

# 8<sup>th</sup> International Tall Building/High Rise Fire Safety Conference



Indianapolis, US | April 15th-17th 2024



8<sup>th</sup> International Tall Building High Rise Fire Safety Conference  
15 – 17<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
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Please note the conference programme may be subject to change at short notice. For reason beyond the control of the conference organisers

Welcome

# Welcome to the 8th International Tall Building Fire Safety Conference

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**RUSS TIMPSON**

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**CONFERENCE DIRECTOR**



Welcome to the 8th International Tall Building High Rise Fire Safety Conference programme. We are delighted to bring the conference to Indianapolis in the US, alongside FDIC.

Once again, we have managed to secure a fantastic range of speakers and presenters on a wide variety of high rise fire safety subjects. Case studies, new technology, emerging issues and thought leadership will be covered over the three days.

Delegates will be able to network

with colleagues from all over the world. FDIC will provide a fascinating backdrop to the conference and delegates will be able to access the expo arena as part of their delegate fee. Places are limited, so book early to secure your place. We also have sponsor supporter packages for any business/organisation that wishes to promote their brand, etc.

Look forward to seeing you there.

Go High, Go Well

**Russ Timpson, Conference Director**

[Russ.Timpson@tallbuildingfiresafety.com](mailto:Russ.Timpson@tallbuildingfiresafety.com)

[www.tallbuildingfiresafety.com](http://www.tallbuildingfiresafety.com)



# Indianapolis, US

## Monday, April 15th 2024

**MONDAY, APRIL 15TH 2024**

**DAY 1**

**Chairperson: Steve Hamm (CEO IFE)**

- 08:45** Delegate to be seated for conference.
- 08:50** Housekeeping announcement.
- 09:00** Thought for the day
- 09:30** Icebreakers
- 10:00** Official opening – IFE International President Hayley Burgess.
- 10:10** Keynote 1 – Frank Leeb: ‘Case Study – The Bronx Fire 2022’.
- 10:50** Presentation 1 – Suzanne Johnson: ‘Use of Smoke Hoods in High-Rise Residential Blocks’.
- 11:20** Presentation 2 – Jack Murphy: ‘If These Walls Could Talk’.
- 11:50** Coffee and networking.
- 12:20** Presentation 3 – Dr. Gabrielle Peck: ‘Flammability of Modern Facades’.
- 12:50** Presentation 4 – Randall Hanifen: ‘When Tall Buildings Come to Town’.
- 13:20** Break – various options for lunch are available.  
(Note: lunch refreshments are not included in delegate fee).

**Chairperson: Sponsor TBC**

- 14:00** Keynote 2 – Tom Gilbert: ‘Role of BIM in Fire Safety’
- 14:40** Presentation 5 – Jerry Tracy: ‘Repurposing Vacant Tall Office Buildings and Spaces’.
- 15:10** Presentation 6 – Terin Hopkin: The World of Pressure-Regulating Devices.
- 15:40** Presentation 7 – Radek Sikorski: ‘The Efficiency of Pressurization Systems During Simultaneous Evacuation’.
- 16:10** Day – 1 Debate with expert panel: ‘Have Lessons Been Learnt from Grenfell Tower and Bronx Fire Tragedies?’
- 17:00** Conference Day 1 ends.

**Book signing with Jerry Tracy and Jack Murphy.**

**‘High Rise Buildings – Understanding the Vertical Challenges’**

Indianapolis, US  
Tuesday,  
April 16th 2024

**TUESDAY, APRIL 16TH 2024**

**DAY 2**

**Chairperson: Sean De Crane (IAFF)**

- 08:45** Delegate to be seated for conference.
- 08:50** Housekeeping announcement.
- 09:00** Thought for the day
- 09:30** Icebreakers
- 10:00** Official opening – Dr Lori Moore-Merrell, US Fire Administrator.
- 10:10** Keynote 3 – Jason Hull: 'High Rise Firefighting in a Warzone'.
- 10:50** Presentation 8 – Sharon Halpert: 'Fire Stopping – The Hidden Liability and 5 Steps to Reduce Them'.
- 11:20** Presentation 9 – Sreenivas Narayanan: 'Façade Fire Testing'.
- 11:50** Coffee and networking.
- 12:20** Presentation 10 – Peter McBride: 'Who Has Seen the Wind'.
- 12:50** Presentation 11 – Mark Reilly: 'Emergency or Crisis – what method is best suited for Combustible Cladding fires?'.
- 13:20** Break – various options for lunch are available.  
(Note: lunch refreshments are not included in delegate fee).

