

Appendix S

Biographical Profiles of Members of the Investigative Team

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Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services

Chris Shimer has been with the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services for 28 years. He is currently the Deputy Chief of the Emergency Medical Services and Training Section. Prior to his employment with Howard County, Chris worked for two years with the Cumberland Fire Department. Chris holds Associate's Degrees in Fire Protection Technology and in Nursing from the Community College of Baltimore County – Catonsville Campus. He is also a graduate of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program. Chris is licensed by the State of Maryland as an Emergency Medical Technician – Paramedic and is certified as an Emergency Services Instructor by the Maryland Instructor Certification Review Board.

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and Explosives

Donald Toll has been a Special Agent with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) since 1987. Don graduated from the University of Maryland in College Park with a degree in Government and Politics, and began his law enforcement career with the United States Secret Service as a Uniformed Officer. Don is currently assigned as the Group Supervisor of ATF's Arson and Explosives Group in Baltimore. Prior to this assignment, Don worked in ATF's Office of Training, Office of Professional Responsibility, and Special Operations Division. During his career, Don has worked in ATF Arson Groups and has investigated fatal arson fires and bombings.

Gregg Hine has been a Special Agent with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) since 1989. Gregg is an ATF Certified Fire Investigator and holds a bachelor's degree in law enforcement from George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. Prior to his employment with ATF, Gregg was a police officer and volunteer firefighter in Virginia. He is currently assigned to the ATF Arson & Explosives Group within the Baltimore Field Division. His prior assignments have included the ATF Fire Research Laboratory and ATF Arson Groups in Washington, DC and Falls Church, Virginia. Gregg has authored publications relating to fire investigation and is an instructor at the ATF National Academy. He is also a member of the ATF National Response Team (Northeast Region) and serves as the Assistant Team Leader. Over the course of his ATF career, Gregg has been involved in the investigation of several fires involving line-of-duty deaths.

Rachel Ehrlich-Ellis has been a Special Agent with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) since 1998. Rachel is an ATF Certified Explosives Specialist and holds a Master's degree from The American University in Washington, DC, and an undergraduate double-major from Ithaca College in Ithaca, New York. She is currently assigned to the ATF Arson & Explosives Group within the Baltimore Field Division, and was previously assigned to the Salt Lake City Field Office, Phoenix Field Division. Rachel has participated in hundreds of investigations pertaining to violations of Federal statutes regarding firearms, explosives and arson.

United States Fire Administration

Kenneth Kuntz joined the staff of the United States Fire Administration (USFA) in 1984 after having served for more than a decade in various capacities in a number of fire, Emergency Medical Services, and emergency management organizations. He conducts fire studies on major incidents and special topics to identify the salient “lessons learned” and to facilitate the transfer of that information to the fire service and allied groups. In this capacity he has directed and overseen the development of the USFA’s Major Fires Technical Report Series which now includes nearly 200 Incident Critiques. He also provides direct technical assistance to fire departments and State and local government officials on the development of their after action reviews as he did for the Oklahoma City Fire Department in the wake of the Murrah Building Bombing. In addition, Kenneth was appointed to serve as the only non-National Institutes of Standards and Technology staff participant on their National Construction Safety Team investigation of the Station Nightclub Fire, which was the fourth most deadly public assembly fire in our Nation’s history.

Kathleen Carter has been with the United States Fire Administration (USFA) since 1987 and currently serves as a Program Support Specialist assigned to the USFA’s Prevention and Leadership Development Section. She received an Associate’s of Arts Degree in Psychology in 2002 from Fredrick Community College. Kathleen serves as the principal program support asset for USFA’s Major Fires Investigation and Analysis: Technical Report Series initiative. She conducts a wide variety of research support and provides a broad range of technical production services necessary to ensure the accuracy and effectiveness of complex information exchange and sharing opportunities the Technical Report Series publications are intended to provide to the Nation’s fire service and allied groups. Kathleen also provides assistance to a wide variety of other USFA program activities and has been involved with the content development and production of such documents as “Firefighter Fatalities In The United States”, numerous technical reports, and other fire related publications. She has over 20 years of experience in development and documentation of fire related topics and special graphics design.