

GREGORY J. CAHANIN

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CURRICULUM VITAE

EDUCATION & TRAINING:

- Certified Paralegal, National Association of Legal Assistants, 8 July 2015
- Post Baccalaureate Certificate in Paralegal Studies, St. Petersburg College, May 2015
- M.P.A. Organization & Management, Golden Gate University; 1990
- B.S. Eng. Tech. - Fire Protection & Safety, Oklahoma State University; 1976
- A.D. Fire and Safety Eng. Technology, Oklahoma State University; December 1975
- A.S. Fire Science Technology, Springfield (MA) Technical Community College; 1975
- International Code Council Fire Inspector 1 Certified
- State of Florida Declaratory Statement, Scientific Fire Investigator Vol. 38, No. 97 (12/26/2012) per Chapter 493, Florida Statutes, Notice 12431440

EXPERIENCE:

1992 to date

Fire expert witness performing origin and cause investigations nationally. Gregory J. Cahanin meets the professional qualifications of NFPA 1033, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigator as documented in a Florida declaratory statement held by no other fire expert in the state. Investigations include the Station Nightclub Fire in 2003 with 100 fatalities. In Wyatt v. Security Alarms Co., Inc. key testimony on the failure of a Viking automatic fire sprinkler established a product liability that resulted in a \$1.4M dollar jury award for Wyatt in Oklahoma. Specialty areas of forensic expertise include kitchen fire suppression systems, fire sprinklers, and fire alarm failures. Fire and Building Code construction defect findings are supported by 40 years of working with national codes and standards. Gregory Cahanin also performs code compliance and development for property owners and manufacturers.

1989-1992

National Fire Protection Association, Quincy, Ma., Senior Life Safety Engineer. Primary responsibilities were in support of Life Safety Code development and education. Life Safety Code seminar instructor. Staff liaison for building construction standards and the Fire Prevention Code. Special project work included support of the International Division of NFPA in a survey of fire protection for all oil production facilities of LaGoven SA in Venezuela; an evaluation of the existing airport terminal in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil; and a code comparison study for the National Institute of Building Sciences. Multiple fatality fire investigations were performed with findings nationally published and peer reviewed as a part of work with NFPA.

1984-1988

Walk, Haydel & Associates, Inc. New Orleans, La.. Fire Protection Engineer. Responsible for fire protection design work involving special hazards protection in petrochemical facilities, life safety and fire alarm system design and operation.

1982-1984

The Fire Protection Consortium, Inc. New Orleans, La. Fire risk consultant Worked for state agencies, petrochemical plants, and qualified as an expert witness in state and federal court. Fire investigation work included personal injury cases from fire and explosion, building and property loss, and refinery fire response evaluation.

1980-1982

Tenneco Oil Company, Chalmette, La., Supervisor of Fire Protection. Responsible for fire protection functions within the refinery. Managed a full-time fire department.

1979-1980

Hooker Chemical Co. (OcciChem), Hahnville, La., Safety Supervisor in a chlorine production facility.

1977-1979

Union Carbide Corp., Nuclear Division, Oak Ridge, TN. Fire Protection Engineer in a multi-billion dollar energy, research, and weapons production facility.

1976-1977

Thomas Nelson Community College, Hampton, Va. Head for Fire Science Department,

OUTSIDE AFFILIATIONS (Present & Past):

- Member, NALA, Sustaining Member
- St. Petersburg Bar Association, Associate Member
- Society of Fire Protection Engineers- Professional Member Grade
- Member, National Fire Protection Association
 - Committee membership representing the Louisiana State Firemen's Association:
 - Safety to Life - Fire Protection Features Technical Committee [NFPA 101]
 - NFPA 5000, Building Code- Fire Protection Features Technical Committee
- Member, International Code Congress
 - Committee member- ICC Referenced Standards Committee
- Member- Michael H. Minger Grant Advisory Committee
- Associate Member, Florida Fire Marshal's & Inspectors Association
- Life Member, Louisiana State Firemen's Association
- Member, Hope Hook & Ladder Co. No. 1
- Eagle Scout, 2010 BSA National Jamboree Safety Staff, Life Member NESAs
- Formerly- New Orleans Board of Appeals for the Department of Safety & Permits.