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U.S.A.F. Academy 74 [60+ Credit Hours]
W & J College - B.A. Business & Economics 78
Duquesne University - Juris Doctor 1982
W & J College - 32 Credits Psych. Masters 77-81
Greensburg Fire Dept.-Asst. Chief 2014- present; Deputy
Chief - 1999 to 2014; FF since 1986.....EMT since 1972

EXPERIENCE EXPERTISE:

Assistant Chief – Greensburg Fire Department (6 stations, 5 engines, 1 aerial, 3 heavy rescues, 4 special operations teams – 2300 calls per year) (1997-present); Crew Member Pa-HART since 2009; Federal: FEMA-Pennsylvania Urban Search and Rescue Pa. Task Force #1-Rescue Specialist/Safety Officer (1994-2017); Pa. Region#13 Special Ops Response Member- Rescue specialist & safety officer (2003-Present) ; Stat Medivac Crew Rescue Tech 1992-1998; Cave Search & Rescue; Washington & Jefferson College –BA. Business –Economics, then Grad Level-Psych; U.S.A.F. Basic Engineering; U.S.A.F. Survival Tracking Search and Rescue; Incident Command; Tactical Command; Public Relations and Government Administration; Air Rescue East - Rescue Technician; Westmoreland County Disaster Response Team; Municipal Risk Management; Solicitor: 250+ fire, ambulance, and EMS groups

Instructor: FEMA Safety Officer Instructor; U.S Fire Academy Instructor; FEMA Incident Command Instructor; Structural Collapse; Arson Investigation and Courtroom; NFA Advanced Interrogation and Interviewing Techniques; Also Instructor for -- PA Fire Academy, Bucks County Community College, Butler County Community College, Westmoreland County Community College;

CERTIFICATION:

- National Fire Academy Arson Investigation, Advanced Interrogation, and Interviewing Techniques, Incident Command, Safety Officer, Incident Command at Building Collapse.
- Pa. Certified and National Registered Firefighter Pro Board-I, II & III; State Certified Instructor Pro Board I & II, Fire Officer Pro Board I-II-III-IV; Fire Inspector Pro Board I-II; Pro Board Safety officer & Health and Safety officer; Pro Bd Haz -mat Tech I-II , Haz Mat Safety Off. And HazMat Commander, Haz Mat NFPA 473-Med ; Pro Bd -All rescue specialties ---Rope 1-2, Trench 1-2, Confined Space 1-2, Vehicle 1-2, Swift water Tech 1-2 , Structural Collapse Tech 1-2; and current Pa. E.M.T.
- Federal Rescue Specialist; Federal FEMA TF-Safety Officer and Tech Search Specialist;
- Pa HART -helicopter swift water rescue tech specialist;

ACTION SEEN:

- Pennsylvania Urban Search and Rescue, Pennsylvania Task Force #1 [Deployments]
- Westmoreland-GFD Disaster Response Team [Major Field Deployments]

- A. Deployment Exercise (96 hours), August 1995;
- B. October, 1992 (24 hours); May, 1992 (24 hours); October, 1990 (1 week); March, 2002 (3 days)
- C. Aircraft Loading USAF (6 hours) November, 1995;
- D. Structural Collapse (2 days) August, 1996;
- E. Structural Collapse [Oklahoma Simulation] (2 days), October, 1996;
- F. Disaster Deployment Team Response, GFD to Hurricane Fran - September of 1996;
- G. Demonstration - High Angle Rope Operations, Columbus Fire Expo, October of 1996;
- H. Structure Collapse [PennDOT Bldg.] (3 days) 1998;
- I. Hurricane Floyd: Dunham, NC: Water & Structural Collapse Rescue, Sept '99;
- J. Disaster Deployment Team Response: GFD to W.T.C. New York, NY, Sept. 11, 2001;
- K. Disaster Deployment Team Response: Flight 93, Somerset, PA, September 2001;
- L. West Mifflin Wind-Shear Disaster, GFD to Allegheny County, June 2002;
- M. Pa. Strike Team Training (120 hours - Allegheny Fire Academy, 2003);
- N. Katrina - Mississippi (9 days - 2005).
- M. Hurricane Sandy- 2012- GFD -Pa Hart team & swift water rescue Deployment (3days)
- O. Hurricane Mathew 2016- Pa TF#1 (4 days)

CONTINUING Specialized EDUCATION:

