

Robson Forensic

Engineers, Architects, Scientists & Fire Investigators

MARIA BELLA, AFOIT, CPOI, LGI Sports and Recreation Expert

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2004 to **Robson Forensic, Inc.**

present *Associate*

Provide technical investigations, analysis, reports, and testimony towards the resolution of commercial and personal injury litigation involving athletic activities, sports facilities, coaching, staff training and oversight, and child supervision.

2006 to **Fournier Robson & Associates, LLC**

present *Associate*

Provide technical analysis of aquatic feature design and construction methods to determine compliance with local code and industry standard of care. Specify circulation and sanitation equipment. Evaluate operation protocol and troubleshoot system failures.

2003 to **Professional Pool Solutions, LLC**

present *Partner*

Provide aquatic consulting and training services to colleges and universities, municipalities, school districts, general contractors, and the hotel/motel industry. Investigate and document incidents resulting in injury and/or property loss. Review supervisory practices, operational protocol and maintenance procedures. Troubleshoot problems. Develop risk management strategies. Perform operational cost analyses. Provide instruction and certification for staff including lifeguards, aquatic facility operators, certified pool operators, pool technicians, and maintenance personnel.

2005 to **FUNdaMENTAL FITness, inc.**

2009 *CEO*

Train instructors in child supervision, safety, and athlete development techniques. Create age and skill appropriate dryland and water-based exercises and activities. Provide tracking and evaluation programs for instructors and participants. Supervise patrons and staff. Provide risk management inspections and address hazards.

2002 to **Main Line Commercial Pools, Inc.**

2005 *Risk Management Specialist*

Provided training, risk management, and consultation services to swimming pool operators at institutional, municipal, and public recreational facilities that ranged in size from small indoor therapy pools to multi-attraction outdoor waterparks. Services provided to clients included operational safety evaluations, recreational water analyses, and system design/installation.

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- 2001 to 2004 **Meyer Jabara Hotels**
Athletic Facilities Champion
Inspected aquatic and fitness facilities and developed systems to increase safety. Trained company engineers in athletic facility operations including equipment selection, operation, and maintenance; chemical selection, storage and handling; hazard identification, evaluation and risk management processes. Provided ongoing education in recreational water illness prevention, suction entrapment protection, and staff development.
- 1999 to 2004 **Sheraton Hotel**
Health Club Director
Developed, implemented, and oversaw operation and maintenance program for recreation areas including fitness center, swimming pool and hot tub, volleyball court and miniature golf. Specified, purchased and when necessary repaired associated equipment. Brought facility into compliance with all codes and the standard of care. Contributed to R&D of chemical feed system for high-use pools and developed ancillary chemical treatment process. Implemented advanced training for staff, including processes for crowd control and handling intoxicated patrons. Served on hotel safety committee. Served as Manager on Duty for hotel as requested.
- 1986 to 2000 **Albright Aquatic Club; Barracuda Swim Team; Dynamic Aquatics, Inc.**
USA Swimming Head Coach
Schuylkill Valley High School, Centaurus High School
Head Swim Coach
Coached all levels of competitive swimmers, from novice through elite athletes. Created systems that incorporated traditional race development, water exercise, and cross-training for athletes. Developed and oversaw weight-lifting and nutritional programs for participants. Introduced mental training skills. Selected, instructed and supervised assistant coaching staff. Worked as liaison between administration and parents' organizations. Supervised all team-related activities including marketing, fund raising, equipment purchase and maintenance, pool scheduling and operation of multiple athletic facilities. Served as editor of *North Texas Swimming News*. Organized competitions and coordinated meet administration.
- 1986 to 1990 **Saine Concepts Inc.**
Owner
Created start-up business responsible for final-clean on new and renovated commercial properties. Budgeted and bid all projects. Hired, trained, and supervised staff at multiple job sites. Purchased and maintained equipment. Expanded into general contractor duties including project development, sub-contractor scheduling and oversight, budgeting, cost-control, and risk management.

