

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



Indianapolis, US | April 7th-9th 2025

Indiana Convention Center 100 S Capitol Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46225



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

RECOGNISED AND ACCREDITED QUALIFICATION

# The World's Leading Dedicated Training Course in the Management of Fire Safety in High Rise Buildings



**“ This is the best competency based fire safety management course I have attended.**

*It was an exceptional course and one I would highly recommend. Your delivery of the course content, follow-up presentation materials and supporting documents, and indeed your breadth of knowledge and experience around the management of fire safety was second to none. ”*

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## **Tall Building Fire Safety Management Course**

10 – 14th February 2025 - Face to face | London | [bookitbee.com](http://bookitbee.com)

**£2,195.00**  
+ BOOKING FEES

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## **Tall Building Fire Safety Management Course**

17 - 21st March 2025 - Face to face | Cyprus | [bookitbee.com](http://bookitbee.com)

**£2,195.00**  
+ BOOKING FEES

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## **Tall Building Fire Safety Management Course**

14 - 18th April 2025 - Face to face | Toronto

**£2,195.00**  
+ BOOKING FEES

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## **Tall Building Fire Safety Management Course**

23 - 27th June 2025 - Face to face | London

**£2,195.00**  
+ BOOKING FEES

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## **Tall Building Fire Safety Management Course**

15 - 19th September 2025 - Virtual via Teams

**£2,195.00**  
+ BOOKING FEES

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## **Tall Building Fire Safety Management Course**

6 - 10th October 2025 - Face to face | London

**£2,195.00**  
+ BOOKING FEES

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Contact Russ Timpson  
to book a place  
or an 'In-house' course:

**+44 (0) 7951 190 576**

**[russ.timpson@tallbuildingfiresafety.com](mailto:russ.timpson@tallbuildingfiresafety.com)**

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



# Content

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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



# Conference Agenda

Indianapolis, US  
Monday,  
April 7th 2025

## MONDAY APRIL 7TH 2025

DAY 1

### Chairperson: TBC

- 08:45** Delegate to be seated for conference
- 08:50** Housekeeping announcement
- 09:00** Official opening
- 09:10** Keynote 1 – Curtis Massey: 'Reflections on a career in high rise fire safety' (US)
- 09:50** Presentation 1 – Ed Claridge: 'Tall Mass Timber & Fire Safety' (NZ)
- 10:20** Presentation 2 – Chris Greene: 'The Energy Battleship'
- 10:50** Presentation 3 – Gary Dawson: 'Tall Building Emergency Planning Owner/Occupant Emergency Responsibility and Legislation Lessons Learnt' (Australia)
- 11:20** Coffee and networking
- 11:50** Presentation 4 – Christina F. Francis: 'Tesla. EV Fire safety' (US)
- 12:10** Presentation 5 – Jonas Schwering 'Preventive Fire Protection in High-Rise Buildings in Frankfurt – Collaboration between Fire Protection Planners and the Fire Department: From Concept to Realization' (Germany)
- 12:40** Question Time for Speakers
- 13:20** Break – various options for lunch are available.  
(Note: lunch refreshments are not included in delegate fee)
- 14:00** Keynote 2 – Sponsor Presentation
- 14:40** Presentation 6 – Thomas Burke: 'Role of a Fire Life Safety Director in Tall Buildings'
- 15:10** Presentation 7 – Andrew Brown: 'Regulations, Resilience and Resourcefulness – Fire Engineering Approaches for Buildings in 21st Century and Beyond. (UK)
- 15:40** Presentation 8 – Jerry Tracy: 'Developing Smoke Skills – Because Smoke Kills'
- 16:10** Day – 1 Debate with expert panel
- 17:00** Conference Day 1 ends