- Disaster management, heavy rigging, logistics, collapse stabilization, urban search, collapse medical problems, concrete breaching and confined space operations, technical & international communication systems, dogs and technical devices, and deployment exercises. (20 hrs.) Florida, 1991
- New York Fire Operations Tactics and Strategies Symposium, September, 1996
- International Disaster Management (25 hours), 1992; Tactical Search and Rescue Response, 1992: Trauma care in field, short helicopter rescue, infrared search techniques utilizing urban search and rescue marking systems, confined space rescue tactical developing local/multi-district urban search and rescue operations.
- Critical Incidents Stress Seminar, September, 1992
- Bombs and Terrorists Techniques, November, 1992 - October, 1997
- Advanced Workers' Compensation Litigation, 1994
- International Disaster Management Conference, 1994, 1995, 1996
- Legal Aspects of Managing Fire Service, April, 1994
- Litigation and Defending Federal Section 1983 cases, Municipal and Emergency Services Civil Rights' Violations cases, October, 1996
- Incident Management Systems - Phoenix Fire, 1994 & 1998
- UPMC: Multiple Shooter & Multiple fatality Seminar 2016
- Advanced Issues for Tax Exempt Organizations, 2001,2012-present
- Multi-Discipline Approaches to Workplace Safety Incidents – 2008,2010
- Arson and Fraud Insurance Claims – 2008,2010,2011,2012
- 2016 International Swift Water Instructor Conf. –Indiana (5days water simulations)

SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE:

- Trial Lawyer experience in Special Fire Investigations, Insurance Issues, & Litigation, 1998 - present;
- Trial Lawyer defending, representing, consulting for EMS (fire/ambulance) organizations, including operational, fiduciary breaches by Directors, employment

- practice, and malpractice issues;
- Testified before the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Joint Committee on Volunteer Firefighter Retention in the Emergency Services, February, 1990;
- Testified to the U.S. Fire Administration U.S. Regional Workshop on Volunteer Retention and Recruitment, October, 1993;
- Developed curricula for the Pennsylvania Fire Academy “Legal Aspects of Fire Service”*(1994) (2001) and 2010.
- Retained Expert on Special Fire Service issues on Operations issues, corporate practices, Mergers-Consolidations and Department Overlays. .
- Advisory Bd. Mutual aid-UPMC Pitt Paramedic Training Consortium 2012-present

Speaker: State Fire Commissioners' Conference, March, 1994: “Legal Issues of Emergency Services”; Trauma and Emergency Medicine Multi-Disciplinary Emergency Care - University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, presentation: Quality Documentation Review: The Medical Record Use at Trial; April, 1996 & May, 2001: HAZMAT Team Management Seminar: The Law’s Effect on HAZMAT Operations; Florida Disaster Conference February, 1996; The Technical Problems of Emergency Service Billing, March, 1996; Bar Association: Improving Fire Service Relations, April, 1996; - Township Supervisors’ Association: Improving Relationships with Emergency Services, May, 1996; Dept of Community Affairs: Municipal and Fire Service Relations, 1996 – 2000; Mutual Aid Ambulance Seminar: Q&A Risk Management Issues, April, 2001; WBA: Avoiding Federal Civil Rights and Harassment Litigation (WCCC, 2002); EMSI: Your Q & A on Trial (March 2003); WBA Avoiding Municipal/Labor Employment Litigation (Univ. of Pittsburgh 2003). WCDPS-EPCRA/SARA Title III-Facility Emergency Coordinator Summit Sept. 23, 2008 “NIMS/ICS Performance Improvement Guaranteed.”; Pa IAAI investigator Conference “Using or surviving NFPA 921” June 2011; Speaker- EMMCO Pa EMS conference- Legal issues of social media on EMs and Fire Depts” 2013; Speaker S.Central.PA Hazard conference- “Large response Operations and safety concerns” 2016; Speaker-**International Swiftwater Rescue Conference**; “Error management Approach to Special Operations” 2017 and “The Origins of creating a Special Tactical teams- from vision to operational” 2019; Pa Boro Assoc.- “How to improve the PA Vol. Fire Service” 2021;

Contributing Writer: “Command Malpractice” Chief Magazine, August, 2007; “Firefighters Must Respect Constitutional Limits” Chief Magazine, May, 2008; U. S. Fire Administration, “Specialized Rescue Organizations: Operational and Legal Issues”; Pennsylvania Fireman and I.F.S.T.A.'s The Voice-article: “Use of Radios to Control on the Fire Ground: Command Made Simple” July, 1996; The Voice article: “Command SOPs: Myth v. Reality”, Spring, 1995; Pennsylvania Fireman “Municipalities at Risk”, Nov. 2000; Pa. Fireman, May 2002: “Volunteer Fire Service Under Assault”; “Corporate Practices for the Fire Services,” November 2003.