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1978 to **City of Boulder, City of Broomfield, City of Lafayette**

1990 *Pool Manager/Swim Coach/Water Safety Instructor/Lifeguard*

Responsible for all aspects of swimming pool operation. Coordinated and scheduled all pool-related activities. Hired, trained, and supervised aquatic staff. Instituted new budget and financial control procedures. Developed maintenance program for pool, enclosure, and grounds. Oversaw chemical treatment and monitoring of pool water sanitation levels. Initiated infant and toddler learn-to-swim program. Introduced adult water exercise program. Advised on all other swimming instruction from beginner through competitive swimmer. Devised child supervision program. As swim team coach, trained competitive swimmers; oversaw all team activities; recruited participants; organized swim meets; planned budgeting, fund raising, and promotional activities; instituted and provided oversight on risk management procedures.

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

American Red Cross

Administering Emergency Oxygen Instructor
Basic Water Rescue Instructor
Bloodborne Pathogens Training Instructor
CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer Instructor
Basic/Advanced First Aid Instructor
GuardStart Instructor
Lifeguard Instructor
Lifeguard Management Instructor
Safety Training for Swim Coaches Instructor
Shallow Water Attendant Instructor
Sports Safety Training Instructor

National Association of Amusement Ride Safety Officials

Certified Amusement Ride Safety Inspector

National Recreation & Park Association

Aquatic Facility Operator
Aquatic Facility Operator Instructor
Aquatic Facility Operator Instructor Trainer

National Swimming Pool Foundation

Certified Pool Operator
Certified Pool Operator Instructor

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Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
Certified Pesticide Applicator, Category 24
Pesticide Applicator Instructor, Core and Category 24

Pennsylvania Department of Health
Emergency Medical Technician

SCUBA Schools International
Certified Master Diver
Specialty training:
Deep diving
Drysuit diving
Navigation
Night and Limited Visibility
Stress & Rescue
Waves, Tides, and Currents
Wreck diving

United States Water Fitness Association
National Water Fitness Master Instructor
National Water Fitness Program Coordinator

PAST CERTIFICATIONS

Water Safety Instructor
Water Fitness Instructor Trainer

EDUCATION and TRAINING

Northeast Pool & Spa Expo, 2000, 2005, 2012
Pool Popping & Floating Liners
Certified Diving Board Installer
Keiser University
Aquatic Engineering
University of Colorado
Pre-medicine
American Red Cross
Lifeguard Instructor
Department of Transportation
Emergency Medical Technician
National Drowning Prevention Alliance Symposium 2010-2011
National Recreation and Park Association
Aquatic Facility Operator Instructor

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National Aquatics Management School
National Playground Safety Institute
National Swimming Pool Foundation
Certified Pool Operator Instructor
World Aquatic Health Conference, 2005-2008
 Aquatic Facility Design and Risk Reduction
 Aquatic Health Benefits and Therapy
 Drowning Prevention and Lifeguarding
 Recreational Water Illness and Injury Prevention
 Disinfection By-Products
 Industrial New Technology
 Juvenile Obesity: Program Creation for Successful Aquatic Intervention
 Aqua-Activity: A Pathway to Health and Function
 Recreational Water Illness Prevention—Lessons Learned
 Filtration & Circulation—Model Aquatic Health Code Recommendations & Rationale
 The Good, The Bad, & The Volatile: Can We Have Both Healthy Pools & Healthy People
 Rescue Statistics for the Waterpark Environment
 Disinfection & Water Quality—Model Aquatic Health Code Recommendations & Rationale
 Operator Training—Model Aquatic Health Code Recommendations and Rationale
 Reducing Trihalomethane and Chloramines in Pools
Amusement Industry Manufacturers & Suppliers International, 2009
 Managing Safe Behaviors in Aquatic Facilities
 Managing Critical Incidents
 Water Quality and Air Quality
 Lifeguard Consideration and Aquatic Facility Safety Concerns
 Confined Space Safety
 Pneumatics
 Advanced Hydraulics
 Developing Daily Inspection Programs
 Waterpark Attraction Inspection
 Standard Operating Procedures for Aquatics
 National Aquatic Industry Standards and Best Practices
 ASTM F-24, Standards update
 ASTM F-77-06a, Operations
Amusement Industry Manufacturers & Suppliers International/International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions, 2011
 Basic Safe Waterpark Operations
 Tips and Techniques for Inflatable Ride Inspections
 Inspections of an Aquatics Facility

