



FIRE INVESTIGATOR NFPA 1033, 2022

4.2.1 Secure Fire Scene / Use of marking devices
Standard Area: Scene Examination

JPR: FEI -01
 Revised: 12/14/23

Candidate: _____

Date: _____

Student#: _____

STANDARD: 4.2.1, 4.3.2, 4.4.2 NFPA 1033, 2022 Edition	TASK: The investigator candidate shall use marking devices to secure the scene to prevent unauthorized entry				
PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The investigator candidate shall secure the fire ground, given marking devices, sufficient personnel and special tools and equipment, so that unauthorized persons can recognize the perimeters of the investigative scene and are kept from restricted areas and all evidence or potential evidence is protected from damage or destruction.					
CONDITIONS: Given a fire scene, the investigator candidate shall demonstrate the ability to:					
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: fire scene perimeter tape, camera, evidence markers, notebook, pen,					
NO.	TASK STEPS	FIRST TEST		RETEST	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1.	State visible hazards within perimeter				
2.	Identify the scene perimeter (verbally or physically)				
3.	Use fire scene tape to secure the perimeter				
4.	Keep unauthorized personnel out of the scene				
5.	Photograph exterior scene i.e. buildings and surroundings				
6.	Identify evidence and potential evidence				
7.	Preserve Evidence				

Supervisor/Evaluator/Comments: _____

Supervisor/Evaluator (Print & Sign) **Date** **Candidate** **Date**

Re-Test Supervisor/Evaluator **Date** **Re-Test Candidate** **Date**



FIRE INVESTIGATOR NFPA 1033, 2022

4.2.2 Conduct an exterior survey
Standard Area: Scene Examination

JPR: FEI -02
Revised: 12/14/23

Candidate: _____

Date: _____

Student#: _____

STANDARD: 4.2.2, 4.2.9, 4.3.2, 4.4.2 NFPA 1033, 2022 Edition	TASK: The investigator candidate shall conduct an exterior survey of the fire scene				
PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The investigator candidate shall conduct an exterior survey, given standard equipment and tools, so that evidence is preserved, fire damage is interpreted, hazards are identified to avoid injuries, accessibility to the property is determined, all potential means of ingress and egress are discovered.					
CONDITIONS: Given a fire scene, the investigator candidate shall demonstrate the ability to:					
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: note book, camera with flash, pen, PPE					
No.	TASK STEPS	FIRST TEST		RETEST	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1.	Interview Officer in charge				
2.	Interview 1 st person on scene				
3.	Interview 1 st firefighter(s)				
4.	Determine if there were obstructions to firefighter(s)				
5.	Observe location and assess status of utilities oil, electric, gas				
6.	Observe location and assess status of any hazardous materials present on exterior				
7.	Do a perimeter survey of the scene				
8.	Observe and record any evidence present				
9.	Photograph exterior of scene a. damage and effects of fire				
10.	Preserve any evidence present				
11.	Assess and record structural fire damage & exterior fire patterns				
12.	Document windows and doors for pry marks, presence of glass (inside/outside), color of glass				
13.	Observe structure for signs of explosion				
14.	Record entry / exit points				
15.	Record weather conditions at the time of the fire				

Supervisor/Evaluator (Print & Sign)

Date

Candidate

Date

Re-Test Supervisor/Evaluator

Date

Re-Test Candidate

Date



FIRE INVESTIGATOR

NFPA 1033, 2022

4.2.3 Conduct an interior survey
Standard Area: Scene Examination

JPR: FEI -03
 Revised: 12/14/23

Candidate: _____

Date: _____

Student#: _____

STANDARD: 4.2.3, 4.2.5, 4.2.8, 4.2.9, 4.3.1, 4.3.2, 4.4.2 NFPA 1033, 2022 Edition	TASK: Investigator candidate shall assess the structural conditions, observe the damage and effects of the fire, discover the impact of fire suppression efforts on fire flow and heat propagation, and evaluate protected areas to determine the presence and / or absence of contents
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PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The investigator candidate shall conduct an interior survey, given standard equipment and tools, so that areas of potential evidentiary value requiring further examination are identified and preserved, the evidentiary value of the contents is determined, weather conditions at the time of the fire are analyzed which may have had an impact on fuel moisture and hazards are identified in order to avoid injuries.

