



FIRE AND EXPLOSION ANALYSIS • ANALYTICAL LABORATORY  
INVESTIGATIVE ENGINEERING SERVICES

# PETER VALLAS ASSOCIATES Inc.

A Professional Corporation

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## CURRICULUM VITAE

### PETER R. VALLAS

★ Corporate Headquarters  
105 Main Street  
Hackensack, NJ 07601  
(201) 487-8901  
Fax: 201-487-1253

### EDUCATION AND SPECIALIZED TRAINING

★ Northern Regional Office  
106 Washington Avenue  
Endicott, NY 13760  
(607) 785-8250  
Fax: 607-785-6541

Mr. Vallas has successfully completed courses of study in the field of fire technology and fire investigation offered by the following institutions:

★ Eastern Regional Office  
100 Mill Plain Road  
Danbury, CT 06811  
(203) 791-0100  
Fax: 203-791-0200

★ Northwestern Regional Office  
169 North Main Street  
Warsaw, NY 14569  
(716) 786-9980

United States Navy – Damage Control	1957
Dickinson High School, Jersey City, New Jersey	Graduated 1959
Cliffside Park Fire Department	1961-1963
Aberdeen Fire Department	1963-1965
Monmouth County Fire College	1964-1965
Belmar Fire Department and Police Department	1968-1968
New Jersey State Police Academy, Sea Girt, New Jersey	1969
Seven Week Resident Course Including Accident Investigation	
New Jersey State Police Operation Combine for Civil Disturbances	1969
One Week Resident Course	
State of Florida	1974
Firefighters Standards Council Certificate of Compliance	
Cornell University	1974
Specialized Course in Security	
Broward Community College Special Courses:	
New Techniques in Fire Department Management	5/25/75
Instruments and Techniques for On-Site Arson Detection	3/20/76
FPL Electrical Fire Seminar	1/26/77
Tactics for Fire Safety and Behavior	5/02/78
Forensic Science and Homicide Investigation	5/22-25/76
Broward Community College	1975-1979
Fire Science	
Bergen Community College – 3 Credits	1979-1980
International Association of Arson Investigators Seminars	
Arson Investigation Workshop	9/29/76
Arson Investigation Workshop	11/17/76
Bomb Seminar	5/05/79

★ Laboratory Facilities  
85 Zabriskie Street  
Hackensack, NJ 07601  
(201) 487-0266

★ Pennsylvania Regional Office  
Pennsylvania Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19130  
(215) 564-2488

# PETER VALLAS ASSOCIATES Inc.

Arson Seminar	9/24/92
Arson and Insurance Fraud	10/14/83
Arson Investigation – 5 Day Seminar	11/18-22/81
Rutgers University, New Jersey	
Fatal Fires and Fire Deaths	2/9/85
Automobile Fire: Cause and Determination	2/25/84
International Association of Bomb Technicians	9/25/84
Advanced Explosive Technology	
Bombing and Terrorism Trends	10/12/84
State of Florida Department of Education – Teacher's Certificate	11/29/78
State of New Jersey Department of Education	12/79
State Board of Examiners Teacher's Certificate	
University of Delaware	10/25/83
Lauderhill Fire Department – Fire Investigator	1976-1979
Pompano Highlands Fire Department: Captain, Fire Marshal	1974-1976
Firefighter – Division of Forestry, State of Florida	1972-1973
U. S. Coast Guard – Certificate	3/9/90
Boating Skills and Seamanship Course	
Owner and Captain of 53' Motor Yacht Eleni	1989-Present
1991 NFPA Seminars – 1 Week in Montreal, Canada:	
11/17/91 – Office Building High Rise Fires	
11/17/91 – Flammable Gases	
11/18/91 – Fire Protection Engineering in Latin America vs. Codes and Standards	
11/18/91 – Flame Spread Research	
11/19/91 – New Results in Evacuation Research	
11/19/91 – Results of Five Subway Fire Tests	
11/19/91 – An Evacuation Model for High Rise Buildings	
11/19/91 – NFPA 921 Fire Investigators	
11/20/91 – Fire Science and Technology Educators Section	
1992 NFPA Seminars – 1 Week in New Orleans:	
5/17/92 – Industrial Fires	
5/18/92 – Fire Protection in High Rise Buildings	
5/18/92 – Gas and Utility Fire Protection Issues	
5/19/92 – Objectives of Fire Detection	
5/20/92 – Work Place Fire Safety	
1992 NFPA Seminars – 1 Week in Dallas, Texas:	
11/15/92 – Fire Case Studies	
Board and Care Facility Fires	
11/16/92 – Burning of Large Oil Spills	
Anatomy of a Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosion	
11/17/92 – Investigation of High Temperature Accelerant Fires	
11/18/92 – Results of USFA Investigations of Large Fires	