**Chairperson (sponsor)**

- 14:00** Keynote 4 – Prof Ed Galea: 'Fire Hazard of Green Walls in High Rise'.
- 14:40** Presentation 12 – Russ Timpson: 'The Case for Two Staircases in High Rise'.
- 15:10** Presentation 13 – Jimmy Davis: 'When Buildings Fail Us: Lessons Learnt'.
- 15:40** Presentation 14 – Anthony Kastros: 'Mastering Fireground Command – Calm the Chaos for High Rise Fires'.
- 16:10** Day 2 – Debate with Expert Panel – 'Are We Ready for Green Walls, Tall Timber in High Rise?'
- 17:00** Conference Day 2 closes

Indianapolis, US  
Wednesday,  
April 17th 2024

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17TH 2024

DAY 3

**Chairperson: Dr. Katherine Lamb (KLA)**

- 08:45** Delegate to be seated for conference.
- 08:50** Housekeeping announcement.
- 09:00** Thought for the day
- 09:30** Icebreakers
- 10:00** Official opening – Mark Hardingham, NFCC.
- 10:10** Keynote 5 – Steve Hamm: 'The Need for Demonstrable Competency'.
- 10:50** Presentation 15 – Justin Francis: 'Firefighter Safety'.
- 11:20** Presentation 16 – Richard Marinucci: 'The importance of full air accessibility in high rise firefighting ... seconds count'.
- 11:50** Coffee and Networking.
- 12:20** Presentation 17 – Gerard Mann: 'Tactical Decision Making for High-Rise Firefighting'.
- 12:50** Presentation 18 – Dr. Michael Reick: 'Firefighting Smoke Control'.
- 13:20** Break – various options for lunch are available.  
(Note: lunch refreshments are not included in delegate fee)

**Chairperson: Sponsor TBC**

- 14:00** Keynote 6 – Will Pigeon: Elevating Incident Command: Managing High-Rise Incidents with Tablet Command.'
- 14:40** Presentation 19 – Benjamin Andoh-Appiah: 'Fire ignition and combustible materials in high-rise buildings'.
- 15:10** Presentation 20 – Mohsin Ali Shaikh: 'Case Study on Performance-Based Fire Safety Evacuation in High-Rise Residential Building Hefei, Anhui'.
- 15:40** Presentation 21 – Brent Brooks: From Practical to Tactical. Enhancing High-Rise Operations'.
- 16:10** Presentation 22 – Marcelo Cofre: 'High Rise Firefighting in Santiago, Chile'
- 16:30** Day 3 – Debate with expert panel – 'How is Changing Occupant Behaviour and Characteristics Affecting Fire Safety in High-Rise Residential Buildings?'
- 17:00** Conference Day 3 closes – Summary: Russ Timpson.



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### Immediate Crisis Impacts for high rise residence after a fire can include:

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- Logistical provision for displaced pets
- Security of property
- Liaison and communication with all stakeholders

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Contact email:  
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[www.crisisboardroom.com](http://www.crisisboardroom.com)



# Speaker Profiles



## PROFESSOR ED GALEA

Professor Ed Galea is the founding director of the Fire Safety Engineering Group (FSEG) of the University of Greenwich in London where he has worked in the area of Computational Fire Engineering (CFE) research since 1986. FSEG are developers of the EXODUS suite of evacuation software and the SMARTFIRE fire simulation software. He is the author of over 300 academic and professional publications and serves on a number of standards committees concerned with fire and evacuation for organisations such as; IMO, ISO, BSI and the SFPE Task Group on Human Behaviour in Fire. He also sits on several UK Government committees concerned with civil defence. He has served on several major Inquires and legal cases as an expert in fire and evacuation including: the Paddington Rail Crash, the Swiss Air MD11 crash, the Admiral Duncan Pub bombing and is currently an expert serving on the Grenfell Tower Fire Inquiry. His work is applied to the building, aviation, maritime and rail industries.



## JACK J. MURPHY MA

Jack is a retired Fire Marshal/Fmr. Deputy Chief and served as the Deputy Fire Coordinator for the County of Bergen (NJ). He is the past chairman of the Fire and Life Safety Directors Association of Greater New York and an adjunct professor at John Jay College/ Fire Science Institute (NYC).

Currently serves as the principal for eBuilding Intelligence Solutions (BI) that delivers First Responders and Building Owners critical building data for an emergency event. He is a principal member on the NFPA committees: High-Rise Building Safety Advisory Board; 1660 Emergency, Continuity, and Crisis Management: Preparedness, Response, and Recovery; 1082 Facilities Fire/Life Safety Director Professional Qualifications and the 2800 Facility Emergency Action Plans (EAP). He has developed EAPs and BI solutions for high-rise buildings, sport stadiums, health-care facilities and college campuses

As a Fire Engineering Magazine contributing editor has written many fire service articles and the Handbook for Firefighter I and II Chapter on Pre-Incident Planning. He has co-authored the book High-Rise Buildings: Understanding the Vertical Challenges. In 1997, he was appointed an FDNY Honorary Battalion Chief. He is a member of the Clarion/FDIC Fire and Rescue Advisory Board and was the recipient of the 2012 Fire Engineering Tom Brennan Lifetime Achievement Award.



## RADEK SIKORSKI INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER, SMAY VENTILATION SYSTEMS

International Business Development Manager with a background in the design of ventilation and smoke control systems. Responsible for supporting consultants in the development of fire protection system designs. He has been involved in the design of pressurization systems in many countries in Europe, including the UK.

Graduate of the AGH University of Science and Technology in Cracow, where he studied Energy Engineering and Environmental Engineering, specializing in Industrial Ventilation and Air Conditioning, and of the Warsaw

University of Technology, where he studied Smoke Extraction Systems: Fire Ventilation. Currently studying International Trade at the SGH Warsaw School of Economics. Member of SiTP and PZLiTS.



