
Michael OConnor, PE, SE, ME, EE | Senior Principal Engineer

1172 National Drive, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95834

916-640-0640

michael.oconnor@efiglobal.com

Professional Summary:

Michael OConnor has 44 years of continuous experience in the fields of structural, civil, electrical and mechanical engineering. Michael holds licenses in all four fields. He is also a pedestrian safety expert. Michael investigates a wide range of losses including fires, photovoltaic systems, structural failures, construction defects, personal injury, and product failures. He works directly with large loss insurance adjusters, major utility suppliers, product manufacturers and attorneys.

Licenses and Certifications:

Registered Civil Engineer in California, License Number C33404
Registered Structural Engineer in California, License Number S3911
Registered Electrical Engineer in California, License Number E12719
Registered Mechanical Engineer in California, License Number M31730
Registered Civil and Structural Engineer in Hawaii, Number 8090
Registered Civil Engineer in Nevada, License Number 16233

Court Qualifications/ Depositions:

Mr. OConnor has given sworn testimony in trials and depositions more than 90 times. He has qualified as an expert witness in trial proceedings more than 15 times. He has never been disqualified as an expert. A list of cases is available upon request.

Professional Experience:

July 2018 to Present

EFI Global, Inc.

Senior Principal Engineer offering professional engineering services in the fields of civil, structural, electrical, and mechanical engineering, failure analysis, slip and fall studies and accident reconstruction. Served as engineer of record on numerous design projects for the repair of damaged buildings.

May 2016 to July 2018

Unified Investigations and Sciences

Senior Forensic Engineer offering professional engineering services in the fields of civil, structural, electrical, and mechanical engineering as well as fire origin and cause analysis, failure analysis, slip and fall studies and accident reconstruction. Served as engineer of record on numerous design projects for the repair of damaged buildings.

June 2007 to May 2016

OConnor Engineering, Inc.

Principal Engineer and owner of a forensic engineering and general engineering consulting firm offering professional engineering services in the fields of civil, structural, electrical, and mechanical engineering as well as fire origin and cause analysis, failure analysis, slip and fall studies and accident reconstruction. Served as engineer of record on numerous design projects for the repair of damaged buildings.

September 2000 to June 2007

EFI Global, Inc.

Senior Engineer for civil engineering, structural engineering, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, forensic engineering, accident reconstruction, fire investigation, metallurgy and subrogation support. Served as engineer of record on numerous design projects for the repair of damaged buildings.

May 1990 to August 2000

O'Connor Engineers, Inc., Consulting Forensic Engineers

Principal Engineer of the firm specializing in civil engineering, structural engineering, electrical engineering, forensic engineering, accident reconstruction, fire investigation and subrogation support. Served as engineer of record on numerous design projects for the repair of damaged buildings.

September 1988 to May 1990

Rogers and Associates

Head civil and electrical engineer for the company. Scope of work included civil design, structural design, power systems, control systems, communications, life safety and lighting.

June 1988 to September 1988

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers

Electrical Engineer, Technical Support Branch, Design Quality Assurance Section, Specialist in Radio Frequency Interference Shielding and TEMPEST Systems.

December 1981 to June 1988

United States Air Force, Captain

Chief Project Engineer on over twenty million dollars of construction. Served as Chief, Engineering Design Section for my last year at the base. Managed all of the large design projects for the base under the Military Construction Program.

January 1988 to June 1988

Chapman College

Electrical Engineering Instructor: Taught evening college courses for an accredited bachelor's degree program leading to a B.S. in electronics. Responsible for syllabus preparation, instruction and evaluation.

July 1978 to November 1981

Morton Technologies, Inc., Santa Rosa, California

Associate: Chief Engineer on numerous civil and structural projects which included bridges, commercial buildings, residences and industrial structures. Originated over a dozen computer programs for engineering use. Eventually rose to the position of vice-president in charge of the structural division.

Specialized Education:

Wood Solutions Fair, AIA Conference, January 21, 2010

Structural Design of Residential Buildings, ASCE Seminar, September 2009

RISA 3D Finite Element Analysis Seminar, August 3-5, 2009

NFPA 921 / Solid-Fuel and Gas-Burning Appliances, CCAI, February 2015

NFPA Conference, June 9-12, 2014, Las Vegas, NV

Wild Land Fire Litigation Conference, Monterey, California, April 2013

International Symposium on Fire Investigation – Science and Technology, NAFI/NFPA, University of Maryland, October 2012.

CCAI Advanced Fire/Arson Investigation, November 2011

CCAI Advanced Fire/Arson Investigation, March 2010

CCAI Advanced Fire/Arson Investigation, November 2007

International Symposium on Fire Investigation – Science and Technology, NAFI/NFPA, University of Cincinnati, June 2006.

International Advanced Fire, Arson, and Explosion Investigation Science and Technology Seminar, NAFI/NFPA, University of Eastern Kentucky, March 2004

Education:

Extension Diploma in General Metallurgy
American Society for Metals, Materials Engineering Institute,
Materials Park, Ohio

California State University, Sacramento, California
Graduate Studies in Structural Engineering
Graduate Courses in Structural Dynamics and Structural Stability

New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, New Mexico
Master of Science in Electrical Power Engineering, 1987
Thesis: The Application of Carson's Equations to Underground Cables

University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico
Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering
Graduated in 1984 with Highest Honors

California State University, Sonoma, California
Graduate Studies in Physics and Mathematics
1979 to 1980

University of California, Berkeley, California

Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering
Graduated in 1978 with Highest Honors

Santa Rosa Junior College, Santa Rosa, California
Associate of Science Degree in Engineering, 1976
Graduated with Highest Honors

Affiliations:

American Society of Civil Engineers, ASCE, Member

Courses Instructed/ Guest Lecturer:

Earthquakes for Adjusters, Training
Forensic Electrical Fire Investigation
Construction Defects, Subrogation Issues and the Forensic Engineer
Code Upgrades, Meaning Effects and Strategies
Wind Effects on Structures

Publications and Presentations:

It's in the Plumbing, Claims Magazine, Fall 2005

The Physics of Heat Transfer from Electrical Faults, Proceedings of the International Symposium on Fire Investigation Science and Technology, Cincinnati, Ohio, June 2006

In-Situ Concrete Strength Testing as a Tool in Fire Investigation, Proceedings of the International Symposium on Fire Investigation Science and Technology, University of Maryland, October 2012

Honors and Awards:

Doyle Scholar at Santa Rosa Junior College
Femineers Scholar at UC Berkeley
Regents Fellow at UC Berkeley
Outstanding Electrical Engineering Graduate of the Year, 1984, University of New Mexico
Outstanding Engineering Graduate of the Year at UNM Awarded by NSPE
Outstanding Engineer of the Year, 1985, Tactical Air Command, US Air Force