

# **Peter R. Leffe, BsME, MArch, AIA, NCARB**

**Architect, Mechanical Engineer with Metallurgy, Airline Transport Pilot**

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## **PROFESSIONAL SPECIALIZATION**

Accident investigation, reconstruction and failure analysis. All forms of mechanical equipment and vehicle inspection including failure analysis. Design defect analysis, structural analysis and reconstruction. Analysis of controls, redundant systems, placement, use, design and warnings. Metallurgical analysis, fatigue failure, stress corrosion cracking and stress analysis. Architectural and construction consulting including failure analysis and design reviews. Winter sports equipment failure analysis. Ski technique and skier responsibility evaluation.

Court qualified in State and Federal courts, accident investigation, reconstruction, design, failure mode; aircraft, mechanical equipment, winter sports, construction defects, slip-trip and fall, vehicle braking systems, seat belts and others. Consultation, analysis and as needed, courtroom testimony in more than 250 cases over the past 18 years.

## **EDUCATION**

Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering with Metallurgy,  
Indiana Institute of Technology, 1963-1968

Master of Architecture  
University of California, Berkeley 1973-1976

Diplomate, National Counsel of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB), 1991

Federal Aviation Administration, Airline Transport Pilot, 1995

Certificate, Aircraft Accident Investigation  
School of Engineering, University of Southern California, 1997

Federal Aviation Administration, Aviation Safety Counselor training, 2001

National Transportation Safety Board, First Responder training and certification, 2005

European Society of Air Safety Investigators course: Air Accident Investigation in the European Environment, Cranfield University, Bedfordshire, England 2008

Former Member, NASA Astronaut Candidate Pool

## **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS**

Member, American Institute of Architects (AIA)  
Member, American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)  
Member, Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE)  
Member, International Society of Air Safety Investigators (ISASI)  
Member, American College of Forensic Examiners  
Member, National Association of Professional Accident Reconstruction Specialists  
Member, International Council of Building Officials (ICBO)  
Member, International Code Council, L.A. Basin Chapter  
Member, International Society for Skiing Safety (ISSS)  
Member, Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA)  
Member, Warbirds of America Association

## **LICENSES**

Registered Professional Architect  
Federal Aviation Administration, Airline Transport Pilot  
Federal Aviation Administration, Repairman Certificate, Experimental Aircraft

## **SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS**

The American Institute of Architects  
Waid Scholarship, 1974  
The American Institute of Architects,  
Institute Scholar, 1975  
Experimental Aircraft Association  
T-18 Award, 1985

## **TEACHING**

Indiana Institute of Technology  
Teaching Assistant in Metallurgy  
University of California at Berkeley  
Teaching Fellowship in Structural Engineering  
University of California at Berkeley  
Teaching Assistant in Environmental Design  
Chief instructor and check pilot, Airpower Aviation Resources  
Siai Marchetti Aircraft Distributor, USA  
United States Navy Test Pilot School, Qualitative Evaluation Program  
Safety/Instructor Pilot  
National Test Pilot School  
Safety/Instruction Pilot

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Associate Engineer/Scientist, McDonnell Douglas Aircraft Corp., Long Beach, CA  
Design engineering services group involved in design of wing structural components DC 10 and assigned to the Acoustic Research Group involved in the noise reduction program and testing of porous media. 1968 -

Research Associate in Environmental Design, The Farallones Institute, Berkeley, CA  
Responsible for the design of geodesic and inflatable structures under a grant from the Ford Foundation and the Rosenberg Foundation. 1970 -

Product and Architectural Design, Berkeley, CA  
Responsible for Architectural products and small Architecture projects. 1973 -

Architectural Intern and Engineer, The Architectural Group, Jackson, Wyoming  
Responsible for Architectural design of residential and commercial projects.  
Provided engineering on projects and structural engineering consultation. 1976 -

Vice President, Pacific Western Psychiatric Medical Group.  
Group Architect, responsible for architectural renovation of 18 hospital units in the Southern California area, the management of physician employees, manager of intellectual property and litigation matters. 1981 -

Consulting Professional Architect and Engineer, Wyoming and California  
General practice of Architecture 1989-present

Consulting Architect  
Consultation for litigation 1994-present

Consulting Mechanical Engineer and Metallurgist  
Consultation for litigation 1994-present

Consulting Airline Transport Pilot,  
Consultation for litigation 1994-present

Professional Pilot  
Advanced aircraft instruction 1995-present  
Aircraft ferry services  
Safety pilot services

Chief Aviation Safety Counselor, Federal Aviation Administration 1999-2006  
General Aviation Operations  
Los Angeles International Airport

Federal Aviation Administration, FAAST Aviation Safety Team  
All airports, Southern California Region 2007-present

## **TELEVISED & RADIO DOCUMENTARY APPEARANCES**

Appeared on the History Channel program “Decoding the Past” for the analysis of aviation accidents in the Bermuda Triangle (Two hour special), 2006

Numerous appearances and interviews on various television news programs as an aviation accident investigation expert.

Numerous radio interviews as an aviation accident expert commenting on probable cause of various accidents.

Radio interviews in the field of Architecture at the AIA National Convention.