

**JEFFREY A. BERINO, BS, AAS, INV, CCFI, CFEI**  
**Senior Fire Investigator**  
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Mr. Berino is a fire and explosion origin and cause investigator and has also been a firefighter for over 40 years. He has been involved in hundreds of fire and explosion investigations involving subrogation issues, expert testimony, code analysis, technical research, wildfire origin and cause, and evidence collection. He is well known for his many years of experience in wildfire investigations in the US, Canada, and Mexico for government agencies and utility companies. He also has expertise in fire scene incident management and senior level instruction for leadership and fire science classes.



**EDUCATION & LICENSURE**

Executive Fire Officer Program, National Fire Academy, 1992  
Associate of Applied Science Degree in Fire Science, Colorado Mountain College, 1990  
BS, Business Administration, North Adams State College, Massachusetts, 1979  
Fire Investigation and Courtroom Testimony courses, National Fire Academy, Maryland  
Over 1900 hours of (tested) training on various aspects of fire investigation from local, state, and national speakers/associations.  
Over 8,000 hours of executive level leadership training in all aspects of firefighting and leadership.

**WORK HISTORY**

Senior Investigator, *AEI Corporation*, 2015 to Present  
Chief, *Summit Fire Authority and EMS*, 2015 to 2020  
Senior Fire Investigator, *PIE Consulting & Engineering*, 2000 to 2015  
Firefighter to Fire Chief, *Frisco & Lake Dillon Fire District*, progressed through every rank in the fire service via competitive testing and advancement processes: Firefighter, Engineer, Lieutenant, Captain, Fire Marshal, Assistant Chief, Deputy Chief, Fire Chief, 1980 to 2015  
Volunteer, *Summit County Ambulance Service* EMT-B, EMT-I, EMT-P – 1984-1998  
Volunteer, *American Red Cross* – CPR Instructor – 1984-2005  
Explorer Scout, assisted in founding and staffing the *North Stamford Ambulance Volunteer Service* 1974-1975

**CERTIFICATIONS**

Awarded Chief Fire Officer (CFO) by the Center for Public Safety Excellence 2012-2020  
State of Colorado Certification for the following: Fire Investigator (CCFI), Fire Inspector, Pyrotechnics Operator, Hazardous Materials at Awareness & Operations Level, Fire Instructor, Fire Suppression Systems Inspector, Colorado Type 3 Incident Commander  
Nationally Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator (CFEI)  
Firefighter I, II & III  
Fire Officer I, II & III  
Fire Instructor I  
Department of Justice Emergency Response to Terrorism  
Incident Commander of the Northwest Colorado Type 3 Incident Management Team  
National Wildfire Investigator Training – Federal Law Enforcement Training Center  
Internationally Certified International Fire Code, Level II  
Nationally Certified Uniform Fire Code Level II  
Nationally Certified Type III Incident Commander for NWCG & FEMA Overhead Teams  
Vocational Teaching Certificate Fire Science and EMS  
Department of Homeland Security Advanced Incident Commander  
Incident Commander Summit County Incident Management Type IV Team (Non NWCG)  
FEMA Certified in the National Incident Management System at 700 and 800 level

NWCG Certified Wildfire Investigator (INVF)  
Colorado EMT-B, EMT-I EMT-P

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Colorado State Fire Chiefs Association, Chairman Wildfire Section  
Colorado State Fire Chiefs Association  
Colorado Special District Association  
International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI)  
International Fire Chiefs Association  
International Fire Code Institute  
National Association of Fire Investigators (NAFI)  
National Fire Protection Association, Society of Executive Fire Officers

### **AWARDS**

*Frisco's Finest*, Awarded by the Town Council and Mayor of Frisco, Colorado, February 2020  
*Colorado Fire Chief of the Year*, Awarded by Colorado Division of Fire Prevention & Control, Colorado State Fire Chiefs, and Colorado Professional Firefighters Association, October 2019  
*Life Saving Award* – Summit County Sheriffs Dept. 1988  
*Life Saving Award* – Summit County Ambulance Service 1990  
*Instructor of the Year* – Colorado Mtn College – 1988  
*Instructor of the Year* – Colorado Mtn. College - 1990

### **PUBLICATIONS**

*Answers From Ashes*, Texas Association of Defense Counsel's Magazine, Fall/Winter 2020  
*Answers From the Ashes*, CLM Magazine, October 2020  
*Fire Walk with Me*, Claims Management Magazine, August 2016  
*Techniques to Tame the Flames*, Claims Management Magazine, January 2013  
*Speaking of Auto Fraud*, International Claims Magazine, March 2009  
*My Insured Was Injured On the Job and It Wasn't His Fault | Effective Subrogation Strategies for the Workers Compensation Insurer*, The Subrogator, Winter 2008  
*Negative Corpus – A Help or Hindrance*, The Investigative Engineer, June 2008  
*The Pitfalls of Modern Investigative Methodology Using Negative Corpus*, The Investigative Engineer, December 2007  
*Investigation of Wildfires and the Growing Hazard*, Claims Magazine, June 2007  
*Dangerous But Beautiful*, International Claims Magazine, July 2005  
*Investigative Challenges in Today's Wildfires*, The Investigative Engineer, April 2003  
*International Fire and Building Codes Make Debut – Key to Establishing Liability*, The Investigative Engineer, April 2002

