37th Annual
ARSON INVESTIGATORS SEMINAR
November 17th & 18th 2022

Agenda

07:30 – 08:00
Registration

08:00 – 10:00
Caitlyn E. Head, Forensic Scientist
Sara C. Bonner, Forensic Scientist
Analytical Forensic Analysis
Fire Evidence: Collection, Preservation and Analysis

10:00 – 12:00
James Rotolo
Grant Thornton, LLP
Joseph Stephenson
Intertel Inc.
Utilizing the Internet & Social Media as an Investigative Tool

12:00 – 1:00 LUNCH

1:00 – 5:00
Zach McCune
Rolfes Henry Co., LPA
Cincinnati Area Arson Case Study

5:30 – 7:30
Social Hour Reception

8:00 – 12:00
Jeffrey Fisher
Robert Howarth
Envista Forensics
Advanced Fire Scene Documentation and Reconstruction
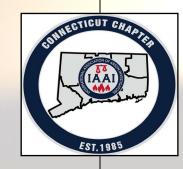
12:00 – 1:00
LUNCH

1:00 – 4:00
Sydney Kern, IAAI FIT
Ellington Fire Marshal's Office
Requisite Knowledge: Enhancing your Fire Science Foundations within NFPA 1033

Who should attend?

Those concerned with fire investigation, site, evidence identification - evaluation and fire scene reconstruction will find this seminar of particular benefit. Fire/Arson Investigators, Police Officers, Counselors Prosecuting or Litigating Fires, Insurance -Special Investigation Unit Personnel, Claims Professionals and Claims Legal Personnel.

Speakers

Sara C. Bonner -Forensic Scientist at Analytical Forensic Associates, where her work involves the chemical analysis of ignitable liquids in fire debris, reporting of the results, protecting the evidence and testifying as to the results of those analyses. She routinely conducts additional chemical analyses of fire evidence including the recovery and identification of fatty acid methyl esters (FAME) in cases involving self-heating. Additional responsibilities include validating the authenticity of evidence, evaluating and substantiating evidence custody issues, maintaining instrument and laboratory facilities, calibration and quality control. Sara holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology. She developed and manages the day-to-day operation of the evidence tracking operation at Analytical Forensic Associates. She is the Deputy Quality and Technical Manager and assists in the development, implementation and compliance to the requirement of the international quality standard ISO/IEC 17025:2017 for laboratory accreditation in the area of fire debris analysis. Sara is a Member of the International Association of Arson Investigators, the GFIA, the CCAI, the MFIA, the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and the Southern Association of Forensic Scientists and has lectured on the collection, preservation and laboratory analysis of fire evidence. She continues the tradition of providing world-class service to the fire investigation community they have come to expect from Analytical Forensic Associates.

Jeff Fisher- is a Nationally Certified Fire & Explosion Investigator and is currently a Senior Lead Consultant with Envista Forensics. Mr. Fisher has over 37 years of combined experience in the Fire Investigation and Law Enforcement to include approximately 10 years' experience as a Detective for the City of Waterbury, CT. Mr. Fisher's last 22 years of employment has been dedicated to Fire and Explosion Investigations. For the last 17 years, Mr. Fisher has continuously worked in the private sector as a Professional Fire and Explosion Investigator with over 1200 investigations completed to date. Mr. Fisher currently manages the 3-D Laser Scan / Imagery platform powered by Matterport for Envista Forensics. and was also the recipient of the 2005 CTIAAI Investigator of the Year Award.

Caitlyn E. Head- Forensic Scientist at Analytical Forensic Associates, where her work involves the preparation and analysis of fire evidence for the presence of ignitable liquids and vegetable oils. In addition to these duties, she is trained in validating the authenticity of evidence, evaluating and substantiating evidence custody issues, operation, calibration and maintenance of a variety of analytical lab instruments and quality control. As the daughter of a firefighter/fire investigator, her interest in fire science and forensics began at an early age. Caitlyn graduated from the University of New Haven with a Bachelor of Science in Forensic Science with a minor in Chemistry. She has developed and manages the wear and fuel analysis program for Analytical Forensic Associates. Caitlyn is a Member of the International Association of Arson Investigators, the GFIA and CCAI, the MFIA, the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, the Southern Association of Forensic Scientist and the American Board of Criminalistics. In 2019, she challenged and passed the American Board of Criminalistics Fire Debris Analysis exam to become a certified Fire Debris Analyst.

