

Edward Clark

Licensed Private Investigator | Certified Fire Investigator (IAAI), Certified Vehicle Fire Investigator (NAFI) Fire/Arson Investigation | Fire Service Professional | Hazardous Materials Specialist

Professional Profile

Mr. Edward Clark is a licensed Private Investigator and a Certified Fire Investigator with over 25 years of experience in fire investigation and emergency services. His expertise spans residential, commercial, wildland, and vehicle fires. In addition to his investigative background, Mr. Clark has served as a Firefighter/Paramedic, Fire/Arson Investigator, and Hazardous Materials Specialist.

He has conducted more than 1,500 fire origin and cause investigations and has participated in fire suppression activities at over 3,500 fire incidents. Mr. Clark possesses advanced training in fire behavior analysis, burn pattern interpretation, identification of accelerants, and incendiary device recognition. He has also conducted complex investigations involving search and seizure protocols, insurance fraud, and legal procedures, including warrant preparation and review.

His technical competencies include a comprehensive understanding of fire prevention codes and ordinances, hazardous materials, and fire protection systems. Mr. Clark is well-versed in California state codes and regulations pertaining to fire safety, building construction, occupancy classification, evacuation protocols, and inspection and permitting procedures.

He is currently completing a Graduate Certificate in Fire Protection Engineering through California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

Core Competencies

- Fire Science & Chemistry
- Fire Dynamics & Explosion Analysis
- Thermodynamics & Thermometry
- Computer-Based Fire Modeling
- Fire Investigation Methodology
- Origin & Cause Determination
- Hazardous Materials & Flammable Liquids
- Failure Analysis & Analytical Tools
- Fire Protection Systems
- Electrical Systems & Component Failure
- Evidence Collection & Preservation
- Technical Report Writing

Edward Clark
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Education

Master of Science – Clinical Psychology, 2015
California Baptist University, Riverside, CA

Associate of Science – Fire Science, 1992
Crafton Hills College, Yucaipa, CA

Licenses

California Licensed Private Investigator (188446)

Certifications

- Certified Fire & Explosives Investigator – NAFI (#21739-12994v)
- Certified Vehicle Fire Investigator – NAFI (#21739-12994v)
- Certified Fire Investigator – IAAI (#22-111959)
- Certified Fire Investigator – CCAI (#689)
- Fire Investigator Levels I & II – California State Fire Marshal
- Fire Officer – California State Fire Marshal
- Certified Paramedic – State of California
- Hazardous Materials Specialist
- Fire Instructor I
- Fire Prevention (Inspector) 1A & 1B

Professional Affiliations

- International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI)
- California Conference of Arson Investigators (CCAI)
- National Association of Fire Investigators (NAFI)
- Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE), Southern California Chapter

Professional Experience

Fire Investigator / Business Owner
West Coast Fire Investigations | Mar 2023–Present, Los Angeles, CA

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Fire/Arson Investigator / Fire Prevention Specialist
City of Hemet Fire Department | Sep 2022–2025, Hemet, CA

Principal Consultant
Envista Forensics | Aug 2021–Mar 2023, Los Angeles, CA

Senior Fire Investigator
Jensen Hughes / CASE Forensics | Jul 2016–Aug 2021, Los Angeles, CA

Fire Investigator
Pacific Rim ISG | Nov 2010–Mar 2016, Corona, CA

Firefighter-Paramedic / Fire Investigator / Tactical Paramedic
City of Riverside Fire Department | Apr 1999–Nov 2010, Riverside, CA

Firefighter-Paramedic / Haz-Mat Specialist
City of Rialto Fire Department | Jan 1992–Apr 1999, Rialto, CA

Firefighter / Firefighter-Paramedic
Riverside County Fire Department | Jun 1987–Jan 1992, Riverside, CA

Courtroom Testimony

Provided expert testimony in multiple criminal and civil court cases, including but not limited to:

- State of California vs. Carmen Sharpless (PC 451, Riverside County Superior Court)
- State of California vs. Julio Ceaser (PC 451, PC 187, Riverside County Superior Court)
- State of California vs. Yair Hernandez Romo (PC 451, Ventura County Superior Court)
- National Claims vs. Darryl Herzon (Insurance Code §1871-1871.9, Los Angeles County Civil Court)
- City of Riverside vs. SCE (Deposition)
- State Farm vs. Automobile Club of Southern California (Deposition)
- State Farm vs. Gyroor (Electric Bikes) STF.1632/Orange County/ Santa Ana/
30-2023-01322521-CU-NP-CJC

