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*Keith Atkinson, CFEI*

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Consultant: Fire and Explosion Investigator

**Fire and Explosion Analysis: Origin and Cause**  
**Fire and Life Safety Standards and Codes Compliance**  
**Arson Investigations**

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## EDUCATION

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- 2006 - Present**      Currently pursuing Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering,  
University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina
- 2000**                Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies, University of  
South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina

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## EXPERIENCE

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- March 2007 to Present**      **The Warren Group, Inc., Columbia, South Carolina**
- Fire and Explosion Investigator**  
Analyze fire and explosion incidents and render opinions as to the origin, cause, responsibility or prevention of such incidents.
- 2001 to Present**      **The Warren Group, Inc., Columbia, South Carolina**
- Engineering Assistant**  
Perform research, onsite inspection assistance, evidence collection, and laboratory assistance involving evidence exams and testing.
- Research Assistant**  
Research various building, fire protection, life safety, material, product, process and safety related codes and standards. Typical codes researched include National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Codes, Southern Standard Building Codes, International Building Codes, Fire Prevention Codes, and Mechanical, Plumbing and Gas Codes, Uniform Building and Fire Codes, and other material, product, product and safety codes, including ANSI, ASTM, UL and OSHA. Also perform research for product identification, exemplar acquisition, historical weather data, and scientific and industry related literature.
- Evidence Coordinator**  
Coordinate the intake, cataloging and storage of all collected evidence. Maintain chains of custody for all evidence. Also transfer, return or dispose of evidence as instructed by the case related engineer or consultant-in-charge.

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## EXPERIENCE, Continued

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- 1998 to 2003**      **Eagle Aviation, Columbia, South Carolina**  
Crew Leader supervising and monitoring commercial air freight package handlers. Additional responsibilities included verifying weight and content documentation per loaded aircraft, training new employees in safe work and handling methods, de-icing large and small aircraft, marshalling aircraft onto and off of air ramp, ramp security, and staging of aircraft.
- 2000**              **Advanced Auto, Columbia, South Carolina**  
Commercial Sales Manager responsible for processing commercial sales orders, establishing and maintaining business relationships with local automotive repair facilities, supervising delivery drivers, and receiving and stocking incoming automotive products.
- 1998**              **Dillon Construction, Columbia, South Carolina**  
Stud Wall Framer assisting senior framer with layout and construction of exterior and interior walls. Responsibilities included demolition and extraction of existing walls, scaffold erection, heavy equipment operation, hand and power tools operation, and equipment maintenance.
- 1995 to 2000**      **Office of Campus Recreation, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina**  
Work Study Student responsible for distribution of varied recreational equipment, weight room supervision, and building security. Also supervised weekend and night student employees in the absence of full time supervisor.

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## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

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National Association of Fire Investigators  
National Fire Protection Association  
International Association for Property and Evidence, Inc.  
International Association of Arson Investigators, Inc.

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## REGISTRATION

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Corporate Certified Property and Evidence Specialist (2014)  
Certified Fire & Explosion Investigator (#12366-5995)  
South Carolina Private Investigator (#2294)  
North Carolina Private Investigator (#4088)

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## CONTINUING EDUCATION

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**May 11, 2011**

“Understanding Fire Through the Candle Experiments,” online course presented by CFITrainer.net

**October 7 – 8, 2009**

“Managing Property and Evidence in Law Enforcement,” presented by International Association for Property and Evidence, Inc., Sevierville, Tennessee

**August 18, 2009**

“Arc Mapping Basics,” online course presented by CFITrainer.net

**February 20, 2009**

“A Ventilation-Focused Approach to the Impact of Building Structures and Systems on Fire Development,” online course presented by CFITrainer.net

**February 19, 2009**

“Postflashover Fires,” online course presented by CFITrainer.net

**November 4 - 7, 2008**

“Investigation of Appliance Fires,” presented by Fire Findings as credited by Western Michigan University

**July 16, 2008**

“Private Investigations Continuing Education,” presented by South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, Columbia, South Carolina

**September 29, 2007**

“Introduction to Evidence,” online course presented by CFITrainer.net

**September 20, 2007**

“Investigating Motor Vehicle Fires,” online course presented by CFITrainer.net

**September 19, 2007**

“The Scientific Method for Fire and Explosion Investigation,” online course presented by CFITrainer.net

**March 13 - 16, 2007**

Eastern Kentucky University, 2007 National Advanced Fire, Arson and Explosion Investigation Science and Technology Program

- Electrical Fire Causes
- Explosion Investigation
- Fire Scene Analysis
- Computer Fire Modeling

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## CONTINUING EDUCATION, (Continued)

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### September 16, 2004

Report Writing, SEAK, Inc., Columbia, South Carolina

### October 9, 2003

Law School for Experts, SEAK, Inc., Columbia, South Carolina

### August 2003

Accident Investigation Technician, self study course offered by the National Association of Safety Professionals

### March 2002

AUTOCAD, Level II, Midlands Technical College, Columbia, South Carolina

### June 2001

AUTOCAD, Level I, Midlands Technical College, Columbia, South Carolina

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## COURSES, SEMINARS AND LECTURES PRESENTED

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### February 23, 2010

*Fires, Explosions & Electricity 101, The Warren Group, Irmo, South Carolina presented:*

- Fire and Explosion Demonstrations
- NFPA 921 - Guide for Fire & Explosion Investigators
- Using NFPA 921 to Determine Origin of the Fires, Part I & II

*Large Loss and Complex Claims Investigation Seminar, The Warren Group, Irmo, South Carolina presented "Fire and Explosion Demonstrations."*

- August 27, 2009
- October 22, 2009
- March 18, 2010
- May 20, 2010

### December 14, 2011

*Investigating Fires and Explosions: How to Avoid Getting Burned by a Bad Fire Investigation The Warren Group, Irmo, South Carolina presented:*

- Fire and Explosion Demonstrations