

***BIC Regular Meeting
of
December 13, 2023***

Agenda Item 4b



[REDACTED]

Ronnie Thomas
[REDACTED]

August 3, 2023

Sonya Harris
Secretary, Building Inspection Commission
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Ste. 500
San Francisco, CA 94103

Subject: Application for Board of Examiners - Fire Protection Engineer

Dear Sonya,

This letter serves as my official interest in applying for the seat of “Fire Protection Engineer” to serve the San Francisco Board of Examiners (BOE). I previously have attended these meetings as a interested public person, and have the utmost respect for each seat on the board. There are few opportunities such as this to actively serve the public in a direct and meaningful manner.

My interest comes from what I have learned from a previous board member, Mr. Armin Wolski. While details of the meetings were not discussed, it was his opportunity to provide the public with his services that appeals to me the most. The issues he helped with, while somewhat few and far between, shaped several projects. It is my hope to serve the public in a similar manner.

My current responsibilities to the National Fire Protection Association and California State Fire Marshall will not hinder my ability to serve the BOE. In fact, these experiences have prepared me for serving the public.

Sincerely,

Ronnie Thomas, PE
CA Lic # 1985
Associate Principal
Reax Engineering

James R. (Ronnie) Thomas, PE

Reax Engineering, Inc.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



Ronnie Thomas is an Associate Principal at Reax Engineering based in Northern California. His responsibilities span building and fire code consulting and design, smoke control design, fire science research, and forensic investigation. Ronnie’s work combines fire/building codes and related standards with technical aspects of fire science such as combustion, heat transfer, fluid dynamics, thermodynamics, fire dynamics, and fire modeling. He serves as a technical expert to NFPA, UL/ULC and California State Fire Marshall Building Code committees and regularly lectures on smoke control engineering and design at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Licensure

Licensed Professional Engineer, CA (FPE 1985), NV (PE 25226), WA (PE 22027135)

Education

MS – Fire Protection Engineering, Worcester Polytechnic Institute
BS – Fire Science, University of Maryland – University College

Professional Associations and Appointments

Member, SFPE (Society of Fire Protection Engineers)
Past President, NCN-SFPE (Northern California – Nevada Society of Fire Protection Engineers)
Member, NFPA (National Fire Protection Association)
Committee Member, NFPA 420

Publications, Presentations and Seminars

Linden, Paul; Ed Arens; Nick Daish, et. Al. (UC San Diego). 2015. *Natural Ventilation for Energy Savings in California Commercial Buildings*. California Energy Commission. Publication Number: CEC-500-2016-039.

“Barriers to implementation of natural ventilation: A fire and life safety perspective,” *Center for the Built Environment*, Berkeley, CA, October 2013.

“Advancements in smoke control modeling: a comparison of methods commonly used in smoke control applications,” *2019 SFPE Annual Conference & Expo*, Phoenix, AZ, October 2019.