

# Joseph R. Coplan Accident Reconstruction L.L.C.

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## *Curriculum Vitae*

**July 2007**

**NAME:** **JOSEPH R. COPLAN, ACTAR #814**  
Joseph R. Coplan Accident Reconstruction L.L.C.  
P.O. Box 47472  
852 E Paradise Lane  
Phoenix, Arizona 85068

**EDUCATION:** Associates of Arts, 1983, Phoenix College, Phoenix, AZ

**PROFESSIONAL  
COURSES AND  
SEMINARS:**

- Speaker: Conducted car crash, followed by presentation to insurance adjusters and legal professionals. Class credited by State of Wyoming and Colorado Insurance Departments and State of Colorado Supreme Court Board of Continuing Legal and Judicial Education, September 2006.
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Staged motorcycle collisions/motorcycle dynamics/injury mechanisms/helmet defect investigations, 16 hours, July, 2006
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Critical speed scuff tests and comparisons of methods/critical speed scuff analysis/human factors, and witness errors, 16 hours, March, 2006
- Collision Safety Institute: Crash Data Retrieval Technician and Analyst course, 32 hours, February, 2006
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Staged collision/crush analysis using new techniques, 16 hours, July, 2005
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Car bicycle crash/car bicycle investigations/pedestrian investigations, 16 hours, March, 2005
- Speaker: Accident Reconstruction Investigations for the Insurance Industry. Class credited by State of Wyoming and Colorado Insurance Departments, State of Colorado Supreme Court Board of Continuing Legal and Judicial Education, Denver, Colorado, October, 2005
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Commercial vehicle accident investigation/driver conditions/vehicle inspections, 16 hours, November, 2004
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Staged collision #23/criminal investigations/crash data/acceleration factors, 16 hours, July, 2004
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Collision analysis using momentum and simultaneous equations/energy, 16 hours,

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ACTAR #814

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March, 2004

- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Collision #22/Car pedestrian/using Delta v to find closing speed/pole collisions, 16 hours, July, 2003
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Commercial vehicle roll over/tire failure/manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, 16 hours, March, 2003
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Staged Collision Sequence #21/roll over crashes/drag factors/human factors, 16 hours, July, 2002
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Human Factors, Expert Testimony, Commercial Vehicle Braking, Transitional Yaw, 16 hours, March, 2002
- Speaker: Dallas, Texas: taught class to insurance adjusters on concepts of commercial vehicle accidents, Texas C.E. credits, November 2001.
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Crush analysis, black box tech, and SRS investigations, 16 hours, November, 2001
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Staged Collision Sequence #20/crush analysis/roll over collisions, 16 hours, July, 2001
- Institute of Police Technology and Management: Inspection and Investigation of Commercial Vehicle Crashes, 40 hours, October, 2000
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Staged Collision Sequence #19/aspects of Critical Speed Scuff/NATSA tests/data retrieval systems, 16 hours, July, 2000
- Speaker: San Diego, California: taught class to insurance adjusters on general concepts of accident construction, June 2000.
- Speaker: Phoenix, Arizona: taught class to insurance adjusters on general concepts of accident reconstruction; April 2000, May 2000, and May 2000
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Signal Light Timing/Low-speed Collision Investigations/The Expert Witness Car-pedestrian Collision Investigations, 16 hours, November, 1999
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Staged Collision Sequence #18/Sleep Apnea and Driving/Anti-lock Brake Systems/ Truck Collision Investigations, 16 hours, July, 1999
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Linear Momentum Facts and Myths/Crush Analysis/Commercial Vehicle Braking Efficiency, 16 hours, March, 1999
- NHSTA, Child Seat Examiner Technician Course: Course sponsored by Maricopa County Safe Kids Coalition, 40 hours, February, 1999
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Occupant Kinematics/Injury Pattern/Lamp Examinations, 16 hours, November, 1998
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Staged Collision Sequence #17/Motorcycle Dynamics/Vehicular Aerodynamics, 16 hours, July, 1998
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Vehicle

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Crush Measurements/Insurance Fraud/Biomechanics, 16 hours, March, 1998

