

# FORENSIC WEATHER CONSULTANTS, LLC

1971 Western Avenue, #200 Albany, N.Y. 12203 Phone: (518) 862-1800

WWW.WEATHERCONSULTANTS.COM

## **Howard G. Altschule** ***Certified Consulting Meteorologist***

### **Education:**

-State University of New York at Albany; Bachelor of Science in Atmospheric Science;  
May 1995

### **Awards & Certifications:**

- **Certification: “Decision-Making Using Dual Polarization Radar”;** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration / Weather Decision Training Branch / University of Oklahoma; Norman, Oklahoma (March 2015)
  - One of the 1st non-government Meteorologists in the country to complete this 40+ hour course using Doppler radar and dual-pol technology to identify severe hail, tornadoes, wind damage and different types of wintry precipitation.
- **Certified Consulting Meteorologist (#693) – American Meteorological Society; (February 2014)**
  - The CCM designation is issued by the Society to highly qualified meteorologists providing research and services to a wide variety of users of weather information. These services extend beyond the traditional public service functions and statutory responsibilities of the National Weather Service. To earn the CCM credential, a meteorologist must make application for the designation, be recommended by three associates, pass a stringent written examination, and pass an verbal examination before a national board of examiners. The CCM designation is granted only to those who demonstrate a broad background in meteorology together with detailed knowledge in a particular field of specialization. CCMs must demonstrate exemplary qualities of character and devotion to high professional standards.
- **A.M.S. Seal of Approval; Seal # 1186 — American Meteorological Society; (2001)**
  - The “Seal of Approval” is awarded by the society to broadcast meteorologists who meet established criteria for scientific competence and effective communication skills in their weather presentations. The application is judged by a national board of examiners to assess four elements: technical competence, informational value, explanatory value, and communication skills.
- **Emmy Award for Outstanding Single Newscast; (May 1998)**
  - Provided a live broadcast & news coverage from the scene of an F3 tornado in Mechanicville, NY during the 6:00 p.m. newscast on June 1, 1998.

## **Meteorology Highlights:**

- **Forensic Weather Consultants; Albany, NY; (9/99 to Present)**
  - President, founder and Forensic Meteorologist of Forensic Weather Consultants.
  - Responsibilities include in-depth weather analysis, detailed written reports, client consultations, site surveys/visits, depositions and expert testimony.
  - Consulted as an expert on over 1600 cases for the plaintiff, defense, insurance companies, engineering firms and other public and private corporations.
  - Always admitted as an Expert in Criminal, Supreme, Circuit and Federal Courts as well as the Court of Claims.
- **Albany County Sheriff's Department; Albany, NY; (10/2014 to Present)**
  - Deputy Emergency Manager - Meteorologist. Office of Emergency Management.
- **Invited Guest Lecturer: State University of New York at Albany (2010 to Present)**
- **Invited Speaker: American Meteorological Society (AMS) Annual Meeting; Student Conference; (February 2014)**
- **Continuing Education (CE) Instructor / Speaker:**
  - Texas Association of Public Insurance Adjusters**; San Antonio, TX; October 9, 2015
  - Independent Adjusters and Umpires Association**; Miami, FL; June 12, 2015
  - Windstorm Insurance Network**; New Orleans, LA; January 2015
  - First Party Claims Conference**; Warwick, Rhode Island; October 2014
  - Traveler's Insurance**; Melville, New York; October 2014
  - Defense Research Institute**; Albany, New York; October 2014
  - Property Casualty Insurers Assoc. of America**; Chicago, Illinois; November 2013
  - Union County Bar Association**; Union, New Jersey; June 19, 2013
  - America's Claims Event**; Las Vegas, NV; June 28, 2012
  - Defense Research Institute**; Albany, New York; November 2008
- **New York State Governor's Panel on Homeowners Insurance; (10/09-Present)**
  - Sought out and contacted by Governor Patterson's Office after being recommended by the Department of Environmental Conservation; Appointed to the panel as a Consulting Meteorologist
- **WNYT-TV; NBC Affiliate; Albany, NY; (4/97 to 9/04)**
  - TV Meteorologist on-air 5 days per week presenting weather information and forecasts.
  - Live weathercasts for various NBC News Shows (The Today Show, MSNBC).
- **American Meteorological Society (AMS); Boston, MA.; (1991 to Present)**
  - Current Member in good standing
- **National Lightning Detection Network; (1990 to 1995)**
  - Assisted with various research efforts with the N.L.D.N. while at SUNY Albany.
- **N.E. New York Chapter of the American Meteorological Society (AMS); (1991-1992)**
  - President and re-organizer of the local A.M.S. chapter for the area.

