LORI SCHAEFFER PINGLE

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PROFILE SUMMARY

I am a distinguished graduate of the University of Illinois, holding a Bachelor of Science in Leisure Studies. My journey spans over three decades, currently culminating in my role as owner of both ZipZone Outdoor Adventures, LLC—a dynamic Columbus-based enterprise celebrated for its innovative zip line canopy tour and adventure park, and Skybound Consulting — a consulting and expert witness company.

Throughout my career, I have consistently embodied excellence in various leadership capacities demonstrating not only versatility but an unwavering commitment to industry standards. As a seasoned entrepreneur, I adeptly helmed two companies who were both accredited Professional Vendor Members of the Association of Challenge Course Technology (ACCT), as well as ZipZone Outdoor Adventures which is an ACCT Accredited Operation.

Get a Grip Adventures, LLC was founded in 2004, and as an owner, I not only designed intricate training programs but coordinated seamless operations across all facets of the business. Here, I orchestrated the design and implementation of comprehensive training curricula, solidifying my reputation as a leader in the adventure programming domain.

My expertise, ranging from project management to staff supervision and operational consulting, was finely honed during my role as Project Director at Experiential Resources, Inc. in Maui, Hawaii. During this time, I played an instrumental role in the construction and operation of zip line tours, crafting comprehensive training manuals, and providing invaluable guidance during many ongoing projects.

With a high commitment to contributing to industry associations, I have been serving on ACCT committees and panels since 2011 in various roles actively contributing my expertise to maintain and elevate industry standards. My leadership footprint extends to the Ohio Zip Line Association, where I currently preside as the esteemed President of the Board.

I stand as a highly qualified expert witness in matters of adventure programming, risk management, and program operations with a robust educational background, extensive work experience, and an unparalleled track record of success.

CORE QUALIFICATIONS

- Exceptional communication skills, both written and verbal, demonstrated through the ability to convey complex information to diverse audiences, including judges, and other legal professionals. Proven success in providing credible and persuasive information.
- Extensive skill set in operational leadership and strategic management, efficiently steering and overseeing adventure recreation businesses, ensuring seamless operations and delivering exceptional customer experiences.
- Experienced in preparing comprehensive reports, and expert opinions to support legal arguments. A track record of providing expert witness services in numerous legal proceedings, showcasing the ability to articulate complex technical concepts in a clear and compelling manner.
- Possess strong analytical skills, enabling the identification and evaluation of critical information and data.
- Proficient in conducting thorough risk management evaluations and providing strategic consultation, with expertise that ensures a proactive approach to identifying and mitigating potential risks within diverse professional contexts.
- Capable of staying abreast of the latest developments in the field to provide up-to-date and relevant industry standards and expert opinions.
- Commitment to upholding the highest ethical standards in the expert witness role, maintaining impartiality and objectivity. Adheres to professional codes of conduct and legal guidelines to ensure the integrity of the expert witness process.
- Ability to withstand rigorous cross-examination while maintaining credibility and composure.

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KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

- Business Development
- Adventure Programming
- Operations Management
- Safety Protocols
- Expert Statements
- Operational Consulting
- Association Involvement
- Stakeholder Relations
- Program Revamping
- Staff Training
- Team Building
- Workshop Facilitation
- Risk Management
- Event Coordination
- Site Consulting
- Incident Analysis
- Defense Consulting
- Plaintiff Consulting
- Team Management
- Educational Leadership
- Curriculum Design

EXPERIENCE

Owner and Principal Consultant **Oct 2023 - Present**

Skybound Consulting, LLC | (Secondary Position)

- Develop and implement innovative operational strategies, aligning with clients' goals and industry best practices to drive growth and enhance overall performance.
- Provide superior expert witness services including depositions, expert reports, and consultation.

Owner **Aug 2010 - Present**

ZipZone Outdoor Adventures, LLC – Columbus, OH

- Spearheading strategic business development initiatives, resulting in revenue growth over the last five years.
- Innovating and implementing cutting-edge adventure programs, ensuring customer satisfaction and repeat business.
- Cultivating strong partnerships with local businesses and community organizations, enhancing the company's brand visibility.

Founding Partner – Director of Training **Mar 2018 - Mar 2021**

Adventure Development Team – Marshall, VA

- Established and led a dynamic training program, elevating team performance and cohesion.
- Pioneered the development of unique adventure experiences, garnering industry recognition.
- Implemented comprehensive safety protocols, resulting in zero major incidents during the entire tenure.

Owner **Aug 2004 – Mar 2018**

Get a Grip Adventures, LLC – Columbus, OH

- Orchestrated the successful launch of the company, achieving profitability within the first year of operation.
- Developed and executed marketing strategies that increased customer engagement, leading to growth in client base.
- Fostered strategic partnerships and collaborations with key stakeholders, including clients, vendors, and industry experts, to expand service offerings and ensure comprehensive solutions.

