

**PROFESSIONAL RESUME OF ROBERT J. SOPKA, PH.D.**

**I. General Information**

**Compendium:**

**Senior Technical Consultant**

Experienced physicist specializing in mechanics and meteorology. As a former professor of physics with over thirty year's experience, has a thorough knowledge of, and experience with, Newtonian mechanics and classical physics as applied to analysis of motion, collisions, impact, energy transfer, force, and load. Experienced in vehicle accident reconstruction techniques and application of physical principles to vehicle collision analysis. As a practicing Meteorologist, possesses extensive experience in the analysis and presentation of meteorological data and weather case histories, as well as forecasting. Particularly skilled at the presentation and communication of technical information to non-technical audiences. Over fifteen years experience in the television broadcast industry.

Dr. Sopka has provided expert testimony in a court of law.

**II. Professional Summary**

**Education:**

**Doctor of Philosophy**

Astronomy/Astrophysics  
University of Maryland  
College Park, Maryland  
May 1987

**Master of Science**

Atmospheric Science  
Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, Colorado  
May 1969

**Bachelor of Science**

Physics  
The Johns Hopkins University  
Baltimore, Maryland  
May 1967

## **Experience:**

Consultant, Forensic Meteorology, Vehicle Collision Analysis, 1995 - present.

Senior Physicist & Meteorologist, FTI/Consulting, Annapolis, Maryland, 1997-present

Professor and Chairman; Physics, Astronomy, Earth Science, Meteorology, Engineering, Community College of Baltimore County – Catonsville Campus, 1969 – 2002

Broadcast Meteorologist, CBS/Viacom WJZ-TV Channel 13, Baltimore, Maryland, 1985 - 2002

Broadcast Meteorologist, Nationwide Broadcasting WPOC-FM Radio, Baltimore, Maryland 1993 - 1996

Staff Astronomer, University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), Los Angeles, California, 1986

### *Teaching Activities*

Physics, Mechanics, Meteorology, Earth Science, Engineering as Professor at Community College of Baltimore County – Catonsville Campus, Catonsville, Maryland, 1969-present

Lecturer, Baltimore County Police Traffic Division Training Team

### *Recent Professional Education Activities*

Northwestern University Traffic Institute, "Traffic Accident Reconstruction", Evanston, Illinois, October, 1998

SAE Professional Development Seminar, "Vehicle Accident Reconstruction," Detroit, Michigan, February, 1997

## **III. Professional Honors**

Maryland Society of Professional Engineers Lifetime Achievement Award for Engineering Education, May 1998

National Science Foundation Fellowship, Colorado State University, College of Engineering, 1970-1971

Sigma Xi National Science Research Honor Society

American Meteorological Society Television Broadcast Seal of Approval

Various Teaching Awards.

## **IV. Professional Societies**

National Association of Professional Accident Reconstruction Specialists

Society of Automotive Engineers

American Meteorological Society (Local Chapter Chairman, 1975-78)

American Astronomical Society

American Association of Physics Teachers

Astronomical Society of the Pacific