

ARSON & FIRE INVESTIGATOR TEXAS IAAI • TEEEX



SEMINAR TOPICS

- NFPA 921 / NFPA 1033 / NFPA 1321
- The investigators role in the Complex Fire Investigation
- Dynamics for the Fire Investigation
- IAAI Health & Safety
- Investigation beyond Origin & Causes
- Challenges to expert Qualifications Methodology & Opinions
- Electric Vehicles
- Advanced Fire Fatality Scene

68TH ANNUAL SEMINAR
MARCH 27-31, 2023

EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON HOTEL &
CONFERENCE CENTER
1001 E McCARTY LN | SAN MARCOS, TX



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Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service
Emergency Services Training Institute

P.O. Box 40006 | College Station, Texas 77842-4006
866-878-8900 | Fax 979-847-9304 | esti@teex.tamu.edu

SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 26

2:00 PM-5:00 PM Registration and and Badge Pick-Up at the San Marcos Embassy Suites Hotel and Conference Center

Monday, March 27

7:00 AM-8:00 AM Registration and Badge Pick Up
8:00 AM-12:00 PM Opening Ceremonies; NFPA 921 / NFPA 1033 / NFPA 1321
1:00 PM-5:00 PM *The Investigators Role in the Complex Fire Investigation*
5:00 PM **Association of Arson Investigators**
(Annual Business Meeting)

Tuesday, March 28

8:00 AM-12:00 PM *Dynamics for the Fire Investigator*
1:30 PM *IAAI Health and Safety*
5:00 PM **Texas Fire Marshals' Association**
(Annual Business Meeting)

Wednesday, March 29

8:00 AM-12:00 NOON *Investigating Beyond Origin and Causes*
1:00 PM **Luncheon & Awards Banquet**

Thursday, March 30

8:00 AM-12:00 PM *Challenges to Expert Qualifications Methodology and Opinions*
1:00 PM-5:00 PM *Electric Vehicles*

Friday, March 31

8:00 AM-12:00 PM *Advanced Fire Fatality Scene*
12:00 PM Conference Concludes



Texas Fire Marshal's Association

Tuesday, March 28

5:00 PM

Immediately following the last session



Texas Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators

Monday, March 27

5:00 PM

Immediately following the last session

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BANQUET TICKETS

The Annual Banquet is scheduled for 1:00 PM on Wednesday, March 28. During the banquet, the Texas Chapter of the IAAI will present annual awards for outstanding accomplishments in arson prevention. Spouses and guests are cordially invited. Additional banquet tickets may be purchased for \$35 each at registration Sunday or Monday morning.

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS (CEU)

CEU credits are eligible from the Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP), The Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE), and the Texas Department of Insurance for insurance investigators. Continuing education credit for insurance adjusters will be requested from the state board of insurance for the entire week.

TO RECEIVE YOUR CERTIFICATE

If you have not set up a Student Portal Account, you will need to go to: my.teex.org/teexportal and create your account. There will be assistance at the Seminar to help you set up your account. You will be able to print your certificate **after April 15, 2022.**

SPEAKER BIOS

BARRY M. GRIMM

Detective 1st Class (Retired)

Detective Grimm served as a police officer in a large municipality in Monmouth County NJ for over 30 years prior to retiring in 2008. Most of that time was spent (25+ years) in the Major Crimes Unit as a Detective. Major Crimes providing Forensics as well as fire/arson IV and all death investigations.

In the late 80's Barry began instructing at NFA providing instruction both on and off campus in the Arson Curriculum concentrating on Interview Interrogation courtroom, Fire/Arson and Forensic Evidence (being chosen to teach the first offerings in the country)

Barry continues to teach at NFA in the most current Fire Arson curriculum and in June 2022 will teach the new residential 6-day Courtroom/Report writing course and the monthly Fire Arson Course R772. These courses partner with ATF and IAAI.

Barry is a past President of the NJ IAAI and served as President of the International from 2019 to 2020, now serving on the International T&E Committee, he has taught in forty plus states in the US.

Barry is a US Army veteran.

DARREN SOLOMON

Senior Special Agent

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

Darren Solomon is a Senior Special Agent (SSA) with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) based in Charlotte, North Carolina. SSA Solomon has worked for the ATF for over 20 years.

Since 2014, he has served as a Certified Fire Investigator (CFI), certified by both ATF and the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI).

He is also a member of ATF's National Response Team and has been designated as Lead CFI on multiple responses. Prior to joining ATF, he worked as a police officer with the Charlotte/Mecklenburg Police Department, serving as an Arson Detective assigned to the Fire Investigation Task Force.