CONDITIONS: Given a fire scene, the investigator candidate shall demonstrate the ability to:

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: note book, camera with flash, pen, flashlight, PPE

NO.	TASK STEPS	FIRST TEST		RETEST	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1.	Interview the first firefighter(s)				
2.	Determine the nature of the fire upon firefighters arrival (smouldering, post flashover)				
3.	Determine the presence of fire warning and / or suppression systems(s) and determines their operating condition				
4.	Determine the means of fire suppression a. Impact on fire flow and heat propagation				
5.	Determine the location of fire(s)				
6.	Identify hazards within the structure				
7.	Document contents or lack of: personal effects, business records furniture, pets				
8.	Document burn pattern(s) charring, "V", "U", Trailer, Spalled Concrete, Donut				
9.	Identify Point of Origin and / or multiple origins				
10.	Analyze information to eliminate possible causes, Electrical, Incendiary, Spontaneous combustion, Solid fuel, Chemical Reaction				
11.	Identify and record the presence of incendiary devices if present and also documents the location of any ignitable liquids				
12.	Observe structure for signs of explosion				
13.	Identify and preserves evidence				
14.	Photograph the scene				
15.	Record weather conditions at the time of the fire				

Supervisor/Evaluator (Print & Sign)	Date	Candidate	Date
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Re-Test Supervisor/Evaluator	Date	Re-Test Candidate	Date
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FIRE INVESTIGATOR NFPA 1033, 2022

4.2.4 Interpret Burn Patterns
Standard Area: Scene Examination

JPR: FEI -04
Revised: 12/14/23

Candidate: _____

Date: _____

Student#: _____

STANDARD: 4.2.2, 4.2.3, 4.2.4, 4.2.5, 4.2.7 NFPA 1033, 2022 Edition	TASK: The investigator candidate shall interpret and describe variations of fire patterns on different materials with consideration given to fire dynamics, heat release rate, form, and ignitability; distinguish impact of different types of fuel loads, evaluate fuel trails; and analyze and synthesize information.				
PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The investigator candidate shall interpret burn patterns, given standard equipment and tools and some structural or content remains, so that each individual pattern is evaluated with respect to the burning characteristics of the material involved.					
CONDITIONS: Given a fire scene, the investigator candidate shall demonstrate the ability to:					
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: note book, camera, pen, graph paper, tape measure, ruler, caliper, PPE, flashlight					
No.	TASK STEPS	FIRST TEST		RETEST	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1.	Identify, describe and document char and depth of char				
2.	Identify, describe and document glass discoloration (if applicable)				
3.	Identify, describe and document “V” patterns (if applicable)				
4.	Identify, describe and document line of demarcation				
5.	Identify, describe and document spalling of concrete (if applicable)				
6.	Identify, describe and document trailer (if applicable)				
7.	Identify, describe and document direction of fire spread				
8.	Identify, describe and document a donut pattern (if applicable)				
9.	Identify, describe and document a inverted cone pattern (if applicable)				
10.	Identify, describe and document a columnar pattern (if applicable)				
11.	Identify, describe and document a “U” pattern (if applicable)				
12.	Identify, describe and document calcination (if applicable)				

Supervisor/Evaluator (Print & Sign)