## BRENT BROOKS

Brent Brooks is an international speaker and hands on instructor. Brent teaches HighRise Tactics and large diameter hose movements. Brent is currently a Captain with Toronto Fire Services. His 28 year career with firefighting started at Pearson Airport, with continuing duties at (De Havilland) and Bombardier Aero Space Crash Fire Rescue teams. He is assigned to Toronto's High Rise Unit. Brent has developed the IMS, training and RND for High Rise Operations. Brent's experience includes serving on numerous committees all related to High Rise firefighting. He continues to travel the world attending conferences, symposiums, and hands on training. He has spoken on complex building systems, help run the 2019, 2020 Canadian HighRise conference, Started the HighRise Round Table in Toronto, hosted the Toronto & Montreal HighRise Summit and is a member of the Council Of Tall Buildings based out of Chicago. He also represents Canada as a member of the T70 Tall Building Safety Committee based out of London England. Brent shares information with Fire Departments from all over the world and has developed a network with subject matter experts related to High Rise firefighting. Brent has spoke at Firex, Tall Building Conference in London England and "Makin' The Stretch" Conference Colonial Park, PA. Brent continues his education by attend 4 firefighting conferences yearly and never misses HROC in the USA. Brent presents to numerous Fire Departments. Proud retired member of the Canadian Armed Forces.



## DR KATHERINE LAMB MIFIREE, MSC (OXON), BSC (HONS)

Dr Katherine Lamb is a respected authority on the training and assessment of Incident Command and crisis decision making. She worked as an accomplished research academic before joining the Fire Service in 2004. During her Fire Service career, she served in Birmingham, Manchester and Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Services, her final post was as Station Manager of the incident command training team. In 2015, on leaving the Fire Service she developed Effective Command, a behavioural marking system for the assessment and recording of incident command competence. This development tool is accredited by several professional bodies and academic institutions and is used to train and assess incident command competence and crisis decision making. It is widely used throughout the international emergency response community for the training of crisis decision makers. In addition, she runs a dedicated Incident command training company which provides SFJ Awards accredited training courses to 32 UK Fire & Rescue services.



## PETER MCBRIDE

Chief McBride, retired Division Chief of Safety and Innovation, having served 31 years with the Ottawa Fire Service. Peter currently serves as a SFPE National Capital Region Chapter Director and Technical Committee member of NFPA 1700 Standard – Guide For Structural Fire Fighting. Previously, Peter served as Project Technical Panel Member for Fire Fighting Tactics Under Wind Driven Conditions and Positive Pressure Ventilation in Large Structures: High-Rise Experiments – NIST Report # 7468. McBride has a passion for sharing ideas and seeking insights from others. Throughout his professional development, Peter has sought to expand the understanding of firefighting wherein the word FIRE means: Fire Fighting (anticipation, prevention, intervention and recovery), Instruction (public through to graduate level education), Research (material science, assemblies, full scale testing and fire operations) and Engineering (solutions, enhancements, advancements and innovations). Peter regularly presents and advocates for fire safety arts and sciences in Canada, the United States and Europe.



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## **GERALD 'JERRY' TRACY** FDNY BATTALION COMMANDER (RET.).

Chief Tracy retired as the Commander of FDNY Battalion 49, serving 31 years with this department. He was instrumental to refining and improving Policy and Procedures for the FDNY as well as developing numerous training programs. There are several

published articles in Fire Engineering, Fire House magazine and the FDNY/ WNYF training publication. He was the catalyst to the research conducted by NIST, UL and NYU Polytechnic Institute. The study and analysis was specific to Smoke Management and Control and to develop a comprehensive understanding of Fire Dynamics in tall and large buildings. Chief Tracy presented the keynote address at the 2007 FDIC conference and was awarded the Fire Engineering "Tom Brennan Lifetime Achievement Award" in 2016. He is a co-author of the book, titled "High Rise Buildings, understanding the Vertical Challenge" printed by Fire Engineering, PennWell Publishing.



## **JUSTIN FRANCIS**

Justin Francis is an Australian operational, front line fire officer with 30 years of experience in emergency response.

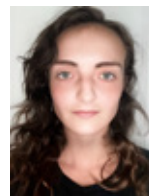
Awarded a Churchill Fellowship in 2017, Justin conducted extensive International research into high-rise evacuation and high-rise firefighting. Having attended and viewed the after affects of many large fire incidents, including The Grenfell Tower Fire (London) and The Address Hotel Fire (Dubai) as well as managing 1000's of emergency incidents, Justin is able to provide a unique operational perspective. After completing a Masters in Emergency Management, his research capability has been further strengthened and this merges with his International operational exposure. In recent years, and after losing numerous colleagues to illnesses associated with firefighting, Justin has directed his efforts into implementing a complete overhaul of how modern day firefighting should be conducted. "Whilst firefighting can be a dangerous job, there are so many actions we can do to reduce our exposure".



## **SREENIVAS NARAYANAN 'SREENI'**

Technical and Compliance Director – MEI + AP, Siderise Insulation.