- University of California Riverside Extension: Instruction in the use of Auto Sketch 5.0/a computer design program for drawing scale diagrams, 24 hours, February, 1998
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Roadway Design/Child Restraint Systems/The Expert Witness/Starting Your Own Business, 16 hours, November, 1997
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Staged Collision Sequence #16/Damage Analysis-Barrier Impacts/Photogrammetry/Accident Reconstruction – The Lawyers Perspective, 16 hours, July, 1997
- Institute of Police Technology and Management: Motorcycle Collisions, 40 hours, December, 1996
- Institute of Police Technology and Management: Car-Pedestrian Collision, 40 hours, July, 1996
- Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators: Staged Collision Sequence #15/Airbags and Restraint Systems/Low-speed Impacts/Motorcycle Collision Reconstruction, 16 hours, July, 1996
- Texas Engineering Extension Service Texas, The Texas A&M University System: Advanced Accident Reconstruction, 40 hours, February, 1994
- Phoenix College: Technical Accident Investigation Seminar, 8 hours, November, 1980
- Dynamic Science Incorporated, Arizona Law Enforcement Officers Advisory Council (ALEOAC): Advanced Highway Collision Investigation/Reconstruction, 120 hours, December, 1979

### **PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATIONS:**

Certified as a Crash Data System Technician and Analyst by the Collision Safety Institute, February, 2006  
Certified by AAA and NHTSA as a child seat inspection technician, March, 1999  
Certified by the Accreditation Commission for Traffic Accident Reconstruction: (ACTAR) Certification Number 814, July 1997  
Licensed private investigator: - License number 9604014, April, 1996

### **1080: Expert Witness: PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:**

Qualified as an expert witness in Maricopa County Superior Court in 1980:  
Past Member of the Board of Directors for SATAI (Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators)  
Member of NAPARS (National Association of Professional Accident Reconstruction Specialist)  
Past secretary for the Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators  
Member of the Maricopa County Coalition for Safe Kids

### **PROFESSIONAL HISTORY:**

1997 to present: ACTAR certified accident reconstructionist:  
May 1971 to May 1998: Police Officer with the City of Phoenix:  
Served in the Patrol Bureau, Traffic Bureau, K-9s, and General Investigations Bureau. From 1993 to 1998, I was assigned to the vehicular crime detail. Responsibilities included the investigation of critical injury and fatal traffic collisions. Investigated over 5000 traffic collisions, and over 200 traffic fatalities. On May 20, 1998, retired from the Police Department with 27 years of

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experience.

1980 TO 2005: Joseph R Coplan Accident Reconstruction: Professional Accident Reconstruction:

Accident reconstruction conducted privately through out the Southwest. Expert witness in Maricopa County Superior Court, Pima County Superior Court, Coconino County Superior Court, and El Paso County District Court in Colorado.

### **COURT TESTIMONY IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS:**

- State of Colorado vs. Hernandez: Clear Creek County, George Town
- Sly vs. City of Phoenix, Maricopa County Superior Court, Docket number CV 2005-010772, July 25, 2007
- State of Wyoming, Campbell County, Sixth Judicial District Court, Emerson vs. Johnson, Civil Action #25972, April 10, 2007
- State of Colorado vs. Hernandez: Clear Creek County, George Town Colorado, Colorado District Court, February 16, 2006
- State of Arizona vs. Debbie Reigel, Maricopa County J.P. Court, Docket Number unk , March 23, 2005
- Tomczak vs. Five G construction, Maricopa County Superior Court, Court Docket unknown, November 16, 2004
- State vs. Eduardo Leyva, Maricopa County Superior Court, Docket No. CR1995-004809, January 12, 2004
- Vicky Blackwell, personal representative of the estate of David R Tangen vs. Rafael Valenzuela and the State of Arizona: Maricopa County Superior Court, Case number CV 01-013943, October 14, 2003

### **COURT TESTIMONY PRIOR TO THE LAST FOUR YEARS:**

- Margo Newton vs. Maricopa County, Maricopa County Superior Court, Docket Number unk , June 4, 2001
- Farley vs. DeFelice, El Paso County, Colorado Springs, Colorado District Court, Docket Number unk , September 27, 1999
- Wilson vs. Whitton & Dial, Coconino County Superior Court, Docket Number unk , August, 1999
- Martin Kudler vs. Manuel Pinon, Maricopa County Superior Court, Docket No CV 95-01723, Month, Year Unknown.
- State vs. Stephanie Bass, Maricopa County Superior Court, Docket Number, Month, Year, Unk.
- Allen Kachinko vs. Laurel Arndt, Maricopa County Superior Court, Docket No. CV 94-19918, Monty, Year, Unk.