Date

Candidate

Re-Test Supervisor/Evaluator

Date

Re-Test Candidate

Date



FIRE INVESTIGATOR NFPA 1033, 2022

4.2.5 Correlate Burn Patterns
Standard Area: Scene Examination

JPR: FEI -05
Revised: 12/15/23

Candidate: _____

Date: _____

Student#: _____

STANDARD: 4.2.5, 4.2.6, 4.2.7, 4.3.2, 4.4.2 NFPA 1033, 2022 Edition	TASK: The investigator candidate shall employ search techniques that further the discovery of fire cause evidence and ignition sources, use search techniques that incorporates documentation, collection and preservation of evidence				
PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: Correlate fire patterns, given standard equipment and tools, and some structural and content remains, so that fire development is determined, method and effects of suppression are evaluated, false origin area patterns are recognized, and all areas of origin are correctly identified.					
CONDITIONS: Given a fire scene, the investigator candidate shall using appropriate equipment and tools, while wearing appropriate PPE shall demonstrate the ability to:					
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: notebook, pen, graph paper, camera, evidence markers, evidence containers, ruler, shovel, broom, rake, PPE, flashlight					
No.	TASK STEPS	FIRST TEST		RETEST	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1.	Verbalize a logical approach to the search pattern i.e. “least to most” search pattern				
2.	Document the search pattern using notes and sketches				
3.	Photograph all areas before starting				
4.	Photograph any evidence as found				
5.	Identify the material first ignited				
6.	Identify source(s) of ignition				
7.	Examine debris and layers of debris				
8.	Analyze and synthesize information				
9.	Document and photograph evidence in detail				
10.	Preserve and collect evidence				

Supervisor/Evaluator/Comments: _____

Supervisor/Evaluator (Print & Sign) **Date** **Candidate** **Date**

Re-Test Supervisor/Evaluator **Date** **Re-Test Candidate** **Date**



FIRE INVESTIGATOR NFPA 1033, 2022

4.2.6 Examine and remove fire debris
Standard Area: Scene Examination

JPR: FEI -06
Revised: 12/14/23

Candidate: _____

Date: _____

Student#: _____

STANDARD: 4.2.5, 4.2.6, 4.2.7, 4.3.1, 4.4.2 NFPA 1033, 2022 Edition	TASK: The investigator candidate shall examine and remove fire debris, given standard equipment and tools, so that all debris is checked for fire cause evidence, potential ignition source(s) is identified, and evidence is preserved without investigator inflicted damage or contamination				
PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The investigator shall examine all materials to determine the effects of fire, identify and distinguish among different types of fire-damaged contents.					
CONDITIONS: Given a fire scene, the investigator candidate shall using appropriate equipment and tools, while wearing appropriate PPE shall demonstrate the ability to:					
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: notebook, pen, graph paper, camera, ruler, shovel, broom, rake, PPE, flashlight					
NO.	TASK STEPS	FIRST TEST		RETEST	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1.	Continually document his/her actions				
2.	Properly examine and remove fire debris				
3.	Check all debris for fire cause evidence				
4.	Locate and identify the ignition source				
5.	Determine the fire cause				
6.	Preserve evidence without damage or contamination				

Supervisor/Evaluator/Comments: _____

Supervisor/Evaluator (Print & Sign) **Date** **Candidate** **Date**

Re-Test Supervisor/Evaluator **Date** **Re-Test Candidate** **Date**



FIRE INVESTIGATOR NFPA 1033, 2022

4.2.7 Fire Scene Construction
Standard Area: Scene Examination

JPR: FEI -07
Revised: 12/14/23

Candidate: _____

Date: _____

Student#: _____

STANDARD: 4.2.5, 4.2.7, 4.3.1, 4.3.2 NFPA 1033, 2022 Edition	TASK: The investigator candidate shall reconstruct the area of origin, given standard and, if needed, special equipment and tools as well as sufficient personnel, so that all protected areas and fire patterns are identified and correlated to contents or structural remains, items potentially critical to cause determination and photo documentation are returned to their pre-fire location, in the area(s) or point(s) of origin is discovered.				
PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The investigator shall examine all materials to determine the effects of fire, identify and distinguish among different types of fire-damaged contents, and return materials to their original position using protected areas and fire patterns.					
CONDITIONS: Given a fire scene, the investigator candidate shall using appropriate equipment and tools, while wearing appropriate PPE shall demonstrate the ability to:					
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: notebook, pen, graph paper, camera, ruler, shovel, broom, rake, PPE, flashlight					
No.	TASK STEPS	FIRST TEST		RETEST	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1.	Continually documents his / her actions				
2.	Photograph scene prior to reconstruction				
3.	Obtain assistance of firefighters for the reconstruction				
4.	Return materials to original position				
5.	Examine all materials present				
6.	Identify and distinguish contents				
7.	Photograph scene after reconstruction				
8.	Document reconstruction through notes and sketches				