Sydney Kern, Sydney Kern is an Adjunct Professor for the University of New Haven where she teaches Fire Chemistry and Fire Dynamics for the Master of Fire and Explosion Investigation program. Her educational background includes a bachelor's degree in chemistry and molecular biology from UConn and a master's of fire/arson investigation from the University of New Haven. In addition to teaching, Sydney is a Deputy Fire Marshal for the Town of Ellington and an active member of Willington Fire Department #1, as well as guest lecturer for fire chemistry in the FDNY Fire Marshal Training Program. In addition, Ms. Kern is a certified IAAI-FIT and NAFI-CFEI.

This seminar is approved for 15 hours of instruction towards the Connecticut Fire Marshal Certification – Continuing Education Units

Speakers

Zach McCune is attorney and Partner in Rolfes Henry's Cincinnati office. His practice primarily involves counseling and representing insurance companies of all sizes in fire science litigation, complex fraud and coverage investigations, and bad faith litigation. Zach's extensive fire science experience includes fire and explosion causation investigations, prosecution and defense of Daubert expert witness challenges, catastrophic burn litigation, and complex arson investigations. Zach's claim and coverage investigation experience includes taking hundreds of Examinations Under Oath and depositions for claims involving fire, theft, water, wind, suspected fraud, organized crime, and ring activity throughout the country. Zach serves as a lead firm and industry source for implementing technological and forensic advancements into fraud and coverage investigations, with a particular focus on computer and cellular telephone technology. Zach is one of a limited number of attorneys nationwide to receive a Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator designation from the National Association of Fire Investigators.

Joe Stephenson is the Director of Digital Intelligence for INTERTEL, Inc. and an internationally recognized expert in the field of Social Media and Open Source Intelligence (OSINT). With over 30 years' of investigative experience in both the private and public sectors, Joe spearheads the development of innovative products for fraud detection and analytics, particularly those that draw from Social Media, Deep Web, and IoT data. You are encouraged to connect with Joe via LinkedIn, and as always, never hesitate to reach out to him with questions you may have.

James Ruotolo is a Senior Manager in the Fraud & Financial Crimes practice at Grant Thornton LLP. James has 20+ years of antifraud experience, previously holding senior leadership roles in a financial services investigation unit and running the fraud and security intelligence product division for an industry-leading analytics software company. James holds a Master's degree in Fraud Management and serves on the board of directors for the non-profit Identity Theft Resource Center. He is the co-inventor of two patented fraud detection models, a Certified Fraud Examiner, and a frequent author and speaker on fraud risk management and technology.

Robert Howarth joined Envista Forensics in September 2019 as a Senior Consultant based out of Baltimore, Maryland. Mr. Howarth began his emergency services career in 1990 retiring as a Battalion Chief in 2019. For more than 6 years, Mr. Howarth served as the commander of the Fire & Explosives Investigation Unit within the Fire Department. Mr. Howarth has investigated more than 1000 fires, in both the public and private sectors, providing origin & cause investigations following complex commercial, industrial, vehicle, and residential fires. Mr. Howarth is a Certified Fire Investigator (IAAI-CFI), Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator (NAFI-CFEI) and Certified Vehicle Fire Investigator (NAFI-CVFI). He earned a Bachelor of Science in Fire, Arson and Explosion Investigation from Eastern Kentucky University.

Express Registration by Credit Card Encouraged at: IAAI-CT.org

Limited to 250 Paid Registrants. All Others Will Be Wait Listed

Paid Registration Deadline is October 21, 2022

Presentation Descriptions -*Day 1*

Fire Evidence: Collection, Preservation and Analysis - The presentation will focus on how to recognize physical evidence for collection at the fire scene for submission o the laboratory for forensic analysis to determine the presence of ignitable liquid residues as well as fatty acids (vegetable oils and fats), including the selection of productive sampling areas, the collection of comparison samples and liquids and the use of proper sampling containers to protect the evidence. Additionally, the presentation will include directives on the proper way to label and photo-document fire evidence as well as the analytical processes that happen in the laboratory.

Utilizing the Internet & Social Media as an Investigative Tool - Searching online for open source intelligence (OSINT) has become a true art nowadays, and time consuming. Things are running great and then suddenly, you can't find what you want anymore. You are tired of looking at a million plus Google results, and you aren't sure what platform you should be searching anyway. This class is intended to help you navigate through the online research process by reviewing some of the best techniques and fastest ways to uncover information online. Take a journey where you will learn about emerging social media platforms, ephemeral videos, hashtags, and emojis. We will review helpful websites and search techniques on some of the most popular social media platforms, showing you how to increase your efficiency while online.