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Operations Supervisory Advanced
OSHA Top 10 Violations
Human Engineering – Intro and Advanced
Structuring a Waterpark Audit
Amusement Ride Device and Inspection Program Development
Measurement Basic
Amusement Industry Best Practices, Roundtable Discussion
Dynamic Ride Forces
Managing Safe Behaviors in Operators
Document Inspections Accurately
Foam Padding & Restraints
Inspection Beyond the Steel
Legal Roundtable
Aquatics Incident Investigation
Engineering in the Amusement Industry
OSHA – Lockout, Tagout
Hot Topics and Industry Trends in Aquatics
Codes, Standards and Inflatable Product Suppliers
Does Adding Water Attractions Make Sense for Family Entertainment Centers (FEC's)?
National Association of Amusement Ride Safety Officials
Ride Safety Inspection Forum, 2007-2009; 2011
Flumes/Rafts/Wave Pools
Grounding & Bonding
Electrical & Control System Troubleshooting
Review of NEC 525
Pneumatics/Pressure Vessels
Braking Systems
Euro Bungee & Similar Device Inspections
Bungee Trampoline Devices
Inflatable Device Operation & Inspection
ASTM F-24 Updates
Safety Restraints
Components/Inspection Points
Hydraulic System Maintenance & Oil Sampling
Inspection Techniques/Incident Investigations
Safe Inflatable Operators Training Organization
Basic Inflatable Safety Operations
Advanced Inflatable Safety Operations
Pennsylvania Amusement Ride Safety Seminar, 2008-2009, 2011
Entrapment Education Seminar, Accredited Education Program provided by the Association of Pool and Spa Professionals, Penn-Jersey Chapter, 2006
Design Tips for Detention Ponds presented by GAE Engineering, 2006

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World Waterpark Resorts Leadership Development Conference, 2006-2007
International Pool & Spa Expo, 2004, 2006, 2010
 Selecting proper main drain and pump
 Diagnosing hydraulic issues
 Selecting energy-efficient equipment
Northeast Pool & Spa Expo, 2000, 2005
United States Water Fitness Association Clinic, 2004, 2006
National Recreation and Park Association Aquatic Conference, 2001, 2004, 2007
Eastern States Coaches Conference, 1995, 1997, 1999
United States Swimming Coaches Clinic, 1986-1997
American Swim Coaches Association Educational Program, 1988-1997

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Society for Testing and Materials
Association of Pool & Spa Professionals
National Association of Amusement Ride Safety Officials
National Drowning Prevention Alliance
National Recreation & Park Association
National Swimming Pool Foundation
Northeast Spa & Pool Association
Professional Pool Operators of America
United States Water Fitness Association
World Waterpark Association

PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEES

ASTM International Technical Committee
 F24 – Amusement Rides and Devices
 F24.70 – Water Related Amusement Rides and Devices
Association of Pool and Spa Professionals/International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials
 APSP/IAPMO-17 Safety Vacuum Release Systems, Automatic Pump Shut-Off Systems, and Vacuum Limiting Systems for Swimming Pools, Spas, Wading Pools, Hot Tubs, and Catch Pools
Association of Pool and Spa Professionals
 ANSI/APSP-7 Suction Entrapment Avoidance in Swimming Pools, Wading Pools, Spas, Hot Tubs and Catch Basins
 Technical Committee