Supervisor/Evaluator/Comments: _____

Supervisor/Evaluator (Print & Sign)

Date

Candidate

Date

Re-Test Supervisor/Evaluator

Date

Re-Test Candidate

Date



FIRE INVESTIGATOR NFPA 1033, 2022

4.3.1 Diagramming the scene
Standard Area: Documenting the scene

JPR: FEI -10
Revised: 12/14/23

Candidate: _____

Date: _____

Student#: _____

STANDARD: 4.3.1, 4.4.2 NFPA 1033, 2022 Edition	TASK: The investigator candidate shall sketch the fire scene using the tools provided				
PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The investigator candidate shall diagram the scene, given standard tools and equipment, so that the scene is accurately represented and evidence, pertinent contents, significant patterns, and area(s) or point(s) of origin are identified.					
CONDITIONS: Given a fire scene the investigator candidate shall demonstrate the ability to:					
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: graph paper, pen, pencil, tape measure, compass, ruler, PPE, flashlight					
No.	TASK STEPS	FIRST TEST		RETEST	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1.	Measure the scene accurately				
2.	Indicate direction of North				
3.	Indicate the following on the sketch: date drawn, by whom, location, rooms, windows, doors				
4.	Identify furniture with letters				
5.	Identify evidence with numbers				
6.	Identify orientation of deceased				
7.	Provide a legend on the diagram				
8.	Provide a heat and flame vector diagram				

Supervisor/Evaluator/Comments: _____

Supervisor/Evaluator (Print & Sign)	Date	Candidate	Date
Re-Test Supervisor/Evaluator	Date	Re-Test Candidate	Date



FIRE INVESTIGATOR NFPA 1033, 2022

4.3.2 Photographing the scene
Standard Area: Documenting the scene

JPR: FEI -11
 Revised: 12/14/23

Candidate: _____

Date: _____

Student#: _____

STANDARD: 4.3.2, 4.4.2 NFPA 1033, 2022 Edition	TASK: The investigator candidate shall photograph and document the fire scene using the tools provided				
PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The investigator candidate shall photograph the scene, given standard tools and equipment, so that the scene is accurately depicted and the photographs support scene findings.					
CONDITIONS: Given a fire scene the investigator candidate shall demonstrate the ability to:					
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: camera with flash, photograph log, notepad, pen, measuring device, PPE, flashlight					
No.	TASK STEPS	FIRST TEST		RETEST	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1.	Provide description of each photograph				
2.	Present photographs in a manner acceptable for presentation in court				
3.	Photograph exterior survey				
4.	Photograph interior survey				
5.	Photograph burn pattern(s)				
6.	Photograph Point(s) of origin				
7.	Photograph evidence				