### **TEACHING AND PRESENTATIONS**

*Fanning the Flames: Cutting Edge Wildfire Investigation Methodology*  
Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter (CPCU) Society, Webinar – December 2020  
*Wildfire Fire Investigation Techniques for the Utility Industry*  
Xcel Energy, Denver, CO – August 2020  
*Behind the Scenes in Wildfire Investigation*  
Healthy Forest Task Force, Summit County, CO – March 2020  
*Emerging Trends in Wildfire Investigation*  
Multi Agency Fire Investigation Team (MAFIT), Loveland, CO – March 2019

*Wildfire Investigations*

Colorado Chapter of the Property and Casualty Underwriter, Denver, CO – November 2015

*Pyro and Wildfire Investigation*

Colorado Springs Fire Department – September 2015

*Cutting Edge Management of Wildfire Investigations*

Defense Research Institute (DRI), Scottsdale, AZ – January 2013

Co-presented with Atty. M. Jones, Sprouse Law, Las Vegas, NV – November 2012

*The Next Big Burn*

Wildfire Origin & Cause, Arizona Chapter of the CPCU Annual Meeting, Scottsdale, AZ – March 2012

Wildfire Origin & Cause, Wyoming Claims Association Annual Meeting, Cheyenne, WY – May 2010

*Current Claims Challenges and Investigation Practice in the Field on Pyrotechnic Investigations*

Property Loss Research Bureau, San Antonio, TX – March 2010

*Current Investigation Practices in the Field as well as Courtroom Preparation and Litigations Issues on Wildfire Investigations*

Property Loss Research Bureau, Seattle, WA – March 2009

*Wildfire Mitigation and Wildfire Investigation*

Colorado Insurance Council, Denver, CO – January 2009

*Litigation and Subrogation Issues in Wildfire Investigations*

National Association of Subrogation Professionals, Orange County, CA – January 2009

*Cutting Edge Investigative Techniques on Wildfire Investigation & Legal Issues for Defense Attorneys and Senior Industry Personnel*

Defense Research Institute's Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL – November 2008

*Effective Subrogation Strategies*

Co-presented with Atty. S. York & Engrs. S. Biagoitti & B. Stolz, PIE University, Arvada, CO – October 2009

*Wildfire Investigation and Advanced Investigative Techniques in Preparing for an Effective Criminal Prosecution*

Summit County Law Enforcement, Keystone, CO – September 2008

*Wildfire Origin & Cause Determination*

Denver Claims Association, Denver, CO – July 2008

*Wildfire Cause and Legal Issues*

Property Loss Research Bureau Annual Meeting, Boston, MA – April 2008

*Advanced Fire Investigation – Wildfire Investigation and Evidence Collection*

Wyoming Claims Association, Cheyenne, WY – June 2007

*Effective Subrogation Issues in Fire Investigations*

USAA Insurance Company, Colorado Springs – May 2007

*Fire Science Degree Program – Multiple Classes in Fire Investigation*

Instructor of the Year Awards in 1988 & 1990, Colorado Mountain College, Breckenridge, CO – 1980-2004

*Fire Science Classes – Multiple subjects with focus on Advanced Wildfire Investigations and Scene Preservation*

Summit County Fire Authority, Frisco, CO

*Fire Investigation and Techniques*

PIE University, Arvada, CO – October 2000

*Automotive Fires*

PIE University, Arvada, CO

*Basic Fire Investigation*

Instructor of the Year, Frisco, CO

*Effective Investigative Methodology*

Allstate Insurance, Centennial, CO

*Mechanical Fires*

PIE University, Arvada, CO

*Wildfire Investigative Techniques*

PIE University, Arvada, CO

**SELECTED INTERVIEWS**

*America Public Radio* – Multiple Occasions – Comments on wildfire issues and wildfire investigations, 2012-2014

*CNN* – Wildfire Investigations, July 2012

*KUSA Channel 9 Denver* – Multiple Occasions – Wildfire danger and wildfire investigations

*KCNC Channel 4 Denver* – Multiple Occasions – Wildfire Investigations

*KYSL Radio* – Multiple Occasions – Fire Prevention for the homeowner, wildfire safety.

*NPR Radio* – Multiple Occasions – Wildfire and Defensible Space Tactics

*FOX 31 Denver*- Wildfire Tactics and Safety

*SDN* – Multiple Occasions – Fire Suppression Tactics, Wildfire Tactics

*Denver Post* – Multiple Occasions – Consulting Expert

*Colorado Sun* – Multiple Occasions – Consulting Expert