1993 NFPA Seminars – 1 Week in Orlando, Florida:

5/23/93 – Hazards of Roofs and Trusses

5/24/93 – Voice Fire Alarm Signaling

5/25/93 – Electromagnetic Field Extinguishing Technology

5/26/93 – Technological Breakthroughs in Material Flammability Evaluations

1993 NFPA Seminars – 1 Week in Phoenix, Arizona:

11/14/93 – Update on Water-Based Fire Protection Systems

11/15/93 – Building Code Design Requirements for Smoke Control Systems

11/16/93 – Propane-Related Deep Snow Hazards

1994 NFPA Seminars – 1 Week in San Francisco, California

5/14/94 – Hazards of Roofs and Trusses

5/15/94 – High Rise Office Building Evacuation Planning Zero Risk in Hazardous Material Warehouse Design

5/16/94 – Automatic Sprinklers in the Prison Environment

5/17/94 – Protective Electrical Penetrations Through Fire Rated Walls, Floors, and Ceilings

EXPERIENCE

Mr. Vallas is presently a consultant in the fields of fire and explosion investigation. His clients include insurance companies, law firms, Prosecutor's offices, government agencies, etc., which retain his services to analyze and investigate fires, explosions and associated matters. In this capacity he has conducted the investigation of fires in buildings, vehicles, and vessels throughout the United States and has qualified as an expert in fire investigation and safety in Federal courts as well as trial courts through the United States. In addition, he has taught courses in fire safety, investigation, boilers, bombs, and explosions to Federal, State, and Municipal Fire and Law Enforcement officers. He has been retained by the Hackensack, New Jersey Fire Department as a special consultant and training instructor in the field of fire investigation.

Mr. Vallas' responsibilities as Fire Marshal involved the responsibility for fire investigations and inspections, including cases of arson, homicide, extortion, and insurance fraud.

Mr. Vallas has conducted the investigations of thousands of fires of all types and has testified in many criminal and civil trials.

Mr. Vallas has also worked under cover in conjunction with the State Attorney's Office, Chief of Special Investigations and Fraud Division, Seventeenth Judicial Circuit of Florida in an "Organized Crime" investigation.

He has lectured before State Fire Protection Associations as well as public utilities, Prosecutor's offices, police and fire academies.

In 1985 Mr. Vallas was a guest speaker for the Institution of Fire Engineers in London, England. Mr. Vallas gave a seminar and demonstration on Fire Investigations at the London Fire Brigade Headquarters. Mr. Vallas has traveled through Europe conducting a continuing investigation on Fire Protection and Fabric Flammability in hotels. In the past seven years he has given lectures and seminars to many insurance companies, fire departments, and public agencies throughout the states of New York, New Jersey and Florida.

During the years of 1969-1974 Mr. Vallas was associated with the Broward County School Board. His responsibilities included:

Repairing, replacing, troubleshooting, plumbing, air conditioning and heating units in all 154 schools. He also investigated lightning strikes and power surges to equipment.

Mr. Vallas was promoted to Fire and Safety Inspector. His responsibilities included the following areas:

Investigation of fires, accidents, including trip and fall cases, and engineering losses involving defects and poor design. Mr. Vallas was also responsible for fire and safety inspections and determining the cause of accidents.

Mr. Vallas has provided expert testimony and has been accepted in court as an expert in the following categories:

Fire, explosion, heating, plumbing, air conditioning inspections, accident investigation and marine accident reconstruction.

From 1979 to the present Mr. Vallas has conducted boat loss investigations and accident investigations.

1994-Present – Fire consultant to Getty Engineering, Inc., Boca Raton, Florida.

## TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS

Mr. Vallas has taught the following courses of instruction and issued Certification and CEUs:

Has given over 58 one-day seminars to the insurance industry on fire investigation, air conditioning, heating, lightning, and engineering.

Instructed over 25 fire departments in fire investigations, origin and cause.