- **Fleetweather/Compuweather; (4/96 to 10/97)**  
-Forensic Meteorologist responsible for gathering past weather data, analyzing weather patterns, writing reports and consulting with insurance personnel and attorneys on various cases; Many forecasting responsibilities for NY Yankees, NY Mets, various movie/TV production companies, crane and shipping companies and many other companies.
- **Sunrayce '95; (January-July 1995)**  
-Worked and travelled across the United States as the Team Forecast Meteorologist for the Clarkson University Solar Car Race Team. Gathered, Researched and analyzed weather data and provided microscale forecasts and information along the race route.

### **Publications & Media Events:**

- **Claims Magazine; (August 2011 to Present)**  
-Howard Altschule was published in the August 2011 issue of Claims Magazine, one of the largest insurance industry magazines in the country. He continues to author various articles for Claims Magazine and Property/Casualty 360 on a continuing basis. The articles discuss forensic meteorology, how forensic meteorologists can provide accurate information for a variety of different cases and various forecasts.
- **The New York Times; (August 2011)**  
-Howard Altschule was featured in an August 2011 article about Forensic Meteorology and his role in a double murder trial.
- **University at Albany Magazine; (Fall 2004)**  
-Howard Altschule and Forensic Weather Consultants was featured in the State University of New York at Albany's magazine as a weather expert for cases around the country.
- **The Westfield Leader; (October 2004)**  
-Forensic Weather Consultants and appearance on Court TV were featured in "The Westfield Leader" newspaper in Westfield, NJ.
- **Co-Author of Article in "Weatherwise" Magazine; (4/97-5/97)**  
-**"The Smell of Tornadoes"**; Howard Altschule and Dr. Bernard Vonnegut, with assistance from *Kurt Vonnegut*; Published in the April/May 1997 issue of "Weatherwise"
- **Court TV, TruTV, Fox News, Fox Business News, CNN, The Today Show, MSNBC, CTV, New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Chicago Tribune, Discover Magazine, WNBC, WNYW Fox 5 NY**

### **Emergency Management and Firematic Related Activities:**

- **State of New York; Office of Fire Prevention and Control Training; (1990 to Present)**  
-Medium Structural Collapse Operations Tools (April 2004)  
-Accident Victim Extrication Training (December 2002)  
-Colonie Village Fire Company Pump Operator Course (December 2003)  
-Firefighter Survival (April 2002)  
-Fire Attack II (June 1995)

- Confined Space Awareness (March 1995)
- New York State as a Level 1 Fire Investigator (October 1994)
- Cause and Origin Determination (June 1993)
- Fire Behavior and Arson Awareness (June 1993)
- Initial Fire Attack (June 1993)
- Incident Command (April 1993)
- Haz Mat Emergency Response - Level 1 Awareness (July 1992)
- Haz Mat Emergency Response - Level 1 Operations (July 1992)
- Essentials of Firefighting (March 1992)
- Special Supplemental Inflatable Restraint Systems (January 1992)

- **Volunteer Firefighter; (April 1990 to Present)**

- President**, Past Captain, Past Lieutenant, Volunteer Firefighter; Fire Prevention Committee.

- McKownville FD in Guilderland, New York; Past Member of Colonie Village, New York FD and Fanwood, New Jersey FD.

- **Certified N.Y.S. Fire Investigator & Firefighter; (1994-1997)**

- Certified in New York State as a Level 1 Fire Investigator

- **New York State Office of Emergency Management; (February and March 2008)**

- Successfully completed Incident Command System Basic and Intermediate Courses (100, 200, 300)

- **Town of Guilderland, New York; (1993)**

- Fire Investigator with the Cause and Origin Team

- **Union County, NJ Prosecutor's Office Arson Investigation Unit; (1994-1995)**

- Fire Investigator for the Prosecutor's Office

**Other Activities:**

- **National Kidney Foundation of Northeast New York; (April 2002 to Present)**

- Past Chairman of the Board of Directors; Past Vice Chairman; Past Chairman of Annual Kidney Walk;