



UAA College of Engineering  
UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE



UAA Professional Development Seminar Series

## **Collapse of Building 7 (a 47 – story steel building)**

Presented by: Dr. J. Leroy Hulsey, PE, SE  
Professor Emeritus,  
UAF Structural Engineering

**ABSTRACT:** Building 7 (WTC7) was part of the World Trade Center complex that collapsed on September 11, 2001. Please note, it is argued that the Twin towers were each struck by a plane and collapsed that morning. Building 7 however was not struck by a plane and it collapsed around 5:20 pm, that afternoon, so why did it fall down?

The University of Alaska Fairbanks was funded to study the collapse of building 7. NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology) wrote a report in which it was argued that the building collapsed because of fire. My work does not agree with that finding. UAF research results are based on science and it is clear that fire was not the cause of this collapse. Further, there has never been a Highrise steel building that failed because of fire.

It is important that the engineering profession understands the cause of this failure so that this type of failure can be prevented in the future and that our codes are current and sufficiently adequate. Additionally, I am now discussing with fire fighters that were there that day the fires that were in the building. So why did this building fall down?

**BIO:** Dr. Hulsey has a PhD from University of Missouri-Rolla (MS&T). His expertise is in the area of mathematical simulations for structural interaction of complicated structures. Dr Hulsey is both a Structural and a Forensic Engineer. This background is extremely important to understanding structural failures.

Dr. Hulseley's current activities are primarily related to moving forward with significant improvements in rapid construction and improved performance of new residential and commercial buildings.

Friday, January 20, 2023

11:45 am - 12:45 pm

Online Via [YouTube Live](#)