Project Director **Jan 2008 - Jan 2010**

Experiential Resources, Inc. – Maui, HI

- Directed and coordinated multi-million-dollar projects, ensuring timely completion and adherence to budget constraints.
- Implemented innovative project management methodologies, resulting in an increase in overall project efficiency.
- Established and maintained relationships with key stakeholders, facilitating successful project collaborations.

Adventure Education Supervisor **May 2005 - Dec 2007**

Columbus Recreation and Parks Department – Columbus, OH

- Revamped the Adventure Education program, leading to a 50% increase in program participation.
- Developed and executed staff training programs, enhancing team competency and professionalism.
- Established community outreach initiatives, fostering partnerships that increased program accessibility for underserved populations.

Associate Director, Camp Coordinator, Facilitator and Trainer **Summers 1997 - 2002 and Apr 2003 - May 2005**

Adventure Education Center (AEC) – Columbus, OH

- Coordinated successful summer camp programs, consistently exceeding participant satisfaction benchmarks.
- Facilitated team-building workshops for diverse groups, tailoring activities to meet specific objectives.
- Conducted comprehensive staff training programs, ensuring the highest standards of safety and program delivery.

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EXPERT WITNESS WORK

Penland v. Presbytery of Eastern Virginia **Apr 2014**

- Provided defense consulting in Lanexa, VA, including a site visit and expert statement for a case involving a Camp and Conference Center. Involved a participant injury on a zip line.

Girl Scout Camp Conowingo **Dec 2014**

- Offered defense consulting in Conowingo, MD. Involved an injury during training while learning to belay.

Maguerza v. Arkansas Zipline Adventures **Sep 2015**

- Collaborated with another expert on plaintiff consulting work in Idaho Springs, CO. Involved an injury due to an impact at the end of the zip line.

Aguon v. Pitshop **Nov 2015**

- Conducted defense consulting in Guam involving a skin infection after participating in a zip line activity.

Paulette Clee v. Wildwood Rush **Jun 2017**

- Engaged in defense consulting, expert statement, and deposition in Boyne City, MI. Case involved an injury at the landing of a zip line.

Amber Bunting v. Philadelphia Rock Gym Inc. **Apr 2020**

- Provided defense consulting, and expert statement in Philadelphia, PA. Involved an injury at the landing of a zip line.

Lita Solis-Cohen v. Jonathan and Peggy Ambler, et al. **May 2021**

- Offered plaintiff consulting and expert statement in Philadelphia, PA. Involved a collision of a zip line rider and a bystander on the ground.

Teresa Kings v. Grafton Zipline Adventures **Apr 2022**

- Contributed defense consulting expertise for a case in Grafton, IL. Involved an injury due to an impact at the end of a zip line.

Thomas Sitler v. Outdoor Venture Group LLC, et al. **Jun 2022**

- Provided plaintiff consulting in Long Island, NY. Involved an injury while riding a zip line.

Rudy De Back v. Greenbrier Outfitters, Inc. dba Broadmoor Adventures **Dec 2024**

- Provided plaintiff consulting expertise for a case in Colorado Springs, CO involving an injury due to impact at the end of a zip line.

Clamp v. Big Air Anderson, et al. **Dec 2024**

- Provided plaintiff consulting, expert report, and deposition for a case in Anderson, SC. Involved an injury at the termination of the zip line.

Terrance Hairston v. Crossnore Communities for Children **Mar 2026**

- Provided plaintiff consulting and a site visit for a case in Crossnore, NC. Involved an injury during a lowering on an adventure park.

Mitchell v. Lake Travis Zipline, LLC et al. **Aug 2026**

- Contributed defense consulting expertise for a case in Volente, TX. Involved an injury due to an impact at the end of a zip line.

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois – Urbana-Champaign, Illinois | **Fall 1998 - Dec 2002**

Bachelor of Science in Leisure Studies - Concentration in Recreation Management

- Graduated with High Honors
- Dean's List Fall 1999-Fall 2001

University of Wollongong – Wollongong, New South Wales, Australia | **Spring 2001**