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Centers for Disease Control
Model Aquatic Health Code Risk Management/Safety Technical Committee

National Drowning Prevention Alliance
Policy & Codes Committee Chairperson

National Recreation and Park Association
Subject Matter Expert – AFO Job Analysis and Item Writing Group
Aquatic Facility Operator Training—Curriculum Committee

Professional Pool Operators of America
Executive Board Member

United States Water Fitness Association
Editor – Instructor Training Manual, *Understanding the Mature Participant*

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

International Pool Spa Patio Expo & Conference, Selling Safety: Safer Pools/Spas =
More Pools/Spas, Las Vegas, NV 2011

National Drowning Prevention Alliance, How New Barrier Codes Can Help You
Effect Change, Colorado Springs, CO 2011

National Drowning Prevention Alliance, Pool & Spa Safety Technician Pilot
Training, Phoenix, AZ 2011

Hospitality Law Conference, Managing Risk in Pools, Spas, and Workout Facilities,
Houston, TX 2011

Workers Injury Law & Advocacy Group, Annual Conference, Aquatics Exposure,
Aventura, FL 2010

Parks and Carnival Education Seminar, Water Quality for Waterparks, Lancaster, PA,
2008 & 2009

National Recreation Facilities Institute, National Aquatic Institute. Aquatic Facility
Operator training. NIRSA (National Intramural-Recreation Sports Association)
Annual Conference, Baltimore, MD. October, 2009

National Association of Amusement Ride Safety Officials, Recreational Water
Quality & Disease Transmission Prevention, 2009 National Conference, Pigeon
Forge, TN

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Building Codes for Aquatic Facilities. Lorman Education Services, Cherry Hill, NJ.
2009; Scranton, PA. 2008

Parks and Carnival Education Seminar, Water Quality for Waterparks, Altoona, PA,
2008

Sioux Falls Parks & Recreation Organization, Lifeguard Awareness Workshop, Sioux
Falls, SD, 2008

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Pesticide Applicator Training, Wilkes-
Barre, PA, 2008; Wyomissing, PA 2007-2009

National Recreation and Park Association, Aquatic Facility Operator Training,
Ashburn, VA, 2005-2010

National Swimming Pool Foundation, Certified Pool Operator Training, Reading, PA
2005-2009

The American Association for Justice, Water Hazards at Resort Waterparks, Chicago,
IL, 2007

National Aquatic Conference, Aquatic Facility Operator Instructor Training, Atlanta,
GA, 2007

Athletic Business Conference and Expo, Aquatic Facility Operator Training, Orlando,
FL, 2004

SPORTS AND RECREATION EXPERIENCE

- As Subject Matter Expert for the National Recreation & Park Association, developed Aquatic Facility Operator Job Analysis & Certification Exam.
- Served on design and evaluation committees tasked with new construction and renovation of buildings and grounds used for sports and recreation activities.
- Served on oversight committees during new construction and renovation of buildings and grounds used for sports and recreation activities.
- Pre-inspected, bid, organized and managed crews, provided safety training and oversight, and performed final inspection on post-renovation and construction of commercial facilities.
- Developed, initiated, and monitored dynamic programmatic content for sports and recreation activities.

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- Inspected sports and recreation facilities for safety, including proper equipment selection, equipment placement and operation, equipment and facility maintenance, warning signage selection and placement.
- Designed facility specific warning signage.
- Developed and implemented Emergency Evacuation procedures for sports and recreation facilities.
- Directed various event planning, patron safety, and staff management teams.
- Actively participated in planning, operations, and oversight committees for recreation, athletic, and non-athletic events.
- Inspected facilities and made safety recommendations.
- Inspected fitness equipment. Removed dangerous equipment from service until repair or replacement could be completed.
- Specified equipment to be purchased for facilities.
- Established guidelines and enforced compliance with proper fitness facility layout to provide for safe traffic flow and unobstructed use of equipment.
- Identified and eliminated hazardous conditions in recreation and non-recreation facilities.
- Recruited, hired, fired, and trained employees.

