

# **CURRICULUM VITAE**

## **THOMAS A. PIERCE, IAAI- CFI, (ECT) CCAI- MCFI, F.I.R.E- FCI, 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 firefighting experience. He currently holds the position of Principal Fire Investigator and owner of Pierce Fire Investigations and Consulting Inc.

During the course of Mr. Pierce's career, he has participated in over 1,900 origin and cause investigations including, vehicle, structures, commercial, chimneys and vegetation fires. He has accumulated 18 years' experience as a solid fuel contractor and inspector.

Mr. Pierce currently serves on the Technical Committee for the National Fire Protection Association, on the NFPA 211 Standards for Chimneys, Fireplaces, Vents and Solid Fuel- Burning Appliances.

Mr. Pierce serves the fire investigation community as a member of the training committee and a Past President of the California Conference of Arson Investigators.

Mr. Pierce has been accepted to the Expert Witness Panel in the category of Fire Investigation for the Superior Court of Los Angeles California.

Mr. Pierce is well versed in the field of commercial pyrotechnics and has just celebrated his 38<sup>th</sup> year in the industry.

Mr. Pierce works closely with Phil Ackland and Associates as an instructor in the field of Investigating Commercial Kitchen Fires and as their lead Fire Investigator.

### **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 1033and 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 (4hours 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, (4hours) 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

## **Professional Experience**

2015- Present

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-Present

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 2017

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) (Foundation Member)  
California State Fire Fighters Association (Past Director) (Life Member)  
Central Valley Arson Fire / Arson Association (Training Committee)  
National Fire Prevention Association (Member Technical Committee to NFPA 211)  
Institution of Fire Engineers

### **Professional Licenses**

Pyrotechnic Operator #122-02 Office of the State Fire Marshal  
Private Investigator #26477 Bureau of Security & Investigative Services

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### **Professional References**

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