He has over a decade's experience in sales, business development and new market development, majority of which has been in the field of passive fire protection and working in the fenestration Industry since 2008. Sreeni has been in the Middle East since 2007 and has a keen understanding of the region, its requirements and regulations. He has worked extensively with AHJ's, contractors, architects and developers in Middle East, India and Asia Pacific, assisting and advising the various stake holders on matters relating standards, testing, code compliance etc. On behalf of Siderise, Sreeni has been instrumental in ensuring successful completion of numerous large-scale system tests relating to external façade assemblies. Sreeni is a regular participant at various façade and fire-safety conferences and frequently delivers presentations on the subject to industry associates.



## **DR GABRIELLE PECK**

Dr Gabrielle Peck completed her PhD in Chemistry, specialising in fire chemistry and smoke toxicity. Her recent work has been focused on designing and conducting novel large-scale fire tests. Her research provided the EU with the information and test methodologies required to aid the regulation of smoke toxicity within the Construction Product Regulations.

She has worked extensively on designing and creating her own novel fire testing equipment for the analysis of smoke toxicity for use in large-scale fire analysis, as well as equipment to quantify the fire condition within a test. Her work has also included the design and programming of novel software for her test equipment(s), as well as for data analysis.

She was also part of a team conducting large-scale fire tests investigating the smoke toxicity of rainscreen facades following the Grenfell tower disaster in 2017. Her work was utilized in persuading the government to ban combustible facades on tall buildings. Throughout her career, she has also worked closely with Fire Safe Europe and was part of a smoke toxicity working group within the EU. She produced the original working documents providing information surrounding smoke toxicity testing methods for FSEU board members, further contributing to the progress of regulating smoke toxicity in the EU.

She also worked on the development of creating commercially available fire testing technologies and the associated software with Concept Equipment UK to commercialise bench-scale smoke toxicity test methods, and provided revised methodologies required to transition technical standards to full ISO standard status for bench-scale fire testing apparatus.

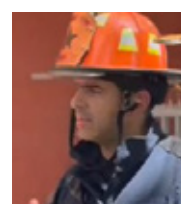
Her work has also had particular focus on predictive modelling of flammability and smoke toxicity of materials based on identification of the molecular composition of a material. Additionally, she has ran training seminars for Fire Safe Europe educating fire engineers and those involved in fire safety on the concept of smoke toxicity and understanding the chemistry of fire.



## **DR LORI MOORE-MERRELL** DRPH, MPH U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATOR U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATOR

Dr. Lori Moore-Merrell was appointed by President Joseph Biden as the U.S. Fire Administrator on October 25, 2021. Prior to her appointment, Lori served nearly 3 years as the President and CEO of

the International Public Safety Data Institute (IPSDI), which she founded after retiring from a 26-year tenure as a senior executive in the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF). She began her fire service career in 1987 as a fire department paramedic in the City of Memphis Fire Department, Memphis Tennessee. Lori is a Doctor of Public Health and data scientist, whose work has changed fire and EMS deployment throughout the world. As the principal investigator and senior project manager, she oversaw the development of landmark reports and other tools to improve residential and high-rise fireground operations, community risk assessment, fire and EMS resource deployment, and "Big Data Analytics". She recently launched the Fire Service One Voice initiative where leaders from across the nation stand together and speak with one voice to address the fire problem in America and the health and safety challenges facing firefighters. She has been described as a passionate leader and champion for the men and women of the fire service both in the United States and around the world and her work continues to influence executive decision-making across the fire service. Without a doubt, her passion matches her action!



## **MARCELO COFRE**

Marcelo has served as a Volunteer firefighter since 1996 in Santiago Fire Department, Chile. MC did an Internship with Brigade des Sapeur Pompiers de Paris. In this presentation he will give an overview of high rise firefighting operations in a volunteer fire service in a large metropolitan area in Chile, South America.



## RICHARD A. MARINUCCI

Chief Richard Marinucci has over 47 years of experience in the fire service and served as Chief of Department for over 32 years in 3 departments – Farmington Hills, Northville Township, and White Lake Township.

Chief Marinucci is a Past President of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and served as Acting Chief Operating Officer of the U.S. Fire Administration while serving as Senior Advisor to the Federal Emergency Management Agency Director.

He was the national program manager for the Everyone Goes Home program of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation from 2008 - 2011.

Chief Marinucci has authored the Fire Chief's Guide to Administration and Management. He is the editor of the 7th Edition of the Fire Chief Handbook.

Chief Marinucci served as Chairman of the first Commission of Professional Credentialing and was one of the first 15 Chief Fire Officers to be designated in 2000. He was awarded the Ronny Jack Coleman Leadership Legacy Award from the Center for Public Safety Excellence in 2013.

He has lectured across the United States and in Canada, Japan, Hong Kong, and Europe.

He has earned a Master of Science degree from Eastern Michigan University and Bachelor of Science degrees from Western Michigan University, Madonna University, and the University of Cincinnati.



## SEAN DECRANE

Sean DeCrane is the Director, Fire Fighter Health and Safety Operational Services for the International Association of Fire Fighters based in Washington, DC. Prior to assuming his current role, Sean was a Research Engineer Associate for UL Solutions focused on developing strategic planning, project prioritization and implementation for the UL Fire Research and Development Team while assigned to the Principal Engineers Team for UL's Built Environment COU where he was responsible for engaging with various industry organizations with a focus on the international fire service including Asia, Australia, Europe, and the United Kingdom. Sean served as a 25+ year veteran of the Cleveland Division of Fire, where he held various roles including Director of Training and Chief of Operations.