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Continuing Education & Training

Asbestos Operation and Maintenance, 16hrs, Tested, 09-23, 24, 2025
NFPA 1033 and Your Career, CFITrainer, 2 Hours, Tested, 04-22-25
Effective Investigation and Testimony, CFITrainer, 3 Hours, Tested, 06-30-25
California State Firefighter Association, CTEX Conference, Fire Control III Class, CFI, 8 Hours Tested, 02-28-24
California State Firefighter Association, CTEX Conference, Report Writing for Arson Case submitted to the District Attorney, CFI, 8 Hours Tested, 02-28-24.
California State Firefighter Association, CTEX Conference, Advanced Report Writing for the CFI, 8 Hours Tested, 02-27-24.
California State Firefighter Association, CTEX Conference, Report Writing for the CFI, 8 Hours Tested, 02-26-24
Fire Investigation for the Insurance Industry Multi-Program, Tested, 31 Hours, 02-19-24
Understanding the Fire Investigator's Job: A Guide for Non-Investigators, CFITrainer.net, 3 Hours Tested 02-19-24
Motive, Means, and Opportunity: Determining Responsibility in an Arson Case, CFITrainer.net, 3 Hours Tested 02-19-24
Personal Protective Equipment for Post-Fire Scenes CFITrainer.net, 3 Hours Tested 02-19-24
What the Insurance Professional Needs to Know About Fire Investigation, CFITrainer.net, 2 Hours Tested 02-19-24
MagneTek: A Case Study In The Daubert Challenge, CFITrainer.net, 2 Hours Tested 02-19-24
NFPA 1033 & 921: 2022/2021 Editions Important Updates, CFITrainer.net, 3 Hours Tested 02-19-24
Fire Effects Part 1: Heat Effects on Fuels, CFITrainer.net, 3 Hours Tested 12-29-23.
Digital Photography and the Fire Investigator, CFITrainer.net, 3 Hours Tested 10-20-23.
Commonly Reported Accidental Causes, CFITrainer.net, 3 Hours Tested 10-20-23.
Discovery in Civil Cases, CFITrainer.net, 3 Hours Tested 10-20-23.
Depositions Part 2, Questioning Tactics and Effective Responses, CFITrainer.net, 3 Hours Tested 10-13-23.
Discovery in Criminal Cases, CFITrainer.net, 3 Hours Tested 10-13-23.
Fire Protection Systems CFITrainer.net, 3 Hours Tested 10-13-23.
Insurance and the Fire Investigator CFITrainer.net, 4 Hours Tested 10-13-23.
The PC832, Search and Seizure, San Marco College, 40 hours, tested 03-2023
The Practical Application of the Relationship Between NFPA 1033 and NFPA 921, 10-2022
Fire Protection Engineering Certificate Program Fire Protection Management in the Wildland-Urban Interface. Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, 2021
Fire Protection Engineering Certificate Program Fire Detection Alarm and Communications systems. Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, 2020
Fire Protection Engineering Certificate Program Structural Fire Protection. Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, 2020
Fire Protection Engineering Certificate Program Water-Based Fire Suppression. Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, 2020
Fire Protection Engineering Certificate Program, Fire Pumps and Automatic Sprinklers Systems.

CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING (CONTINUED)

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Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, 2020

OSHA Asbestos Awareness Training #1360, Safety Compliance Management Haz-mat School, 2020

Fire Protection Engineering Certificate Program, Fire Egress and Exits. Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, 2019

Investigating Residential Dryer Fires, Fire Findings, June 2018

Investigating Residential Dryer Fires, Fire Findings, June 2018

Residential Electricity for Fire Investigators, Fire Findings, June 2018

OSHA Asbestos Awareness Training #1360, Safety Compliance Management Haz-mat School, 2018

Fire Dynamics, and Ventilation influenced fires, CCAI, San Luis Obispo Ca. 2017

Southern California Fraud Investigators seminar, Palm Springs, CA, 2017

Certified Vehicle Fire Investigator, Lexington Kentucky, 2017

Residential Electricity for Fire Investigators, Fire Findings, 2018

Investigating Residential Dryer Fires, Fire Findings, 2018

Certified Fire and Explosives Investigator certification, Lexington Kentucky, 2017

