

Christopher Carter, P.E. | Forensic Engineer

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Professional Summary:

Christopher Carter, P.E., is a Licensed Professional Engineer and Certified Fire and Smoke Damage Technician with extensive experience in forensic engineering and property restoration. Since joining EFI Global in 2016, he has investigated complex losses involving structural failures, smoke and fire damage, weather-related events, and building envelope defects across residential, commercial, and industrial properties. Christopher leverages his Architectural Engineering background from California Polytechnic State University to deliver detailed forensic analyses, restoration plans, and scope-of-repair assessments in compliance with industry standards. In addition to his technical expertise, he has contributed to team development by training forensic technicians in smoke damage inspection. Currently based in Sacramento, CA, Christopher is licensed in multiple western and coastal states and is focused on advancing his forensic engineering practice while preparing for future leadership opportunities.

Mr. Carter's expertise includes:

- Cause and origin investigations of moisture intrusions
- Weather-related damage assessments for residential and commercial structures
- Building envelope failure and defect investigations
- Earthquake damage assessments
- Structural settlement evaluations
- Smoke damage assessments, including combustion by-product testing
- Development of restoration plans for damaged structures
- Scope-of-repair assessments for structural, fire, vehicle impact, and moisture damage
- Roof inspections and condition evaluations
- Flood damage assessments

Licenses and Certifications:

Professional Engineer:

Arizona, 80890

California, 97533

Colorado, 0064030

Florida, 99338

Georgia, PE053393

Idaho, P-23057

Louisiana, 0048764

New Mexico, 29693

Nevada, 032217

Oregon, 104772PE

Texas, 151986

Utah, 13833773-2202

Washington, 24010722

National Engineering Registration, NCEES, 16-921-19

Council-certified Fire & Smoke Damage Technician, American Council for Accredited Certification, Certificate No 1811015

Project Experience:

The sample projects here outline a small sampling of the types of projects and losses Mr. Carter regularly investigates. For further information or additional examples, please contact EFI Global.

Residential Roofs, Redding, CA Hail Damage Assessment

Conducted forensic inspections and damage assessments on numerous residential properties in the Redding area following a hailstorm in 2019, documenting the extent and nature of storm-related losses.

Residential Properties, Greater Sacramento Area, CA Foundation Damage Assessments

Performed forensic evaluations of properties across the greater Sacramento area to determine causes of foundation settlement and slab cracking, providing detailed documentation and expert analysis.

Central International Fellowship Church, Sacramento, CA Repair Plans

Developed architectural and structural repair plans for a 14,000 sqft church severely damaged by arson. Scope included restoration of walls and roof components, integration of ADA-compliant upgrades, complete redesign of the second level, and installation of custom arches within the 3,000 sqft sanctuary.

Vale Resorts, South Lake Tahoe, CA Wildfire Smoke Damage Assessment

Conducted comprehensive smoke damage assessments at Heavenly and Kirkwood Ski Resorts following the Caldor Wildfire (2021), including combustion by-product testing across all resort facilities to evaluate contamination and restoration requirements.

Centennial Peak Hospital, Louisville, CO Wildfire Smoke Damage Assessment

Conducted comprehensive smoke damage assessment at a hospital following the 2021 Marshall Wildfire, including combustion by-product testing throughout the interior to evaluate contamination and restoration requirements.

Residential and Commercial Properties, Houston, TX Hurricane Damage Assessments

Performed forensic inspections and damage assessments on multiple properties across Houston and other cities impacted by Hurricane Milton (2024), documenting storm-related structural and property losses.

Residential and Commercial Properties, Tampa, FL Hurricane Damage Assessments

Performed forensic inspections and damage assessments on multiple properties across Tampa and other cities impacted by Hurricane Helene (2024), documenting storm-related structural and property losses.

Project Experience (Continued):

Residential Properties, Berkeley, CA Earthquake Damage Assessments

Conducted forensic evaluations of residential properties across Berkeley and neighboring communities following the 2025 earthquake. Scope included structural inspections to identify the cause and origin of foundation settlement, wall and roof cracking, and determining if the observed damage was associated seismic activity.

Custom Residential Property, Littleton, CO Structural Settlement Investigation

Investigated settlement issues affecting a custom residential home constructed on a sloped site on behalf of the property's structural engineer. Scope included detailed forensic evaluation of foundation and retaining wall performance, analysis of soil conditions and site grading, review and analysis of the structural plan, and identification of contributing factors to structural movement.

Professional Experience:

EFI Global, Forensic Engineer (current title), 2018-present

Unified Investigations & Sciences, Forensic Consultant (2017-2018) (Merged with EFI Global)

Formal Education:

Bachelor of Science, Architectural Engineering, California State Polytechnic University San Luis Obispo, San Luis Obispo, CA, 2017

Specialized Education/Training:

International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI)

- Fundamentals of Residential Building Construction, 2018
- Electrical Safety, February 2018
- Digital Photography and the Fire Investigator, 2018
- Fire Investigator Scene Safety, 2018
- Ethics and the Fire Investigator, 2018
- Ethic Duties Beyond the Fire Scene, 2018
- Basic Electricity, 2018
- Fire Chemistry, 2018
- Process of Elimination, 2018

Vale Training, Advanced Roofing Certification, 2019 (tested)

OSHA: Fire Service Features of Buildings, 2020

CDC - Wildfire Guide for Public Health Officials 2020

Evaluation of Residential Indoor Air 2022

Cleaner Indoor Air During Wildfires 2022

IBEC, Waterproofing: Advancing Durability in Building Design and Protection, 2025

Structural Thermal Bridging in the Building Envelope, 2025

Wood, Steel, and Concrete Deterioration, 2025

Specialized Education/Training (Continued):

Concrete Repair Design, 2025

Lateral Design and Detailing of Critical Elements for Seismic & Wind, 2025

Laws & Rules for Florida PEs: 2023 Update, 2025

ASCE's Code of Ethics, 2025

Code Requirements for Conventionally Framed Roofs, 2025

CEA Earthquake Damage Assessment and Repair Guidelines for Residential Wood-Frame Buildings, Volume 2/Engineering Guidelines, 2025

Affiliations:

Member, American Society of Civil Engineers