## SUZANNE JOHNSON

Suzanne Johnson is the global product manager for escape hoods at Dräger Safety. She has over 20 years of experience in product management, the last 16 of those with escape hoods. Suzanne earned an MBA from the Nordakademie and holds a Bachelors degree in International Management from Hamline University. Suzanne is from Minneapolis, Minnesota and resides in Germany.



## RANDALL W. HANIFEN PH.D., CFO, FIFIRE

Dr. Randall W. Hanifen is an Assistant Chief of Operations for West Chester (OH) Fire, an Associate Professor at the American Public University's Emergency Management Program, an Adjunct Professor for University's Fire Science Program, and

CEO of a national fire service consulting company. Randall serves as the Executive Director of a regional special operations team, a former Taskforce Leader for FEMA's Ohio Task Force 1 US&R team, President of the Institution of Fire Engineers-USA Branch, and is the Chair of IAFC Company Officers Section. He serves as a member of NFPA 1021 Fire Officer Professional Qualifications standard and NFPA 1026 Incident Management committees. He serves on the Legislative Committee of Ohio Fire Chiefs Association. Randall is credentialed as a Chief Fire Officer by the Center for Public Safety Excellence and is Fellow grade membership with the Institution of Fire Engineers. He is the associate author of the textbook Disaster Planning and Control (2009). Randall has provided presentations and trainings for the Ohio Fire Chief's Association, Fire Rescue International, Emergency Management Institute, IFE Caribbean and South America Branch, Firehouse Expo, and is a contract instructor for the NFA, teaching courses in the Executive and Managing Fire Officer Programs. He has a B.S. in Fire Administration, an M.S. in Fire Service Executive Leadership and a Ph.D. in Executive Management of Homeland Security. Randall can be reached at [Randall@hanifen.org](mailto:Randall@hanifen.org).



## ANTHONY KASTROS

Battalion Chief Anthony (Andoni) Kastros is began his fire service career in 1987, retiring from Sacramento Metro Fire District in 2019. He is the author of the Fire Engineering book and video series, Mastering the Fire Service Assessment Center – 2ndEdition. It is used widely throughout the United States for officer development. Also, from Fire Engineering, Anthony authors the 3-part video series Mastering Fireground Command – Calm the Chaos! This series focuses on fireground strategy, tactics, and ICS using actual incidents, video, and simulations. The textbook will be launched at FDIC 2024.

Kastros is an FDIC-International and Firehouse World instructor, was the Keynote Speaker at FDIC 2013 and is the recipient of the 2019 George D. Post Instructor of the Year Award from the International Society of Fire Service Instructors and Fire Engineering. Anthony hosts The Command Show, a monthly blog radio show through Fire Engineering. As a USAR Team Manager with Sacramento Task Force 7, he deployed to Ground Zero on 9/11. Anthony spent 4 years with a Type 1 Incident Management Team.

Through Trainfirefighters.com, our cadre of instructors has taught thousands of firefighters from around the world in leadership, team building, officer development, command, tactics, strategic planning, labor relations, and mergers. Anthony's faith and family are the most important things in his life.



## TERIN HOPKINS

Terin is currently the Public Fire Protection Manager in Codes, Standards, Public Fire Protection and Training Department, for the National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA), headquartered in Baltimore, Maryland. Terin has 34 years in public safety, beginning his public safety career in 1981 as a Volunteer Firefighter/EMT and then serving 25 years with the Prince George's County Maryland Fire/EMS Department, retiring in 2009. He then went to work for the Howard County Department of Fire Rescue Service, Office of the Fire Marshal. In 2018 he was hired as the Mid-Atlantic Field Service Coordinator with NFSA. Terin currently represents NFSA on several technical committees including, NFPA 1 Fire Code, NFPA 14 Standard for the Installation of Standpipes and Hose Systems, UL 47 Standpipe Equipment Technical Committee and the eight fire service training standards covered by NFPA 13E Recommended Practice for Fire Department Operations in Properties Protected by Sprinkler and Standpipe Systems.



## STEVE HAMM

### MSC BENG(HONS) CENG FIFREE - CEO

In his role as CEO of the IFE, Steve is committed to ensuring the organisation continues to evolve to meet the future needs of its members. From leading change from within to nurturing collaboration across the global fire industry, his focus is on driving the IFE's mission to advance and improve the knowledge, practice and recognition of all fire professionals, to enable an increasingly fire safe world.

Steve has been an active member of the IFE throughout his career serving as a past Chair of the IFE board of directors, a former International President as well as being involved in many IFE professional standards committees. He has served on the committee of the London branch for many years.

Steve brings more than 25 years' experience in the Fire and Rescue Service, serving in operations, fire safety and training in both county and metropolitan areas. His last appointment was as Assistant Commissioner with the London Fire Brigade. Steve then became Head of London resilience and led the coordination of the London Resilience Partnership.

Steve is a qualified Chartered Engineer. He holds a BEng(Hons) from the University of Central Lancashire and an MSc from the University of London, together with a post-graduate qualification in strategic leadership from the University of Warwick. He completed six year's in the Royal Air Force at the start of his career.