Society of Fire Protection Engineers, Fire Code, Orange County, CA, 2017

OSHA Asbestos Awareness Training #1360, Safety Compliance Management Hazmat School, 2016

Investigation of Gas & Electric Appliance Fires, Fire Findings, 2016

Ethical Duties Beyond the Fire Scene, CFI Trainer.net, 2016

Critical Thinking Solves Cases, CFI Trainer.net, 2016

Electrical Safety, CFI Trainer.net, 2016

Accreditation, Certification, Certificates, CFI Trainer.net, 2016

Electrical Facts, Myths and Others, Combined Claims Conference, Garden Grove, CA, 2015

Vehicle Fire Investigations, Combined Claims Conference, Garden Grove, CA, 2015

Construction Defect, Combined Claims Conference, Garden Grove, CA, 2015

Do So Perfect EUO, Combined Claims Conference, Garden Grove, CA, 2015

Clandestine Meth Labs, Combined Claims Conference, Garden Grove, CA, 2015

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Fire Investigation Ethics, Combined Claims Conference, Garden Grove, CA, 2015

Mock Depo, Combined Claims Conference, Garden Grove, CA, 2015

A Ventilation-Focused Approach to the Impact of Building Structures and Systems on Fire Development

Fire Dynamics Calculations - Version 2.0, CFI Trainer.net, 2014

Basic Electricity, CFI Trainer.net, 2014

Documenting the Event, CFI Trainer.net, 2014

The scientific Method, CFI Trainer.net, 2014

CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING (CONTINUED)

Ethics and the Fire Investigator, CFI Trainer.net, 2014

Fundamentals of Interviewing, CFI Trainer.net, 2014

Evidence Examination, CFI Trainer.net, 2014

Arc Mapping; Basic, CFI Trainer.net, 2014

Writing the Initial Origin and Cause Report, CFI Trainer.net, 2014

Adjuster as Witness - The Seven Deadly Sins, Claims Conference Northern California, 2014

An Introduction to Structural Framing and Load Paths, Claims Conference Northern California, 2014

Geotechnical Forensics and Foundation Failures, Claims Conference Northern California, 2014

Social Media: Investigating a Global Village, Claims Conference Northern California, 2014

General Session - Property Claims and Fire Investigations Ethics, Claims Conference Northern California, 2014

Semi-Annual Training, California Conference of Arson Investigators Conference, 2013

Deliberate and Accidental Fire Causes, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

Component Failure Identification and Analysis, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

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Motive Evidence and Indicators, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

Charging Systems, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

Service Provider Negligence, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

Fuel Delivery and Storage, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

NHTSA Recalls, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

Hydraulic / Fluid Delivery and Storage, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

NHTSA Technical Service Bulletins, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

Electrical System Engagement While in Use, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

Aftermarket Components Identification, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

Electrical Engagement While Not in Use, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

Vehicle Identification, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING (CONTINUED)

Drivetrain Components, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

Identifying Ignition Sources, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

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Identifying First Fuels, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

Electrical Systems and Components, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

Solid and Semisolid Ignitable Components, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

Electrical Heat Generation Resistance / Arcing, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

Vehicle Related Fluids, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

OEM and Aftermarket Component Identification, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

Solid and Liquid Accelerants, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

Stored Heat Energy, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

Light and Heavy Petroleum Based Products, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

Friction Heat Generation, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

OEM and Aftermarket Oxidizing Agent's, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

Friction Components Identification and Analysis, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

Fuel Load Analysis, Pacific Rim Investigative Services Group, Advance Automotive Investigation, 2013

Insurance Industry Client Needs, Arson Claims: Investigation, Evaluation and Live Fires and Explosions Demonstrations Resolution, California Conference of Arson Investigators Conference, 2012

Ensuring Accurate, Reliable and Provable Determinations, Arson Claims: Investigation, Evaluation and Live Fires and Explosions Demonstrations Resolution, California Conference of Arson Investigators Conference, 2012

Using Analytical Outlines and Investigative Plans, Arson Claims: Investigation, Evaluation and Live Fires and Explosions Demonstrations Resolution, California Conference of Arson Investigators Conference, 2012

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CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING (CONTINUED)

Investigative Tools and Tips, Arson Claims: Investigation, Evaluation and Live Fires and Explosions Demonstrations Resolution, California Conference of Arson Investigators Conference, 2012