### **DEPOSITION TESTIMONY IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS:**

- Gonzales vs. City of Glendale, Maricopa County Superior Court, CV 2006-000927, May 14, 2007
- Slagle vs. Blanusa, Maricopa County Superior Court, CV 2003-092397, November 2, 2005
- Goksel vs. Sena, Pima County Superior Court, C20041810, October 14, 2005

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- Sanchez-Gomez vs. Daimler Chrysler Motors Corporation, Pima County Superior Court: C20042347, July 20, 2005
- Nancy Tehero vs. Maricopa County, Maricopa County Superior Court, CV 2003-016914, May 2, 2005
- Vicky Blackwell representative for the estate of David R Tangen v Rafael Valenzuela and the State of Arizona: Maricopa County Superior Court: Case number CR 01-013943, September 11, 2003
- Gonzalez v White: Maricopa County Superior Court, CV 02-008777, August 15, 2003
- David L. Casey & Ezra T. Casey v. Donald H. Vinnik & Carol Vinnik, Phoenix Arizona, Maricopa County Superior Court, Case No. CV 2000-020449, February 20, 2002

### **DEPOSITION TESTIMONY PRIOR TO THE LAST FOUR YEARS:**

- Michael Dennis Knapp v. Maricopa County, Phoenix, Arizona, Maricopa County Superior Court, Doc 2000-011675, November 26, 2001
- Mecca v Crandall, Las Vegas Nevada, Court of Jurisdiction Unknown, August 2, 2001
- Second Deposition for Barbara Ryan v Tom Gilbert, OSP Consultants Inc., Phoenix Arizona, Maricopa County Superior Court, Docket No. CV 99-18114, January 31, 2001
- Barbara Ryan v Gilbert Tom, OSP Consultants Inc., Phoenix, Arizona, Maricopa County Superior Court, Docket No. CV 99-18114, August 23, 2000
- Kirsten Royer v Scott T. Miller, Krisanne Eagleberger and Pro Source Distribution Services, Phoenix, Arizona, District Court, County of El Paso, State of Colorado Case No. 98 CV 3145, February 2, 2000
- Larry Ward v State Farm Ins., Phoenix, Arizona, Maricopa County Superior Court, April 3, 1998
- Dillard v. Starcevic, Phoenix, Arizona, Maricopa County Superior Court, Docket No CV 96-17091, January 9, 1998
- Allen Kachinko v. Laurel Arndt, Phoenix, Arizona, Maricopa County Superior Court, Docket No CV 94-19918, January 10, 1997
- Yong Yi v. Jeremy Drohan, Phoenix, Arizona, Maricopa County Superior Court, Docket No CV 98-01234, September 4, 1998  
Travis Moss v Country Mutual Insurance Co., Phoenix, Arizona, Maricopa County Superior Court, October 21, 1996
- Lucero v Eagles/Baker, Coconino County Case, Flagstaff, Arizona, Month Year, unk.
- Findlay v. Elliott, 308 North Agassiz Street, Flagstaff, Arizona 86001, 520-774-1433, Coconino County Superior, Court Docket No. CV 97-0413, Month, Year, unk.
- George Squires v. Sophia Martinez, Coconino County Superior Court, Docket No. CV 96-579, Month, Year, unk.
- Edward O'Neal v. Mary Ann Thompson, Maricopa County Superior Court, Docket No CV 96-05578, Month, Year, unk

### **ARBITRATIONS:**

- American Family Ins. adv: Landini, Yuma, Arizona, Yuma County Docket

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Number Unknown, June 19, 2006

- Sara Jennings vs. State Farm Ins., Phoenix, Arizona, Maricopa County Superior Court, Docket No. Unknown, January 8, 2001
- Tumoni Greathouse vs. Edmund Nichols, Maricopa County Superior Court, Docket No CV 96-04786, Month, Year, unk
- David Maus vs. Safeco Ins., Maricopa County Superior Court, Docket No unknown, Month, Year, unk
- Travis Moss vs. Country Mutual Insurance Co., Maricopa County Superior Court, Docket No. Unknown, Month, Year, unk
- Larry Ward vs. State Farm Ins., Phoenix, Arizona, Maricopa County Superior Court, Docket No Unknown, Month, Year, unk

### **PUBLICATIONS:**

Published in "The Investigative Engineer"

- *Motorcycle Traffic Accident Reconstruction*, March 2006 (co-authored)
- *The Automotive Event Data Recorder (EDR)* (co-authored)