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Curriculum Vitae

Larry J. Tanner

Registered Professional Engineer/ State of Texas Registered Architect / States of Texas, Oklahoma & Pennsylvania Graduate Texas Tech University, 1971, Architectural Engineering

Larry Tanner has spent most of his life in the field of construction. He has worked both in the private and the public sectors in the practice of architecture, engineering and A/E forensics. He has been owner and partner of several AE firms. His A/E forensics includes defense/plaintiff consulting both as a private practitioner and for Smith & Robson Scientific Forensics, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Subjects of forensic investigations include:

- Building evaluation of structural performance,
- Building cracks due to soil settlement and water intrusion,
- Building failures resulting from wind and lightning,
- Building failures resulting from tornadoes and hurricanes, and
- Errors in architectural and structural design.

His public sector work includes teaching in the Department of Civil Engineering at Texas Tech and nine years as the Director of Facility Planning and Construction at Tech. Notable projects during his tenure as Director include the renovations to the Engineering Campus, the Chemistry Building Renovation and the Athletic Training Center.

Currently, Larry Tanner is an adjunct professor and a research associate in the Wind Science and Engineering Research Center (WISE) and manager of the WISE Debris Impact Test Facility. His fields of research include storm protection utilizing above ground in-residence shelters and building performance during extreme storms. His storm investigations and documentation include the following:

- Spencer, South Dakota tornado in 1998
- Oklahoma and Kansas 1998 tornadoes (member of FEMA MAT Team)
- Tuscaloosa, Alabama 2000 tornado
- Happy, Texas 2002 tornado
- Ohio 2002 tornadoes
- Southwest Missouri and Oklahoma City tornadoes in May, 2003
- Hurricane Ivan, Pensacola, Florida in September, 2004
- Hurricane Katrina, 2005 (member of FEMA MAT Team)
- Evansville, Indiana 2005 Tornado
- Florida Tornados, 2007
- The Dixie Outbreak Tennessee tornadoes, 2008
- Hurricane Ike, 2008 (member of FEMA MAT Team)

Learned papers include documentation of the listed storms and collaboration with FEMA in the writing of FEMA 320, "Taking Shelter from the Storm," FEMA 361, "Design and Construction Guidance for Community Shelters," and FEMA 342, "Building Performance Assessment Report of Midwest Tornadoes of May 3, 1999." Authorship of the Evansville Tornado Report, "A Focus on the Eastbrook Mobile Home Park" and co-authorship of "FEMA Publication 549, Hurricane Katrina in the Gulf Coast, Observations, recommendations, and Technical Guidance," the Central Florida Tornadoes Damage Documentation of 2007 Using the Enhanced Fujita Scale, the FEMA Mitigation Assessment Report on Hurricane Ike (scheduled to be released in April 2009).