## MICHAEL REICK

### PROF. DR.-ING.; REGIONAL FIRE DIRECTOR

Michael is a regional director for the fire service in Göttingen, Germany. As an active fire chief and with his background in fire safety engineering and science he is especially interested in the interaction between these disciplines - the interconnection

between fire safety and fire fighting. As the representative for the German Fire Brigade Association he works in numerous working groups for fire safety in the built environment.

In his post-doc study in 2004 Michael researched the fundamentals of stairway protection regarding smoke spread while firefighters stretch hoses and force doors. His basis is the knowledge of fire dynamics and fire ventilation combined with fire fighting skills based on fireground experience and live fire training. With two decades of experience and research in this basic contradiction he contributes to improve policies of fire services – especially with the invention of the portable smoke blocking device and the implementation in standard operational procedures of fire services all over Europe and also worldwide.



## GERARD MANN

Gerard Mann is a Leading Firefighter with Fire Rescue Victoria, Australia. Having filled various training and operational roles over his 10-year career, LFF Mann moved into policy, planning and operational guidance directorate to produce new SOP's around structural and high rise firefighting.

Bringing his extensive structural firefighting knowledge and research skills, LFF Gerard Mann formed an integral part of FRV's planning policy and operational guidance team. Collaborating with internal stakeholders and external fire experts FRV's PPOG team was able to produce new doctrine based upon empirical research and worlds best practice, taking into account environmental and organisational factors.



## JIMMY DAVIS

James 'Jimmy' Davis is a captain and 29-year veteran of the Chicago (IL) Fire Department assigned to Engine Co. 43 serving Logan Square. He teaches regularly at the Chicago Fire Department R.J. Quinn Fire Academy on a variety of subjects, including the department's high-rise and standpipe programs. He instructs both nationally and internationally on many subjects relating to high-rise firefighting strategies and life-safety concerns.



## HAYLEY BURGESS

Hayley Burgess has been a Principal Fire Safety & Health and Safety Consultant / Director in private consultancy for the last 12 years, prior to this Hayley worked in local Government carrying out Fire Risk Assessments for a wide range of Government occupied buildings. Currently Hayley works with a range of Clients developing Fire Strategy Designs, completing Fire Risk Assessments, Fire Safety Inspections and providing Consultancy on all aspects of Fire Safety as well as consulting on all areas of Health and Safety.

Hayley's specialism lies in Fire Safety Consultancy within the Social Care Sector advising Clients on meeting the Fire Safety Standards of NIHTM 84 etc.

Hayley is also a Chartered Fellow of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (CFIOSH) and currently holds the post of Chair of the Northern Ireland IOSH Branch, she also is a Chartered Building Engineer.

Hayley is an active volunteer within the IFE, currently holding the posts of International President and Vice Chair of the Board of Trustee Directors. Hayley also Chairs the Professional Standards Committee and sits on the Equality, Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity Working Group as well as chairing the recently rejuvenated Northern Ireland Branch of the IFE.

Hayley also sits on the Fire Expert Panel for Collaborative Reporting for Safer Structures UK (CROSS UK).



## MARK REILLY AFSM, CMFIRE

With a successful career in the fire and emergency services spanning 40 years in executive and command leadership roles, in response and recovery operation, built on a solid foundation of his wide-ranging military career. Mark is now working in the crisis and consequence management sphere.

Mark has extensive experience in fire operations, fire engineering, community engagement, leadership and command, together with humanitarian operations. He contributed his technical knowledge and practical expertise to the development of the Incident Management Handbook for the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience.

Mark has expert technical expertise in developing and managing emergency response management to international airports, port facilities and petroleum processing and storage facilities.

Mark was recognised for his distinguished service to Fire and Rescue NSW with the award of the Australian Fire Service Medal for distinguished service to the community through leadership and mentoring junior fire officers in 2009.

He is a Companion Member of the Institution of Fire Engineers and has served the Institution as the Leader of the International General Assembly, a Director on the IFE International Board, and President of the IFE Australian Branch.



## FRANK LEEB

Frank Leeb is a Deputy Assistant Chief in the Fire Department of New York. During his more than 31-year career, he has held several senior staff positions, including the Chief of the Fire Academy, Chief of Training, and the Chief of Safety. Frank has also been an East Farmingdale Fire Department member since 1983 (Long Island, NY).

Frank Leeb's career has been defined by his unwavering commitment to fostering growth through training and development, a central tenet of his leadership philosophy. He has lectured nationally and internationally on motivation, preparedness, leadership, and strategy and tactics. He has served as an advisory panel member for UL Firefighter Safety Research Institute's (FSRI) "Study of Coordinated Attack in Acquired Structures" and is the chair for the First Responder Center for Excellence cancer advisory committee. Frank is also a principal on the NFPA Technical Committees 420, 1585, and 1710. He was also the keynote speaker for Firehouse Expo in 2022 and was a presenter at the 2022 and 2023 U.S. Fire Administrator Summit on Fire Prevention and Control. He is also the author of the best-selling book "Cornerstones of Leadership - On And Off The fireground".