RISK MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

- Inspected facilities and resolved or removed hazards.
- Reviewed and revised safety procedures used at conferences, recreation, and sporting events. Trained and provided oversight and evaluation of employees who were implementing safety procedures.
- Developed Emergency Response training programs for large group functions. Trained and evaluated employees in proper application of Emergency Response procedures and protocol.
- Trained and evaluated employees in Emergency Evacuation procedures and protocol.
- Created documentation program for tracking employee training and development, facility safety and sanitation, and equipment inspections and maintenance.
- Worked with Health Departments, Departments of Agriculture, and Fire Marshalls to develop and implement proper chemical storage, use, handling and disposal procedures.
- Led teams responsible for event planning, patron safety, and staff management.
- Trained Advanced First Aid personnel in emergency response and triage procedures.

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- Provided employee and patron training in proper and safe use of fitness equipment.
- Trained waterpark resort operators in specialized field of aquatic operation and hospitality guest satisfaction standards.
- Trained operators of aquatic facilities in traditional venues.
- Instructed private pool owners on proper safety procedures.
- Repaired and maintained mechanical operating systems.
- Replaced, repaired, and maintained chemical operating systems.

COACHING EXPERIENCE

- Created, implemented, and evaluated cross-training programs for competitive athletes.
- Constructed and evaluated nutritional programs for competitive athletes.
- Taught strength training programs to recreational and competitive athletes.
- Provided Personal Training instruction and fitness and technique evaluations for recreational and competitive athletes.
- Designed and instructed self-defense classes for women and children.
- Created motivation and tracking programs for participants in sports and recreation activities.
- Professionally coached competitive sports.
- Trained professional coaches of recreational and competitive athletes.
- Played on numerous teams and engaged in various sports competitions and recreational activities on land and in water.

CHILD SUPERVISION EXPERIENCE

- Developed, implemented, and evaluated supervision programs for children at daycare centers.
- Instructed daycare staff in child safety measures including oversight of indoor and outdoor recreational activities.
- Created, taught, and evaluated age and skill appropriate activity programs for children.
- Devised and taught programs used to enhance awareness, creativity, and self-esteem in children and young adults.

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- Originated and instructed mentoring program for parents of children involved in recreational and competitive activities.
- Planned, organized, and ran recreational and competitive sporting events for children.

DIVER TRAINING EXPERIENCE

- Performed all responsibilities as Head Coach of high school swimming and diving teams, and USA swimming teams.
- Instructed participants on proper entry into pool from deck level, starting blocks, diving boards, and elevated platforms.
- Taught proper body position during dives and steering technique designed to prevent injury when entering water head first.
- Developed and coordinated physical and mental/psychological training.
- Tracked, evaluated and augmented athlete progression.
- Interfaced with state and local authorities and boards of directors to ensure proper training in a safe environment.

WATER QUALITY and DISEASE TRANSMISSION PREVENTION EXPERIENCE

- Performed all related responsibilities as instructor of Aquatic Facility Operator, Certified Pool Operator, and Pesticide Applicator Training programs.
- Taught courses to commercial swimming pool operators at municipalities, universities, colleges, public and private schools, YMCAs, hotel/motel and condominium/apartment complexes.
- Instructed private pool owners on proper operating procedures.
- Taught proper sanitation methods, water testing and balance, chemical treatment options, and proper dosing procedures to prevent disease transmission.
- Provided troubleshooting of water quality and mechanical problems.
- Taught plant operations, safety and risk management procedures.
- Resolved indoor air quality problems.
- Instructed pool operators on automation, system design considerations, and alternative sources of disinfection.

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- Developed disease prevention programs for swimming pools, changing rooms and first aid stations.
- Interfaced with city officials, state/local authorities, and various boards of directors on water quality issues and facility safety.

EXPERT NOT RETAINED