

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOUR FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEERS PASS P.E. EXAM

With **National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying** posting only a 52% pass rate for first-time takers, **Koffel Associates, Inc.** is pleased to announce that our first-time takers **Mark H. Buschman, Tiffney A. Cates, Sarina L. Hart** and **Joshua W. Talley** passed their Principles and Practice of Engineering Exam in Fire Protection, thereby earning their Professional Engineer (P.E.) designation.

All graduates of the acclaimed Fire Protection Engineering Department at the University of Maryland, College Park, **Buschman** joined our firm in 2006 following graduation. He has significant experience in protection systems design and conducts fire protection engineering surveys, witnesses' fire protection systems testing, and provides general building and fire code consulting for both public and private sector clients including McGuire AFB/Fort Dix, Government Printing Office, Defense Distribution Depot, Susquehanna, PA, Department of Veteran Affairs Medical Center, and Georgetown University Hospital.

Cates gained significant public sector experience, before joining our firm in 2008, and continues to provide plan review, construction administration services, and general fire protection code consulting services for public and private sector clients including General Services Administration, United States Naval Academy, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Hilton Hanoi Opera, Hanoi, Vietnam, Norfolk Convention Hotel, and North Park Office Complex, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

Hart joined our firm in 2008, after serving 7 years in the Maryland State Fire Marshal's Office conducting fire scene investigations to determine origin and cause. She performed the related criminal investigation for any incident determined to be incendiary in nature, qualified as an expert witness and is a certified fire investigator. She now focuses on the application of government and national fire protection and life safety standards to existing and new facilities. Her work experience includes plan review, healthcare Statement-of-Conditions survey and analysis to evaluate compliance with *NFPA 101*[®], and general fire protection code consulting for clients including VA Capital Region Data Center, Martinsburg, WV, Veterans Administration Medical Centers, and Holy Cross Hospital, Silver Spring, MD.

Talley started as an intern in 2004 and upon graduation in 2006 became a fulltime employee. He has significant experience in fire protection systems design and code consulting services for both the public and private sectors including Gaylord National Hotel and Convention Center, Oxon Hill, MD, GSA Region 3 facilities, Altru Health System, Grand Forks, ND, Sibley Memorial Hospital, Washington, DC, WMATA Carmen Turner Facility, Landover, MD, and various VAMC facilities throughout the USA.

ABOUT KOFFEL ASSOCIATES

Koffel Associates is a small business, fire protection and life safety engineering design and consulting firm, recognized as an expert in the fire protection and life safety aspects of codes and standards. Headquartered in the Baltimore-Washington metropolitan area, Koffel provides consulting; engineering design & construction administration; codes & standards development; seminar development & training; product testing & evaluation / representation; and litigation support to public and private clients worldwide. Since 1986, Koffel Associates' team of industry leaders and staff—fire protection engineers; registered engineers; NICET-certified technicians; code officials; and authorized National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and International Code Council (ICC) trainers—have met the design and consulting needs of its clients.

For photo or logo graphic requests, please contact Gayle James at 410-750-2246 or gjames@koffel.com.

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