Supervisor/Evaluator/Comments: _____

Supervisor/Evaluator (Print & Sign) **Date** **Candidate** **Date**

Re-Test Supervisor/Evaluator **Date** **Re-Test Candidate** **Date**



FIRE INVESTIGATOR NFPA 1033, 2022

4.3.3 Construct investigative notes
Standard Area: Documenting the scene

JPR: FEI -12
Revised: 12/14/23

Candidate: _____

Date: _____

Student#: _____

STANDARD: 4.3.3, 4.4.2 NFPA 1033, 2022 Edition	TASK: The investigator candidate shall observe the scene, and demonstrate data reduction skills, observational and correlating skills, and note taking skills by developing notes that adequately describe the fire investigation				
PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The investigator candidate shall construct investigative notes, given a fire scene, available documents (e.g. pre fire plans and inspection reports), and interview information, so that the notes are accurate, provide further documentation of the scene, and represent complete documentation of the scene findings.					
CONDITIONS: Given a fire scene the investigator candidate shall demonstrate the ability to:					
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: notepad, pen, pencil, camera with flash, insurance documents, notebook, PPE, flashlight					
NO.	TASK STEPS	FIRST TEST		RETEST	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1.	Include in notes the date and time of alarm and arrival of the fire department				
2.	Include in notes the address or location				
3.	Include in notes weather conditions				
4.	Include in notes building description				
5.	Include in notes the name and phone number of person calling in the fire				
6.	Include in notes the names of first-in firefighters and their observations				
7.	Include in notes the fire suppression techniques				
8.	Include in notes the security of the premise				
9.	Include in notes the fire spread				
10.	Include in notes the search pattern				
11.	Photograph the scene				
12.	Include in notes the location(s) of origin (if possible)				
13.	Include in notes the cause of the fire (if possible)				
14.	Identify, preserve and collect any evidence and records: time, date, location, continuity				
15.	Include in notes the names and DOB of owners				
16.	Include in notes the names and DOB of witnesses				
17.	Include in notes the type of occupancy				
18.	Determine the history of the building				



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4.3.3 Construct investigative notes
Standard Area: Documenting the scene

JPR: FEI -12
Revised: 12/14/23

19	Determine any previous problem with respect to the premise				
20	Determines any change to premise (i.e. renovations)				
21	Document insurance particulars				
22	Document other agency names and file numbers				
23	Document time of entry in notebook				
24	Use data reduction skills to organize information into concise notes				
25	Demonstrate the ability to not miss pages in notebook and has a clear start and end to the notes				

Supervisor/Evaluator/Comments:

Supervisor/Evaluator (Print & Sign)

Date

Candidate

Date

Re-Test Supervisor/Evaluator

Date

Re-Test Candidate

Date



FIRE INVESTIGATOR NFPA 1033, 2022

4.5.2 Conduct Interview
Standard Area: Interview

JPR: FEI -16
Revised: 12/14/23

Candidate: _____

Date: _____

Student#: _____

STANDARD: 4.5.2, 4.6.4 NFPA 1033, 2022 Edition	TASK: The investigator candidate shall conduct an interview while adjusting interviewing strategies based on deductive reasoning, interpreting verbal and non-verbal communications, applying applicable legal requirements, and exhibiting strong listening skills				
PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The investigator candidate shall conduct interviews, given incident information, so that pertinent information is obtained, follow up questions are asked, responses to all questions are elicited, and responses to each question is documented accurately.					
CONDITIONS: Given a fire scene scenario, the investigator candidate shall demonstrate the ability to:					
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: interview room, notepad, tape recorder, pen, established scenario					
NO.	TASK STEPS	FIRST TEST		RETEST	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1.	Identify themselves to the subject				
2.	Record the start time, date and location of the interview				
3.	Record the name, address, DOB and phone numbers of the subject being interviewed				
4.	Record the heading pertinent to the incident				
5.	Record the time, date and location of incident				
6.	Record a pure version statement from the subject being interviewed				
7.	Pose questions to the subject being interviewed to clarify statement and record answers				
8.	Listen carefully to subject's responses				
9.	Interpret subject's verbal and nonverbal communications				
10.	Adjust interviewing strategies as necessary				
11.	Ask the subject about any ambiguous statements, additions or deletions				
12.	Initial errors at the time they are made				
13.	Number the pages of the statement				
14.	Ask the subject to read and sign each page of the statement				
15.	Sign each page of the statement as the interviewer				
16.	Place completion time at end of statement				

Supervisor/Evaluator (Print & Sign)