## SHARON HALPERT

Sharon started in the firestop industry in 1999 in product development. She has worked for or with all the key players in the firestop industry. Since 2005, she has been responsible for quality control on projects valued over \$18 billion, which means she has covered roughly 25 million square feet of project

space. Since she started in 1999 she has been trouble shooting firestop issues on everything from a nuclear power plant to sports stadiums, hospitals, telecommunications, mega-resorts and more.

SH is also a voting member of ASTM and a member of the International Firestop Council. She was selected by Rutgers to teach NJ building inspectors and sub code officials. She has presented in ICC and SFPE conferences and events in the US and Saudi Arabia. She was involved in the creation of the IFC Firestop Special Inspection Certification and has been invited to create a next step program with the ICC.



## MARK HARDINGHAM QFSM CHAIR - NATIONAL FIRE CHIEFS COUNCIL

The National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) is the professional voice of the UK fire and rescue service and the membership body for all 50 UK fire and rescue services, Chief Fire Officers and senior managers. Mark was elected into the role of the

NFCC Chair in April 2021 and serves until 2025.

Mark provides professional advice to Government, the Home Secretary and the Minister with responsibility for the fire and rescue service. He works closely with the Government's inspectorate of the fire and rescue service, national employers and other national and international fire service bodies.

Mark has been extensively involved in advising and supporting Government, fire services and other fire partners on all issues associated with the Grenfell Tower fire and subsequent national Inquiry.

Mark began his fire service career 33 years ago in Essex and served across many fire stations and in many roles. He was appointed as the Deputy Chief Fire Officer in Suffolk in 2010 and then Chief Fire Officer and County Council Director from 2013 to 2020.



## RUSS TIMPSON

Russ Timpson is the founder and organiser of the Tall Building Fire Safety Network (TBFSN). Started in 2009 the TBFSN seeks to improve fire safety in the Tall Building Environment. RT is a former RN submariner and firefighter. He is a chartered Fire Engineer.

On leaving the Fire Service, RT took up the position of Head of Safety for Virgin Atlantic Airways, leading a multi-disciplinary team of safety, health and environmental specialists. RT was part of the response team that managed the crash-landing incident at Heathrow in 1999.

In 2000, RT was headhunted by BAA (UK airport operator) to lead the response to the major fire at Terminal 1, Heathrow Airport. In the following five years, RT contributed to several major airport construction projects; including the skyway at Gatwick Airport and T5 at Heathrow Airport.

RT was awarded the HSE's award for European Safety and Health at Work achievement 1998 and European Strategic Risk Management Award 2004, International Fire professional of the Year 2015. CIR International Risk Management Award 2017. In 2020, RT was judged to be in the top 10 influencers in the UK for fire safety: <https://www.ifsecglobal.com/ifsec-global-security-fire-influencers/ifsec-global-influencers-in-security-and-fire-2020/>

RT now works as a consulting resilience engineer. Currently promoting the use of the 'Fire Mark' concept to improved occupant awareness of fire safety in buildings. He is the inventor of the Crisisboardroom™ concept for management of crisis events. Crisisboardroom™ has been deployed around the World to make businesses more resilient.

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**Web:** [www.tallbuildingfiresafety.com](http://www.tallbuildingfiresafety.com)



## WILLIAM PIGEON

William "Will" Pigeon, CEO and co-founder of Tablet Command, has significantly impacted emergency response and incident command management with his innovative solutions. Educated in Computer Science and Information Systems at San Diego State University, Will began

his career in the fire service in 1998, taking on various roles, including firefighter, paramedic, and fire dispatcher, primarily in San Diego. In 2005, he joined the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District, eventually becoming Assistant Fire Chief before dedicating himself full-time to Tablet Command in 2020. Alongside Andy Bozzo, he founded Tablet Command in 2011, leveraging his extensive experience in fire operations and communications to develop technologies that enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of public safety professionals across North America. Under his leadership, Tablet Command continues to advance the capabilities of first responders, embodying Will's commitment to improving emergency response and incident management through innovation.

### Tablet Command:

Tablet Command is a revolutionary notification, response, and incident management platform that provides enhanced situational awareness and advanced incident management capabilities to over 25 metropolitan areas, 780 agencies, and 32,000 fire professionals across North America. This presentation will delve into the background and features of the Tablet Command platform, showcasing its unique ability to increase situational awareness, incident management efficiency, and how to rapidly organize responders into divisions and groups during escalating high-rise and complex incidents.

# How to Book

## Ways to book your place at the 8th International Tall Building Fire Safety Conference 15th–17th April 2024.

Tickets can only be purchased for the conference via the booking platform:  
8th International High Rise/Tall Building Fire Safety Conference | **Bookitbee**  
(Click here or scan the QR Code below)

### DISCOUNTED TICKETS:

#### **SERVING FIREFIGHTER Discounted Tickets**

(limited number and proof of service required)

Available via the booking platform  
by using the discount code:

**TALLFIREFIGHTER**

#### **PARTNER ORGANISATION Discounted Tickets**

Membership of the following Organisations  
can attract a delegate discount.