SSA Solomon currently represents ATF on the National Fire Protection Association 1321 - Standard for Fire Investigations Unit and serves as 1st Vice President for the IAAI- North Carolina Chapter. During his career, he has had the privilege to teach at numerous conferences, the National Fire Academy, the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, and the International Law Enforcement Academy in El Salvador.

SSA Solomon is a graduate of the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and received his Master's degree from Oklahoma State University.

DAVID E. BRIDGES, ESQ.,

IAAI-CFI, IAAI-CI

Technically Trained Attorney

Meagher+Geer, P.L.L.P.

David E. Bridges is a technically trained attorney in Meagher + Geer, P.L.L.P.'s Catastrophic Loss Practice Group, operating out of the Dallas-Ft. Worth, Texas Metroplex.

His practice focuses on complex civil litigation, including fires, explosions, structural failures, fire protection system failures, product failures, and other catastrophic losses and construction-related incidents across the United States.

His assignments include forensic investigations of first-property and other catastrophic losses, including fires and explosions involving industrial, commercial, and residential facilities, agricultural and commercial equipment, passenger and commercial motor vehicles, including tractors, trailers, and semi-trucks, motor coaches, and passenger buses, and marine vessels.

David brings the science and law together to investigate those incidents and provide representation from the outset of the incident through trial. David also represents and consults with private and public sector fire and explosion origin and cause investigators, forensic engineers, and other specialists around the country who are faced with Daubert- or Frye-related challenges to their qualifications, methodology, and opinions.

He is an International Association of Arson Investigators Certified Fire Investigator ("IAAI-CFI®") and Certified Instructor ("IAAI-CI®"). Prior to law school, David performed fire and explosion investigations in conjunction with his work as a special agent, certified fire investigator, and accelerant detection K-9 handler with the North Carolina Department of Justice ("NCDJ") / State Bureau of Investigation ("NCSBI").

He currently serves on the IAAI-Board of Directors and is Co-Chair of the IAAI's Training & Education ("T&E") Committee. David also serves as an adjunct instructor for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, & Explosives' ("ATF") and National Fire Academy's ("NFA") fire and explosion training programs. Outside the office, David enjoys spending time with his wife, Amy, and daughters, Rowyn and Rylee.

SPEAKER BIOS

IAN TEDDER

*Police Captain
King (NC) Police Department*

Ian Tedder is a police captain with the King (NC) Police Department. Ian has worked in the public safety field for over 24 years, with experience as a criminal investigator and fire investigator. He has served as a criminal investigator with the North Carolina Department of Insurance – Criminal Investigations Division, a captain with the Wilmington (NC) Fire Department, and a police detective/investigator with various agencies. He has also served as a Special Investigator with Sentry Insurance. Ian has a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice and Criminology from Mount Olive College and a Master of Justice Administration degree from Methodist University, and is a graduate of the West Point Leadership Program. He also holds numerous different certifications in the subject of fire investigations and criminal investigations. Ian is a past president of the North Carolina Insurance Crime Information Exchange and is currently serving as the President of the North Carolina Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators.

JEFF PAULEY

*Post-Fire Scene Health and Safety Expert
Retired Police Officer*

Jeff Pauley is a post-fire scene health and safety expert who spent over twelve years as a public and private fire investigator after serving as a police officer for 23 years. He has been on the IAAI's Health & Safety Committee since its inception and has been the chairman since 2018. He also represents the IAAI on the Oversight and Planning Board of the US Fire Fighter Cancer Cohort Study's Fire Investigator Expansion Study and has been a technical advisor for several large-scale post-fire research projects. Jeff holds numerous Virginia and North Carolina fire service certifications and is an IAAI certified fire investigator and certified instructor. He is also an adjunct instructor for the Virginia Fire Marshal Academy.

Jeff has been researching, writing about, and presenting on fire investigator health and safety since 2013. He has presented globally to thousands of fire investigators and others and has over thirty published articles on this important subject. He has an associate degree in law enforcement, a bachelor's degree in management studies, a graduate certificate in public administration, and a master's degree in occupational safety and health.

**JOHN E. BULL, CIFI, IAAI-CFI,
IAAI-FIT, SCLA**

*Master Special Investigator
North Carolina Farm Bureau Insurance*

Mr. Bull currently serves as a Master Investigator with North Carolina Farm Bureau Insurance.