Date

Candidate

Date

Re-Test Supervisor/Evaluator

Date

Re-Test Candidate

Date



FIRE INVESTIGATOR NFPA 1033, 2022

4.7.1 Prepare a Written Investigation Report
Standard Area: Presentations

JPR: FEI -22
Revised: 12/14/23

Candidate: _____

Date: _____

Student#: _____

STANDARD: 4.7.1 NFPA 1033, 2022 Edition	TASK: The investigator candidate shall complete a written report				
PERFORMANCE OUTCOME: The investigator candidate shall prepare a written investigation report, given investigative findings, documentation, and a specific audience so that the report accurately reflects the investigative findings, is concise, uses proper grammar, expresses the investigators opinion, contains facts and data that the investigator relies on in rendering an opinion, contains the reasoning of the investigator by which each opinion was reached, and meets the needs or requirements of the intended audience(s).					
CONDITIONS: Given a fire scene scenario and all available file information, the investigator candidate shall complete a written report which includes the following:					
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED: fire scene scenario, complete investigative file, notepad, pen					
No.	TASK STEPS	FIRST TEST		RETEST	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1.	States the incident number				
2.	States the date, time and location of incident (including a geographic description of the location i.e. North wall, South side of street, residential area)				
3.	States the owner / occupant name, address, DOB and phone number(s)				
4.	States time of alarm				
5.	States time of fire department and their arrival time				
6.	Describes scene security				
7.	Describes photographing the scene				
8.	Describes the scientific method used for scene examination				
9.	Describes the type of occupancy including outside dimensions, number of stories, type of roof construction, type of building construction, type of foundation				
10.	Describes security and location of doors and windows				
11.	Describes color and condition of glass				
12.	Describes damage to exterior of building				
13.	Describes condition and location of exterior service utilities				
14.	Describe weather conditions				
15.	Describe damage to interior of building				
16.	Describes damage to fire alarm and detection systems and their operation				
17.	Determines types of fire suppression				
18.	Describes nature of fire				
19.	Describes search pattern				
20.	Describes room of origin, area of origin and point of origin (if possible)				
No.	TASK STEPS	FIRST TEST		RETEST	



FIRE INVESTIGATOR NFPA 1033, 2022

4.7.1 Prepare a Written Investigation Report
Standard Area: Presentations

JPR: FEI -22
Revised: 12/14/23

		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
21.	Describe the fire progression from area of origin throughout building from incipient stage to flashover and extinguishment (if applicable)				
22.	Identifies drop burning (if applicable)				
23.	Identifies movement and intensity patterns including but not limited to; charring, "V" patterns (conical), "U" patterns, donut pattern, spalling of concrete, trailers, unusual fire patterns, inverted cone patterns, columnar patterns, hourglass pattern, saddle burning, circular pattern, clean burn pattern, pointer and arrow, line (s) of demarcation, protected areas, melted metal and plastic				
24.	Describes the elimination of possible causes i.e. electrical, gas, oil, solid fuels, spontaneous combustion and chemical reaction				
25.	Describes the examination of debris and layered debris				
26.	Describes fire scene reconstruction				
27.	Describes the identification of the source of ignition (if possible)				
28.	Describes the identification, preservation and collection of evidence				
29.	Describes contents or lack of including; furniture, pets, documents, photographs, personal effects, business records				
30.	Includes a sketch				
31.	Includes statements from owner / occupant, person discovering fire and firefighters				
32.	Describe working hypothesis				
33.	Describe alternate hypothesis				
34.	Describe testing of hypothesis				
35.	Describe selection of final hypothesis and conclusion				
36.	Report in a chronological or logical order				
37.	Report states a conclusion				
38.	Writing is concise, and relatively free of spelling and grammatical errors				
39.	Report meets the needs of the intended audience				

Supervisor/Evaluator/Comments: _____

Supervisor/Evaluator (Print & Sign)

Date

Candidate

Date

Re-Test Supervisor/Evaluator

Date

Re-Test Candidate

Date