# Conference Agenda

Indianapolis, US  
Tuesday,  
April 8th 2025

## TUESDAY APRIL 8TH 2025

DAY 2

### Chairperson: TBC

- 08:45** Delegate to be seated for conference
- 08:50** Housekeeping announcement
- 09:00** Official opening
- 09:10** Keynote 3 – Brent Brooks: 'Search and Rescue Operations in High Rise Buildings' (US)
- 09:50** Presentation 9 – Mike Gagliano: 'Tall Building Air Management: Air Replenishment System'
- 10:20** Presentation 10 – Cristopher Collier: 'FDNY's response and deployment at high rise building fires' (US)
- 10:50** Presentation 11 - Katherine Lamb: 'Command and Control at High Rise Incidents' (UK)
- 11:50** Presentation 12 – Justin Lange: 'A science and experience based operational model, low staffing response proposal' (Chile)
- 11:20** Coffee and networking
- 12:10** Presentation 13 – Russ Timpson: 'Fire Safety Challenges of Increasing Healthcare at Home' (UK)
- 12:40** Question Time for Speakers
- 13:20** Break – various options for lunch are available.  
(Note: lunch refreshments are not included in delegate fee)
- 14:00** Keynote 4 – Sponsor Presentation
- 14:40** Presentation 14 – **CLARION Presentation**
- 15:10** Presentation 15 – Michael Schroeder: 'Case study from Willis Tower, Chicago' (US)
- 15:40** Presentation 16 – Jimmy Davis: 'First-five minutes' (US)
- 16:10** Day 2 – Debate with Expert Panel
- 17:00** Conference Day 2 closes



# Conference Agenda

Indianapolis, US  
Wednesday,  
April 9th 2025

## WEDNESDAY APRIL 9TH 2025

DAY 3

### Chairperson: TBC

- 08:45** Delegate to be seated for conference
- 08:50** Housekeeping announcement
- 09:00** Official opening
- 09:10** Keynote 5 – Jake Pauls: 'Reflections on a career in high rise fire safety' (Canada)
- 09:50** Presentation 17 – Anthony Avillo: 'Short Staff Challenges for High-Rise Firefighting'
- 10:20** Presentation 18 – Gerard Mann: TBC (Australia)
- 10:50** Presentation 19 – TBC
- 11:20** Coffee and networking
- 11:50** Presentation 20 – Olly Sapsford: 'Towards Adaptive Expertise in Tall Building Fire Risk Management' (UK) response proposal' (Chile)
- 12:10** Presentation 21 – Todd Haines: 'JPMorganChase's Global Approach to Fire & Life Safety' (US)
- 12:40** Question Time for Speakers
- 13:20** Break – various options for lunch are available.  
(Note: lunch refreshments are not included in delegate fee)
- 14:00** Keynote 6 – Sponsor Presentation
- 14:40** Presentation 22 – Jack J. Murphy: 'Adopting a "KbyG" Mentality: Hospital Complex Emergency Responses'
- 15:10** Presentation 23 – Ray O'Brocki: 'Fire Safety on High Rise Construction Sites' (US)
- 15:40** Presentation 24 – Terin Hopkins: TBC (US)
- 16:10** Presentation 25 – Michael Popham: 'Rapid Line Assisted Casualty Extrication' (UK)
- 16:40** Day 3 – Question time
- 17:00** Conference Day 3 closes – Summary: Russ Timpson





# Crisisboardroom® Kit

- the 'Go To' Kit for Crisis Events

## A Fire in **HIGH RISE BUILDING** will be a Crisis for the occupants and the managers of the building

Crisisboardroom Compact Kit (High Rise) provides the tools and guidance to respond to a High Rise Fire and other crisis events. For those tasked with managing the safety and welfare of building occupants. Portable, resilient using tried and tested tools, the Crisisboardroom Compact Kit (High Rise) is a simple way to make high rise buildings more resilient.