Studied Australian culture and history

ASSOCIATION AFFILIATIONS

- Member of ACCT International | Aug 2001 - Present
- ACCT Accredited Operations Group | Oct 2023 - Present
- ACCT Technical Information, Research, and Education Committee | Feb 2023 - Present
- Ohio Zip Line Association – Board Member and President | Jan 2012 - Present
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- ACCT Vendor Accreditation Panel | Feb 2020 – February 2024
- ACCT Program Accreditation Task Group | Dec 2017 - Jun 2018
- ACCT Leadership and Nomination Committee | Nov 2017 - Nov 2018
- Ohio Advisory Board on Amusement Ride Safety - Zip Line Subcommittee member | Nov 2012 – Aug 2014
- Hawaii Zip Line Association | Nov 2011 – Nov 2021
- ASTM F24 subcommittee on Zip Lines | Feb 2011 – Oct 2021
- ACCT Canopy/Zip Line Tour Committee | Jan 2011 - Jan 2015
- ACCT Membership Committee | Jan 2009 - Jan 2011
- United States Parachute Association | Sep 2004 - Jun 2012
- American Canoe Association Instructor (ACA) | Mar 2004 – Mar 2007
- Alpha Epsilon Phi Sorority | Sep 1998 – Dec 2002

CERTIFICATIONS

- Adventure Park Monitor | June 2018 – Present
- Zip Line Guide | June 2008 – Present
- Adventure Recreation Trainer | April 2002 – Present
- Open Water SCUBA Diver | May 1997 - Present
- Certified Operational Reviewer – ACCT | Feb 2020 – January 2023
- Petzl Personal Protection Equipment Inspector | Jan 2016 – Jan 2019
- USPA Skydiver - D License | Sep 2004 – August 2010
- ACA Canoe and Kayaking Instructor | Mar 2004 – Mar 2009
- High Ropes, Zip Line and Challenge Course Facilitator | Aug 1998 – Jan 2009
- First Aid, Lifeguard, and CPR for the Professional Rescuer | Jun 1998 - Dec 2014

PUBLICATIONS

- "Guiding New Guides" Adventure Park Insider | Spring 2023
- "Hip, Hip, Hooray for Us! – Tactics and tips to elevate team morale to new heights and reduce staff turnover" Adventure Park Insider | Summer 2022
- "Ask the Experts" Adventure Park Insider | Mar 2016

PRESENTATIONS

- Is this a Standard? – Operations. Workshop presented at the ACCT International Conference, Oklahoma City, OK | Feb 2026
- Is this a Standard? – Design, Performance, Inspection. Workshop presented at the ACCT International Conference, Oklahoma City, OK | Feb 2026
- Is this a Standard? – Operations. Workshop presented at the Association for Challenge Course Technology Conference, Cleveland, OH | Feb 2025
- Is this a Standard? – Design, Performance, Inspection. Workshop presented at the Association for Challenge Course Technology Conference, Cleveland, OH | Feb 2025
- Hybrid Training – Lessons Learned. Workshop presented at the Association for Challenge Course Technology Conference, Oklahoma City, OK | Feb 2024
- Is this a Standard? – Operations. Workshop presented at the Association for Challenge Course Technology Conference, Oklahoma City, OK | Feb 2024
- Is this a Standard? – Design, Performance, Inspection. Workshop presented at the Association for Challenge Course Technology Conference, Oklahoma City, OK | Feb 2024
- Hybrid Training – Lessons Learned. Workshop presented at the Association for Challenge Course Technology Conference, Portland, OR | Feb 2023
- Career Pathways for the Challenge Course Pro. Panel member, presented at the Association for Challenge Course Technology Conference, Cleveland, OH | Feb 2022
- Got Papers? Documentation for Adventure Programs. Workshop presented at the Association for Challenge Course Technology Conference, Denver, CO | Feb 2019
- Insider Information for Potential Operators. Workshop presented at the Association for Challenge Course Technology Conference, Savannah, GA | Feb 2012

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- Are you ready? Developing and Planning your emergency action plan. Workshop presented at the Association for Challenge Course Technology Conference, Las Vegas, NV | Feb 2013
- Review of the ACCT Zip Line Standards. Panel member, presented at the Association for Challenge Course Technology Conference, Las Vegas, NV | Feb 2013
- Preview of the Standards: Operations for Zip Lines. Panel member, presented at the Association for Challenge Course Technology Conference, Boston, MA | Feb 2012
- Preview of the Standards: Design and Installation for Zip Lines. Panel member, presented at the Association for Challenge Course Technology Conference, Boston, MA | Feb 2012
- Are you ready? Developing and Planning your emergency action plan. Workshop presented at the Association for Challenge Course Technology Conference, Minneapolis, MN | Feb 2011

TESTIMONY

- Paulette Clee v On Belay Partners, LLC, d/b/a Wildwood Rush,
  Case No. 17-090525-NO, State of Michigan in the Circuit Court for the County of Charlevoix.
  Nature of Case – Personal injury/Gross Negligence
  Expert for the Defense, Deposition.
- Clamp v. Big Air Anderson, et al.
  Case No. 2024-CP-04-00734, State of South Carolina in the Court of Common Pleas County of Anderson
  Nature of Case – Personal injury/Gross Negligence
  Expert for the Plaintiff, Deposition.

REFERENCES

Available upon request

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