He has over 26 years of combined Law Enforcement, Fire Service and Private Sector investigative experience. Mr. Bull currently holds three International Certifications directly related to the investigation of internal/external Insurance Fraud, Financial Crimes, Fire and Explosions. He is a Certified Insurance Fraud Investigator (CIFI) through the International Association of Special Investigation Units (IASIU), Certified Fire Investigator (CFI) through the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI), Fire Investigation Technician (FIT) through the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI) and a Senior Claims Law Associate (SCLA). Mr. Bull has investigated over 700 residential and commercial fire scenes that have involved arson investigations, explosions, product liability, personal injury, and numerous fatalities. He has investigated over 300 fires involving automobiles, agricultural and construction equipment. To date, Mr. Bull's investigative initiative led to the prosecution of the largest organized staged accident ring ever identified in the State of North Carolina. Mr. Bull has also been directly involved in numerous investigations related to organized crime, money laundering, identity theft and Specially Designated Nationals as identified through the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC).

In 2003 and 2019, he was awarded the North Carolina Insurance Crime and Information Exchange Investigator of the Year award. In 2016, he was awarded the Farm Bureau Financial Services National Investigator of the Year. Mr. Bull is currently a member of the National Association of Fire Investigators (NAFI), as well as the International Association of Arson Investigators, International and North Carolina State Chapter. He currently serves on the Training and Education Committee for the North Carolina Chapter.

SPEAKER BIOS

JOSEPH S. HERZBERG

*Fire Investigator
Atlantic Professional Services*

Mr. Herzberg started out his career as firefighter within Bordentown Township in 1989. During his career, he held many titles, including Fire Lieutenant, Fire Marshall and finally finishing his 24-year career as the Fire Captain and senior career fire officer within the district, overseeing 3 shifts operating a squad and ladder company, before retiring in 2012 due to an injury sustained during a structure fire.

Since 2014, he has worked within the private sector as a fire investigator in New Jersey, currently working for Atlantic Professional Services where he specializes in transportation related fires, dealing with everything from passenger vehicles to heavy trucks and construction equipment.

To date, he has investigated over 1000 vehicles. Along with fire investigations, Joe also instructs for the NJ Chapter of IAAI, the NJ State Department of Criminal Justice, along the IAAI where he is a current Board of Director member and Co-Chair's the site Selection committee.

TRACE LAWLESS

*Certified Fire Investigator
Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company*

Trace works out of Cincinnati, Ohio, and joined Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company in 2014. Trace Lawless began his career in the public sector in 1980.

He now has more than 41 years of experience in the fields of fire service, law enforcement, and fire and explosion investigations.

Trace is a graduate of the National Fire Academy, as well as the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, in the areas of fire origin and cause determination and investigations.

Additionally, he has attended fire investigation courses around the United States, including Federal agencies, in the following areas: origin and cause investigation, evidence collection and preservation, explosive devices, post-blast investigations, motor vehicle fire investigation, ATF accelerant detection canine and courtroom testimony.

Trace is a Certified Fire Investigator and Evidence Collection Technician with the International Association of Arson Investigators, a Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator and Certified Vehicle Fire Investigator with the National Association of Fire Investigators.

Trace currently holds the position of Second (2nd) Vice

President and Training and Education Chairman with the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI) and is Past President of Ohio Chapter IAAI.

JEFFEY J. WASHINGER, SR., C.F.I.

*Senior Consulting Fire Investigator
Investigative & Loss Control*

Mr. Washinger began his career in 1971 with the Shippensburg, PA Fire Department. In 1977, he completed all course requirements at Rowan Technical Institute in Salisbury, N.C. and graduated Cum Laude with an Associate Degree in Fire Protection Engineering. After returning to Shippensburg following graduation, he continued his Fire Department Career with the Southampton Township Fire Dept., serving as Lieutenant, Asst. Fire Chief; Deputy Fire Chief and in 1986, retired as Fire Chief of the Department. In 1978, he joined the Pennsylvania Dept. of Community Affairs as a Fire Dept. Consultant to the 2400 Career and Volunteer Departments in the State Certified as a State Fire Service Instructor, he became noted for his expertise in the fields of Rescue, Fire Dept. Management and Fire Investigations. He became a founding partner of I.L.C. in 1988 and has served as Lead Investigator on many large loss fire occurrences throughout the United States.

RANDY WATSON, IAAI-CFI, IAAI-CI, CFEI, CFII, CVFI, F-IAFI

*Director, Technical Training and Senior Fire Investigator
SEA, Ltd.*

Mr. Watson is the Director, Technical Training and Senior Fire Investigator with SEA, Ltd.

He obtained his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of South Carolina. Randy has over 45 years' experience investigating fires and explosions incidents for the fire service, law enforcement, and private sector.

Mr. Watson hold certifications as a Certified Fire Investigator, Certified Instructor, Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator, and Certified Vehicle Fire Investigator.

He has served on the NFPA 921 Committee since 1993, serving as Chairman from 2008 to 2020. Randy also serves on the NFPA 1033 Committee and is the first Chairman of the NFPA 1321 Committee on Fire Investigation Units.

He is currently the President of International Association of Arson Investigators.