

# **GHATTAS BITAR**

## *EDUCATION*

Bachelor of Science, Electrical Engineering  
Wichita State University, Wichita, KS

---

## *CONTINUING EDUCATION*

### **Fire Origin & Cause of Gas & Electric Appliances**

Fire Findings

### **Fire Origin & Cause of Gas & Electric Appliances (advanced course)**

Fire Findings

### **Residential Electricity by Fire Investigators**

Fire Findings

### **PLRB**

Various seminars attended.

---

## *STATEMENT OF INVESTIGATIVE EXPERIENCE*

Senior forensic consultant with over 24 years of experience providing investigative and consulting services to the insurance, legal and corporate communities in matters of high-technology and complex losses, fire origin and cause, equipment failure analysis, scope of damage assessment and causation analysis. Expert services concentrated in the area of electrical/electronic systems. Skilled in the areas of technical training and presentation with numerous professional training experiences relating to electrical and electronic losses, cause of failure assessment, and financial assessment of insurance matters.

---

## *SAMPLING OF REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE*

### **Forensic Engineering, Bodily Injury/Product Defect**

A complete analysis and assessment of a bodily injury claim involving an employee working in a factory production environment to determine if the accident related to equipment malfunction, design defect, or operator error. The technical assessment resulted in the determination that a design deficiency led to the employee's injury.

### **Forensic Engineering, Product Defect/Fire Origin and Cause**

Performed on-site non-destructive, as well as joint destructive analysis to establish the precise cause of the failure of a packaged heating and air-conditioning unit cited as the cause of a fire event within a commercial manufacturing facility. The analysis resulted in the determination of the failure, which led to the successful subrogation action against the manufacturer.

### **Forensic Engineering, Product Defect/Fire Origin and Cause**

Performed on-site non-destructive, as well as joint destructive, analysis to establish the cause of a fire in a largescale solid waste processing facility. Inspection and testing resulted in the identification of the fire origin, an over-head lighting fixture, which assisted the client in the further subrogation action.

# **GHATTAS BITAR (continued)**

### **Technical Expert and Consulting**

Performed a scope of damage assessment related to the water contamination of a multi-million-dollar furniture manufacturing facility and the enclosed manufacturing systems. Directed a team of technical restoration experts in the decontamination and repair of the affected equipment. Extensive documentation and reporting procedures, as well as technical expertise was required.

### **Technical Expert and Consulting/World Trade Center**

Assisted in de-installation and preservation of equipment from various banking institutions near and around the World Trade Center after the disaster event of 9/11/2001. Directed a team of technicians and technical restoration experts in the decontamination and repair of sensitive banking equipment and computers to preserve data on the affected equipment. Extensive documentation and reporting procedures, as well as technical expertise was required.

---

### *PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS*

- International Association of Arson Investigators

---

### *LEGAL EXPERIENCE*

#### **Trial Testimony:**

- **Unkrich Ag. Monty & Stacey Unkrich vs Farm Bureau – testimony on 8-21-2018.**

#### **Arbitration testimony –**

- **BCL Inc. vs United Fire Group – Damage to HVAC equipment – 10-19-2017- Case was settled.**

#### **Deposition Testimony:**

- **Ash Grove – fire in a concrete bag house, testimony related to cause and findings. Outcome–case went to trial but only deposition and report findings used–was not called to give testimony but court found qualified as an expert witness. Client case was won.**
- **Oregon Trails – fire originating from semi truck, testimony related to cause and findings. Outcome–case was settled.**
- **Exchange Place – Theft event and damage to electrical system and elevator systems in a ten-story bank building. The case was settled based on experts’ reports.**
- **West Central/ Terry Santone vs. KCP&L – Deposition in 2015 – case settled in 2016.**
- **Bass Pro vs. Custom Coating – deposition in February 2016. The case was settled in June 2016.**
- **Pacific Indemnity Insurance vs. KCP&L – deposition on 3-25-2016. The case was settled in June 2016.**
- **Liberty Mutual Fire Insurance vs. Hellwig Electric LLC – deposition 6-24-2016.**
- **Duane Flaherty vs. CNH Industrial America LLC (Case) and Straub International Inc. Deposition 7-17-2017.**
- **Iowa Mutual Insurance CO. VS MOBRO dba Service Master 380. Deposition 6-14-2018.**
- **BNSF vs. City of Augusta, KS. June 2018. Case was won.**
- **Pacific Indemnity Insurance VS Bickimer Electric- Deposition - 10-04-2018- Case was settled.**
- **American Family Insurance VS United Fire Group/ Superior Electric – 8-2019- Douglas County.**
- **Deposition in 2021- EMC and SCI Lodging VS Elite Heaters.**
- **Bowers VS KCP&L – 9-29-2022- Case is pending.**
- **Aspen Products VS Central Plumbing – -02-20-2023 - Case is pending.**
- **State of Kansas VS Brian Janes- trial testimony in the state of Kansas. 5-15-2023.**

---

### *DISTINCTION*

- Fluent in both the English and Arabic languages