Dangerous Pitfalls to Avoid, Arson Claims: Investigation, Evaluation and Live Fires and Explosions Demonstrations Resolution, California Conference of Arson Investigators Conference, 2012

Insurer Duties of Good Faith and Fair Dealing, Arson Claims: Investigation, Evaluation and Live Fires and Explosions Demonstrations Resolution, California Conference of Arson Investigators Conference, 2012

Practical Application Ignition and Fuel Sources Arson Claims: Investigation, Evaluation and Live Fires and Explosions Demonstrations Resolution, California Conference of Arson Investigators Conference, 2012

Electrical Caused Fires, Arson Claims: Investigation, Evaluation and Live Fires and Explosions Demonstrations Resolution, California Conference of Arson Investigators Conference, 2012

Cigarette Caused Fires, Arson Claims: Investigation, Evaluation and Live Fires and Explosions Demonstrations Resolution, California Conference of Arson Investigators Conference, 2012

Accelerants, Ignitable Liquids, Arson Claims: Investigation, Evaluation and Live Fires and Explosions Demonstrations Resolution, California Conference of Arson Investigators Conference, 2012

Understanding Water and Electrical Current, Arson Claims: Investigation, Evaluation and Live Fires and Explosions Demonstrations Resolution, California Conference of Arson Investigators Conference, 2012

Accelerants, Ignitable Liquids⁰¹², Arson Claims: Investigation, Evaluation and Live Fires and Explosions Demonstrations Resolution, California Conference of Arson Investigators Conference, 2012

Hypotheses, Documentation and Conclusions, Investigative Reports under the Microscope, California Conference of Arson Investigators Conference, 2012

Standards in NFPA 1033, Investigative Reports under the Microscope, California Conference of Arson Investigators Conference, 2012

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Recommended Procedures in NFPA 921, Investigative Reports under the Microscope,
California Conference of Arson Investigators Conference, 2012

Evolving Standards and Recommendations, Investigative Reports under the Microscope,
California Conference of Arson Investigators Conference, 2012

Identifying Vulnerabilities in Reports, Investigative Reports under the Microscope, California
Conference of Arson Investigators Conference, 2012

Documenting Your Fire Scene, Investigative Reports under the Microscope, California
Conference of Arson Investigators Conference, 2012

Real-World Arson Trials, Investigative Reports under the Microscope, California Conference of
Arson Investigators Conference, 2012

Automotive Investigation Review, California Conference of Arson Investigators Conference,
2012

CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING (CONTINUED)

Fire Pattern Generation, California Conference of Arson Investigators Conference, 2012

Live Vehicle Fire Pattern Demonstration, California Conference of Arson Investigators
Conference, 2012

Live Vehicle Fire Heat Transfer, California Conference of Arson Investigators Conference, 2012

California State Fire Marshal's Fire Command 2B, California Fire Service Training and Education
System, 2010

California State Fire Marshal's Fire Command 1C, California Fire Service Training and Education
System, 2009

California State Fire Marshal's Prevention 1A-B, California Fire Service Training and Education
System, 2009

I-300 Intermediate ICS, National Wildfire Coordinating Group, 2009

California State Fire Marshal's Fire Instructor 1A-B, California Fire Service Training and
Education System, 2007

IS-00200 ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents, Emergency Management
Institute, 2006

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Level III Peace Officer Academy, Investigator Safety and Tactic, Riverside County Sheriff's Department, 2005

Ethics/Professionalism/Leadership, Investigator Safety and Tactic, Riverside County Sheriff's Department, 2005

First Aid & CPR, Investigator Safety and Tactic, Riverside County Sheriff's Department, 2005

Vehicle Operations, Investigator Safety and Tactic, Riverside County Sheriff's Department, 2005

Search & Seizure, Investigator Safety and Tactic, Riverside County Sheriff's Department, 2005

Firearms / Custody, Investigator Safety and Tactic, Riverside County Sheriff's Department, 2005

Chemical Agents Use of Force, Investigator Safety and Tactic, Riverside County Sheriff's Department, 2005

Hazardous Materials Course, Clandestine Drug Laboratory Waste Operations, California Specialized Training Institute, 2000

Hazardous Materials Course, Incident Commander: Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Agents, California Specialized Training Institute, 2000

Hazardous Materials Course, Specialist 1A-G, California Specialized Training Institute, 1998