



# HALLIWELL

## PETER JEFFREY

MSc, BSc, DipPubSafety, DipGenInsurance, MRACI CChem, ANZIIF (Snr Assoc) CIP

**PRINCIPAL – FORENSIC SCIENCE (AUSTRALIA)**

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### SPECIALTIES

- Forensic Fire & Explosion Investigation
- Organic and Physical Chemistry
- Fire dynamics
- Fire Debris analysis
- Forensic Factual Investigations
- Expert Opinion & Testimony

### BIOGRAPHY

Peter is an accomplished Forensic Investigator with scientific qualifications and a Police background. He has training and experience in the fields of forensic analysis, crime scene investigation and chemistry – specialising in fire and explosion investigations since 2016. He has practical experience in the forensic examination and investigation of fire and explosion scenes across Australia, ranging from domestic homes to multimillion-dollar commercial losses at factories, industrial complexes, and mines; and includes motor vehicles, machinery, and marine vessel fires.

Peter commenced his career in the Western Australia Police Force gaining valuable experience as a first responder, identifying evidence, and conducting the initial investigation of numerous incidents, including burglaries, sexual assaults, murder, and fires, including arson. He later performed duties attached to the District Forensic Investigation Office where he was mentored in the fundamentals of crime scene investigation, particularly scene processing, physical evidence identification and photography.

Peter is a licensed insurance investigator. Building upon his Police background, insurance qualifications and industry experience managing and investigating large and complex losses, specialising in technical and complex claim investigation. He facilitates the provision of expert opinion and legal review services conducted nationally and routinely provides expert opinion in the field of fire an explosion investigation and chemistry for major law firms across Australia.

Based on his tertiary qualifications and experience, Peter has been appointed as a Chartered Chemist by the Royal Australian Chemical Institute, and he is a Senior Associate of the Australia and New Zealand Institute of Insurance and Finance and a Certified Insurance Professional.

### QUALIFICATIONS

- Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Forensic Science, University of Technology Sydney (UTS)
- Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) in Chemistry, University of Western Australia (UWA)
- Diploma in Public Safety (Policing) – Dux, Western Australia Police Academy

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- Diploma in General Insurance, Australian and New Zealand Institute of Insurance and Finance
- Certificate III in Investigative Services, The Australian School of Security and Investigations

### INDUSTRY MEMBERSHIPS

- Chartered Chemist, The Royal Australian Chemical Institute
- Certified Insurance Professional, Australian and New Zealand Institute of Insurance and Finance – Senior Associate
- International Association of Arson Investigators – Member
- NSW Association of Fire Investigators – Member
- Australasian Branch, International Association of Auto Theft Investigators – Member
- Licensed Inquiry Agent / Investigator (WA)

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Halliwell Pty Limited, Principal – Forensic Science (Australia), 2022 – Current
- GKA Investigation Group, Forensic Fire Examiner, 2016 – 2022
- Western Australia Police, Police Constable, 2012 – 2015

### ACHIEVEMENTS & NOTABLE ASSIGNMENTS

- **Kwinana Port Fire | Kwinana Port, WA**

Investigation into the origin and cause of a fire involving a bulk transport and storage facility used to uplift fertilisers, sulphur and other loose bulk goods. The fire resulted in the large-scale loss of the port conveyor system and engulfed a fertiliser bulk storage shed, with total losses expected to exceed 150 million AUD.

- **Recycling Plant Explosion | Malaga, WA**

Investigation into the origin and cause of an explosion which seriously injured two operators working onsite at the time. The explosion involved the processing of waste aerosol containers resulting in a vapour explosion and significant low-order damage to the structure.

- **Nova Nickel Mine Fire | Fraser Range, WA**

Investigation into the origin and cause of a fire within a power generation plant incorporating diesel generator and supply from a Solar PV array, which resulted in the release and involvement of 10,000L of diesel and caused the complete shutdown of power supply to the mine.

- **BBC Rhonetal Cargo Ship Fire | Port Hedland, WA**

Investigation into the origin and cause of a major fire to a cargo ship. The matter involved numerous parties and litigation against international entities. The investigation was conducted under time pressure to secure the evidence prior the departure of the ship.

- **Industrial Fire | Yangebup, WA**

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Investigation into the origin and cause of a fire within large manufacturing plant, resulting in the total loss of the structure and fire spread into neighbouring buildings. The investigation involved consideration of compliance with Storage and Handling of Flammable Liquids requirements.

- **Residential Apartment Explosion | Merrylands, NSW**

Investigation into a natural gas explosion within a new build apartment block, which injured occupants. The matter involved the consideration of construction, compliance, certification under the contract works policy, as well as the actions of an attending gasfitter who was conducting fault finding activities at the time of the explosion.

- **Recycling Facility Fire (Expert Opinion) | Hemmant, Qld**

Review of the origin and cause investigation and expert evaluation of self-heating (spontaneous combustion) as a potential fire cause.

- **Apartment Fire (Expert Opinion) | Brunswick, Vic**

Expert opinion into the origin and cause of a fire at a neighbouring industrial premises, and opinion regarding means and path of fire spread into a residential apartment complex. The matter involved an evaluation of fire dynamics in consideration of building construction and materials, as well as building compliance and review of Fire Safety Engineering assessment of Performance Solutions with respect to the use of combustible cladding, lightweight construction elements and elimination of fire safety systems.

- **Rio Tinto Iron Ore Mine (Expert Opinion) | Tom Price, WA**

Expert review of an origin and cause investigation into a fire to a prime mover and iron ore road train in response to litigation. Matter involved expert opinion on origin and cause of the fire, and expert opinion with respect to materials chemistry, physical chemistry, and fire dynamics.

- **Technical Investigation into Hazardous Waste Storage | Bibra Lake, WA**

Investigation into a waste processing site involving multiple allegations of storage and handling of hazardous waste in breach of environmental regulations and insurance contract endorsements, and the investigation of the cause of a fire at the premises which resulted in a multi-million-dollar loss.

- **Technical Investigation into theft of vehicle parts | Willetton, WA**

Investigation into a reported theft of vehicle parts from a vehicle storage yard, which was involved in vehicle import, modification, certification and registration. The investigation involved the assessment of modification and certification requirements in establishing the validity of the claim and establishing actual loss.

### AWARDS

- Regional Student of the Year – Diploma of General Insurance, ANZIIF
- Commissioners Commendation regarding an incident involving a person suffering from a mental health episode. The incident was brought to a safe conclusion, with commendations for the calm and compassionate way the matter was resolved.

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- Dux Award at the Western Australia Police Academy for the graduate with the highest level of performance in all aspects of the recruit course.
- Academic Excellence Award at the Western Australia Police Academy