Cincinnati Area Arson Case Study - The presentation focuses on a unique arson fire in the Cincinnati area where an unprecedented level of spoofing and masking technologies were used by an insured to frame the mother of his child, such that she would be thrown in jail for 20+ years and he would escape town with an approximate $500,000 insurance recovery. The prestation touches upon new technologies available to fraudsters, including custom made, wearable masks from facial recognition technology, the use of SpoofCard and spoofing-type programs to conceal communications and frame others for communications they never participated in, the use of fake Google and Facebook profiles to commit crimes and communicate undetected with co-conspirators – and how to identify and discover these materials in arson investigations. From a broader perspective, the program address the following topics: forced entry analysis as relates to bump keys and forensic locksmiths; surveillance and facial recognition technology; use of NICB resources to obtain evidence related to insurance claims and other fires; identification of faked communications used to perpetrate arsons, including as to "burner phones", spoofing communications, VOIP communications, and fake social media profiles; alibi analysis via cell phone tower data analysis; non-financial motive analysis; coupling fire debris sift analysis with forensic accounting analysis; contents fraud and living expense fraud; fake masks; fake wigs; video forensics and enhancement experts; cell phone forensics, including use of Cellebrite reports and availability of cloud-based evidence; and cooperation between insurance companies and public sector agencies in relation to arson investigations.

Presentation Descriptions -*Day 2*

Advanced Fire Scene Documentation and Reconstruction - This course is designed to assist the field investigator who works in changing conditions with basic equipment. Topics include basic photography, the exposure triangle, lighting, and defines the different shooting modes. Basic elements of forensic photography and the best practices for capturing digital images will be discussed during this session. Practical skills, using the attendee's own camera, will be practiced along with low light and alternative lighting techniques. Photographic documentation of evidence will also be discussed. Also provided during this course will be a discussion and demonstration of Advanced Fire Scene Documentation Techniques utilizing available technology to include 3-D Laser Scanning powered by Matterport. A live demonstration of this equipment accompanied by a model review and navigational instructions will be provided.

Requisite Knowledge: Enhancing your Fire Science Foundations within NFPA 1033 - Since the inception of NFPA 1033, requisite knowledge topics for fire investigators accrued to comprise the "sweet 16" as listed in the 2014 edition. The newest 2022 edition takes a different approach and shifts to four key categories of fire science, fire investigation, fire scene safety and building systems with specific breakdowns of important topics in each category. This presentation will provide a greater foundational understanding of the fire science topic for the fire investigator. Key elements will include chemical reactions of fire, introductory thermodynamics, fuel properties influencing ignition and an overview of explosion concepts.

37 Years Proudly Supporting

Connecticut's Fire Investigators

Price includes Breaks, Lunch for both days & Social Hour reception on November 17th.

Registration Form

Please Print Legibly or Complete on Computer and Print:

Name_____

Title _____

Organization _____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Phone_____

Email_____

Payment Must Be Received with this Form to be Registered

Invoice Payment Options:

Member	$300	☐
Member-CT Fair Plan Stipend	$ 50	☐
Non-Member	$350	☐
Non-Member-CT Fair Plan Stipend	$100	☐
Add Upcoming 2023 Dues	$ 25	☐
Back Dues Owed	$ 25	☐

TOTAL $_____

Pull Over Size Requested (Men's/Women's + Size):_____

I plan on attending the Thursday Social Hour: Yes ☐   No ☐

I require a Gluten Free Meal: Yes ☐   No ☐

Federal Tax ID: 22-3007527

No Single Day Registrations / No Refunds

Please mail completed Registration Form with your check made payable to CT-IAAI to:

**CT Chapter IAAI
PO BOX 3094
Vernon, CT 06066**

CUT HERE

Registration deadline is October 21, 2022

Registration limited to the first 250 PAID attendees

To become a member, simply go to our website at iaai-ct.org within the "Membership" Tab. Follow the instructions for either applying online and paying by credit card, or by mailing your application and check

CT Fair Plan Application No Longer Required. Simply Check it on the Registration to use it

Online Registration is also available via credit card at IAAI-CT.org

Registrations without Payment will not be accepted

Hotel Information:
Sheraton Hartford South Hotel
100 Capital Boulevard
Rocky Hill, CT 06067
860.257.6000
(Exit 23 off Interstate 91)
Reference the CT-IAAI in order to receive the quoted rate of $102.00 (+15% tax)/night.

Reservations must be made by 11:59 PM on October 28, 2022.