)
 - CCAI President (2019-2020)
 - CFI Committee Chairman
 - CFI Training Committee
 - President (CCAI Foundation)
 - 8 Years on CCAI Board of Directors

Instruction

- Instructor for CCAI Field Training Burns
- Instructor for Field Collection of Evidence Class