Author: Manual “Legal Aspects of Pennsylvania Emergency Services - 1994” Copyrighted 1994 (revised 2008)

Panel Member Seminar: 2020 Professional Officer and ethics- St Francis College
2016 International Swiftwater Rescue Conference-
Presenter “Technical legal and operational realities of Special Ops Teams”

2016 South Central Task Force –Presenter “Technical legal -safety realities of Special Ops Teams”
 2012- PaFSI- Current and Future Complications of EMS and Fire Services
 2012- EMCO- Fleet Risk Management
 2008 - Westmoreland SARA Summit “Why ICS Makes You Efficient & Safer in a Response on Site”
 2008 - Florida, Fire Department Safety Officer National Forum “Are You Ready to be a Safety Officer,” Panel Member
 2008 - Pittsburgh Fire Expo Regional Fire Chiefs’ Panel “Challenges of the Fire Service 2008”
 2008 IAAI presenter Mid-Central Conference-Using NFPA 921
 2007 IAAI presenter Great Lakes conference
 2002 - Present “Fire Arson Investigation” and “Litigation Improvements” NFA
 2003 WBA “Local Public Officials - Avoiding Litigation Risks & Costs
 2000 WBA "Employment Practices"
 1996 & 2002: WBA “Current Issues: Employment Law of Pennsylvania”
 1996 to 2001: Municipal Association “Improving Municipal and Emergency Services Relations”
 1996 WCCC “Emergency Services Billing Issues”
 1995 ESTA “Changes in the Fire Service”

Protocol Development of FEMA - Pa. Task Force #1:

"Safety Officer Job Description"
 "Planning Officer Job Description"

SOG Development of Greensburg Fire Department:

“Operation S.O.G.s”
 “Radio Protocols”
 “Fire Command Made Simple Program”
 “Infection Control and Ryan White Act Protocols”
 “Risk Management Controls”

Programs Developed:

“Command Officer Leadership Series”	8 hours
“Fire Command & Control - Skills & Techniques”	8 hours
“Incident Officer Training”	8 hours
“Fire Command on Trial”	8 hours
“NFPA - Maskman Skill Certification” (for Greensburg VFD)	40 hours
“Summary of Legal Aspects of Command”	8 hours
“Human Relations - Diversity, Harassment, EEOC Training Compliance”	4 hours
“How to Write and Use SOPs/SOGs/SOOs”	8 hours
“EEOC Compliance - Human Relations”	4 hours

CULTURAL: Tanzania, Philippines, Thailand, Japan, France, Dominican Republic

Fire Dept. Consulting Experience:

Written over 500 Fed. & State Grants acquiring over 3 million dollars
Consulted on major FD projects for Over 250 fire Depts in Pennsylvania
Developed and Implemented 30+ Mergers for Fire Company's
14 Municipal & State Government-Fire Dept. Special Projects
Negotiated 5 major Collective Bargaining Agreements
Authored 4 Pa Legislative Statutory Amendments
Represented Fire Depts before Fed and State Agency Forums
Developed & Implemented 4 Major Special Ops Task Forces and Groups (Fed & State)
Rewritten 500+ SOGs/SOPs for both Fire and EMS
Developed Operations and Administrative Managerial Project Improvements for 500+ FD's
International Consult- Dominican Republic Santa Domingo FD Fire Operations
Litigated numerous fire service cases

Classes Taught

- | | | |
|---|--------|----------|
| • Pittsburgh Bureau of Fire – New 921 NFPA 2021 | 2 Hrs | 11/23/20 |
| • Monroeville Fire – Command Benchmarking Task Force | 8 Hrs | 01/17/21 |
| • PA Region #13 – Federal US&R Safety and Operations | 2 Hrs | 01/04/21 |
| • PA Region #13 – Federal US&R Safety and Operations | 2 Hrs | 01/23/21 |
| • PA IAAI – New 921 NFPA 2021 | 2 Hrs | 03/13/21 |
| • PA Fire Academy–Bucks – Legal Aspects of Fire Command | -- | 04/25/21 |
| • PA Fire Academy–Bucks – Legal Aspects of Fire Command | -- | 05/08/21 |
| • Sewickley – Command & Control | 16 Hrs | 06/07/21 |
| • PA Supreme Court – Lawyer Ethics | 8 Hrs | 08/13/21 |
| • PA Fire Academy–Bucks – Command & Control | 4 Hrs | 11/09/21 |
| • PA Fire Academy – ICS-300 NFA | 24 Hrs | 09/26/21 |
| • NFA – Md R0772 | 6 Hrs | 10/13/21 |