(Proof of membership may be required)

IFE, SFPE, NFPA, IFSM, IAFF, etc

Use Discount Code when Booking:

**TALLPARTNER**

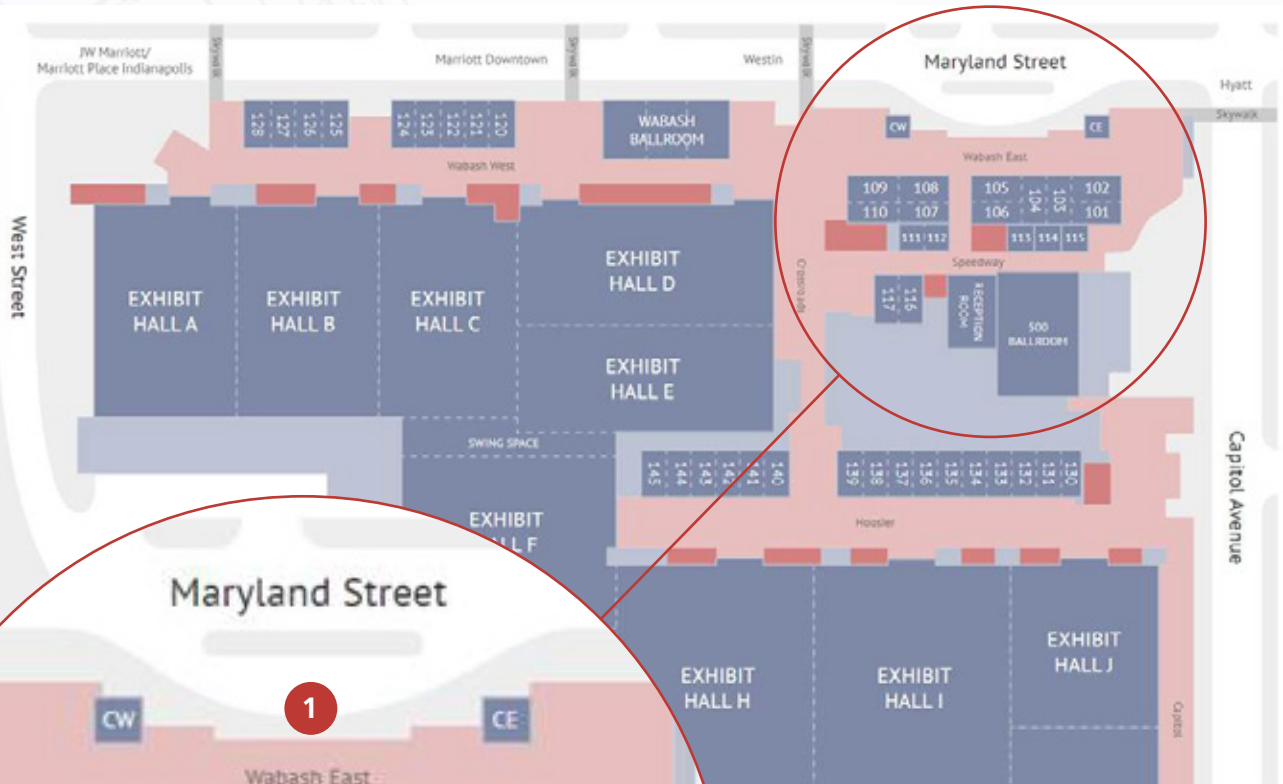
**TO BOOK**  
Scan the QR Code



# Delegate Joining Instructions

## Notes:

- All conference delegates must pick up their FDIC pass at any main reception. Tall Building Conference reception will be outside the reception room (as per map).
- Tall Building Conference reception will be open on Sunday 14th of April from 3pm till 6pm and from 7am on Monday the 15th of April.
- Conference venue: The Reception Room, next to Ballroom (see map).
- Link to location website (click here): Weddings - 500 Ballroom & Reception Room - Indiana Convention Center (icclos.com).
- Dress code for the conference will be business casual.
- The conference fee does not include lunchtime refreshments. There are several lunch options available nearby.
- The conference organisers reserve the right to change the programme/speakers lineup at short notice (due to non-attendance of agreed speakers).



- 1 Main FDIC Reception for delegates to pick up FDIC passes.
- 2 Tall Buildings Conference reception for delegates to access the conference.



## **BENJAMIN ANDOH-APPIAH**

Originally from Sekondi, Ghana, Benjamin is a PhD Candidate at the University of Porto, Portugal, focusing on fire resilience of high-rise buildings, whilst using composite materials as an enhancer for facades. He holds Master of Science degrees in Ecotechnology and Sustainable Development (Mid-Sweden University) and Technology, Work and Health (KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden), as well as being a member of the Resilience Engineering Association and of St. John Ambulance Ghana.

Benjamin's research writing is passionately and deeply rooted within 3 main points of fire safety of high-rise buildings: (i) the use of sustainable materials for construction, (ii) structural safety, i.e. materials with lower flammability and self-extinguishing properties and (iii) the fire protection of the occupants, their properties and the firefighters. Furthermore, he is currently exploring and experimenting different plant fibres, matrix and core materials to produce sandwich panels with the best properties, such as tensile strength, fire behaviour, carbon footprint, among others.

His most recent research is a literature review of visual impairment among firefighters as a work-related injury. His research studies include fire emergency evacuations in residential high-rise buildings, evaluation of fire safety resilience of buildings, and identification and assessment of fire safety systems.

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