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

- ✓ Safety of all those affected by the fire
- ✓ Liaison with responding emergency services
- ✓ Welfare needs of evacuated residents and occupiers
- ✓ Medical support for vulnerable occupants
- ✓ Commencement of home/living continuity planning
- ✓ Logistical provision for displaced pets
- ✓ Security of property
- ✓ Liaison and communication with all stakeholders

### Crisisboardroom Compact Kit will guide you through these crisis challenges

Contact the Crisisboardroom® team to discuss how we equip your business or organisation to become more resilient:

Crisisboardroom Ltd  
Unit 10, Maple Leaf Business Park,  
Ramsgate, Kent, UK. CT12 5GD

Contact email:  
[russ.timpson@crisisboardroom.com](mailto:russ.timpson@crisisboardroom.com)  
[www.crisisboardroom.com](http://www.crisisboardroom.com)



# Speaker Profiles



## 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.

**Mobile:** +44 07951 190576

**Email:** russ.timpson@tallbuildingfiresafety.com

**Web:** www.tallbuildingfiresafety.com



## 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.



## 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.



## 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.



## 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.



## 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 in 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.





## 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.



## 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.



## CHRIS G. GREENE

### SEATTLE FIRE CAPTAIN, RET.

29+ years in the fire service. Retired in June of 2023 as a Captain and the Energy Response Team Supervising Officer for Seattle Fire Dept. I developed Seattle Fire and Seattle City Light's energy hazard response specialty team. I was responsible for

developing protocols and best practices for emergency response incidents that involved energy hazards. This Energy Response Team is the first of its kind. The team is tasked with addressing emergencies involving substations, switchgear, manholes/vaults, transformers, batteries, photovoltaic, overhead and underground electrical hazards, and DC traction mass transportation infrastructure. Additionally, I was responsible for providing all energy training and standard operating procedures for the Seattle Fire Department. In 2017 I was awarded "Seattle Fire Officer of the year" for my work with Seattle City Light in developing the Energy Hazard program. I am a perennial national speaker on energy emergencies as they apply to the National Fire Service and author for Fire Engineering magazine – "Energy Hazards Column". Through Energy Hazard Training, I provide training to both Fire Service professionals and Energy workers throughout the nation.



## THOMAS BURKE

### SENIOR DIRECTOR, CAMPUS FIRE LIFE SAFETY OPERATIONS RELATED COMPANIES

Thomas Burke is an accomplished emergency preparedness professional with extensive experience in corporate security, crisis management, and fire life safety operations.

Thomas is currently a Senior Director with Related Companies in New York City. He is responsible for the Fire Life Safety operation at two (2) commercial campus locations in Manhattan, Hudson Yards and The Deutsche Bank Center at Columbus Circle, each exceeding nine (9) million square feet of commercial, retail, entertainment, and mixed-use high-rise buildings. Prior to joining Related, Thomas oversaw the Fire Life Safety programs at both Rockefeller Center (Tishman Speyer) and Brookfield Place (Brookfield Properties).

Thomas spent twenty-four (24) years with the New York City Police Department, retiring in the rank of Lieutenant – Special Assignment. He also volunteered as firefighter and Emergency Medical Technician in Nassau County, New York.

Thomas has earned certifications from the New York City Fire Department (FDNY), the FEMA Emergency Management Institute, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, the Nassau County Fire Service Academy, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and received formal training in the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Thomas is a graduate of the FBI National Academy, 225th Session, and currently serves as the 3rd Vice President of the Fire Life Safety Directors Association of Greater New York.



## ANTHONY AVILLO

With 40 years in the fire service, retired as deputy chief of North Hudson (NJ) Regional Fire & Rescue after 30 years of service. As an urban fireground commander, Avillo commanded fire and emergency operations in the most congested cities in the United States. He is the author of Fireground Strategies,

3rd ed. (2015), upcoming 4th edition, and coauthor of Full Contact Leadership (2017). Avillo is the Region 3 Director of the IFSFI and retired Director of the Monmouth County (NJ) Fire Academy. He is a member of the Fire Engineering / FDIC Editorial Advisory Board and was the recipient of the 2012 IFSFI George D. Post Instructor of the Year Award. He has a B.S. degree in fire science and an M.S. degree in national security studies. Avillo is a level II NJ Certified Fire Instructor. Avillo also speaks around the United States on such topics as Command and Control, Leadership, Building Construction, Fireground Strategies and Tactics, and Operational Safety.



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