Taught investigators at Fort Lauderdale Fire Department course on Automobile Fires. 1990

Gave a one-day seminar to County, State, and Local fire investigators from Florida on Fire Investigation 1991

## PETER VALLAS ASSOCIATES Inc.

Taught Fire Investigation at Broward Community College, Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Senior Advisor, Eastern Regional Advisor, Primary In-House Trainer for the Investigative Engineers Association. Taught 2 days each month to engineers from all over the United States. 1994 to Present

Serving on NFPA Technical Committees.  
Serving on NFPA Advisory Board

Gave lecture to National Association of Forensic Accountants 11/5/92  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Gave one-day Fire Investigation course for Florida State Fire Marshals 12/2/92  
Miami, Florida

Gave a four-hour lecture on Fire Investigation 5/21/96  
To Montvale, Park Ridge, and Woodcliff Lake Fire Departments

Fire Investigation seminar for Investigative Engineer Association  
2 days, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 4/3/99 to 4/4/99

Gave four-hour seminar to Florida Marine Intelligence Unit 5/19/99  
Marine and Fire Investigation

### FOREIGN ASSIGNMENTS

Gave a seminar to London Fire Brigade and Institution of Fire Engineers 1985  
London, England

Spoke at the following fire departments in Europe and Asia:

Milan, Italy  
Zurich, Switzerland  
Vienna, Austria  
Athens, Greece  
Hong Kong, China  
Bahamas and Caribbean  
Cayman Islands  
St. Thomas – U. S. Virgin Islands  
Nassau  
Puerto Rico

PUBLICATIONS

Mr. Vallas has written articles on fire-related subjects for various organizations and has written the subject matter on "Automobile Fires" and "Fire and Arson Investigation," which is used in the courses of instruction given by Mr. Vallas.

Mr. Vallas has also been quoted and his subject material included in "Incendiary Fire Investigation", published by Matthew Bender Publications, 1984, in three-volume Forensic Sciences set. Also, Mr. Vallas has contributed the photographic documentation for the publication, "Practical Fire and Arson Investigation", by John J. O'Connor, and also "The Practical Methodology of Forensic Photography", by David R. Redsicker.

12/2/92 -- Article in Fire Engineering magazine on "Nanny Trial".

AWARDS

- 1961 -- Cliffside Park Fire Department -- Medal of Valor
- 1961 -- Cliffside Park Mayor and Council Award
- 1961 -- New York, New Jersey Firemen's Association -- Valor Award
- 1961 -- FMBA -- Hero's Citation
- 1962 -- State of New Jersey -- Valor Award presented by the Governor
- 1963 -- Matawan Township Fire Department -- Hero's Award
- 1963 -- WJRZ -- Citizen's Award
- 1972 -- U. S. Jaycees -- Special Award
- 1977 -- Presidential Commendation -- President Jimmy Carter
- 1978 -- Citizens National Bank -- Citizen of the Day
- 1978 -- Plantation Fire Department -- Meritorious Service Citation
- 1970-1983 -- Community Service Award -- Kiwanis, United Way, Lions Club, U. S. Jaycees
- 1982 -- American Character Award -- Presented in Washington, D. C. by President Reagan

Mr. Vallas was given an award at a ceremony on Capitol Hill attended by Congressmen, Senators, Diplomats, and Five-Star Generals. The award was presented by Reverend Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, ITT Corporation, and Senator Strom Thurmond. This award was given for saving 37 lives in his career, Arson Juvenile Programs, and contributions to society.

- 1984 -- Hackensack Fire Department -- Certificate of Award
- 1985 -- London Brigade -- Plaque
- 1994 -- Key to the City and Special Proclamation -- City of New Orleans

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- National Fire Protection Association
- International Association of Arson Investigators
- New Jersey Chapter Association of Arson Investigators
- National Association of Arson Investigators

National Association of Fire Investigators  
International Association of Bomb Technicians and Investigators  
Private Detective Agency  
International Society of Fire Service Instructors  
Licensed Private Detective Agency – State of New York  
Licensed Private Detective Agency – State of New Jersey  
Licensed Private Detective Agency – State of Florida  
Licensed Private Detective Agency – State of Arizona  
Licensed Private Detective Agency – State of Pennsylvania  
Licensed Private Detective Agency – State of Connecticut  
New York Chapter IAAI  
Blue Goose International  
BOCA International  
National Association of Marine Investigators  
International Association of Auto Theft Investigators  
Florida Chapter IAAI  
National Fire Protection Association – Fire Science and Technology Educators Section  
NFPA Member Advisory council  
Past Member Board of Directors, Claims Support Professionals  
Past member Board of Directors, Source I, Inc.