



IAAI IDAHO CHAPTER 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE Hayden, Idaho



Register at www.Firearson.com

Track #1: Fundamentals of Fire Investigation, **November 13th through the 17th.**
\$300 for Idaho chapter members, \$400 for non-members.

Track #2: Advanced Fire Investigation Topics, **November 14th through the 16th.**
\$250 for Idaho chapter members, \$350 for non-members.

Track #1: Fundamentals of Fire Investigation:

This class qualifies for the IAAI-FIT Track-A requirement of a 40-hour fundamentals class. We will **not** be holding FIT testing at the conference.

Monday, Nov. 13th through Friday, Nov. 17th.

7:30AM to 5:00PM M.-Th., Noon end time on Friday. Lunch will be catered to the site M-Th.

This course will establish a foundation to which a student can build on and become a successful fire investigator. You will learn how the scientific method is used to identify the origin and cause of the fire and you will understand the importance of a systematic approach. This course will cover fire dynamics, photo documentation, the effects of ventilation on fire patterns, evidence collection, common ignition sources, and much more.

The curriculum for the class will be IFSTA Fire Investigator, 3rd Edition. Students are highly encouraged to purchase and read this book before class. NFPA 921 and 1033 will also be referenced but are not required for the class.

<https://www.ifsta.org/shop/fire-investigator-3rd-edition/36014>

Students are also encouraged to create a free account at www.cfitrainer.net and take the following three classes.

1. Ethics and the Fire Investigator (3 hours)
2. NFPA 1033 and Your Career (2 Hours)
3. The Practical Application of the Relationship Between NFPA 1033 and NFPA 921 (2 hours)

Instructor Bio:

Richard (Rick) Freier;

Rick worked for the Spokane Valley Fire Department for 23 years. He has been a fire investigator for more than 18 years. He was a commissioned fire investigator for the SVFD for 9 years and an accelerant detection K9 handler for 5 years. He worked as a private investigator with EFI Global and consulted privately. Rick has investigated more than 700 fire scenes working with multiple jurisdictions including the ATF. He is a member of the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI) and a former President of the IAAI Washington Chapter. He is an IAAI Certified Fire Investigator and Instructor.



He has taught the fire investigation course at the Pacific Northwest Fire Investigation Symposium for six years, presented at the Fire Protection Institute in Chelan Washington multiple times, and he presented at the 2017 National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Expo in Boston MA and presented at the 2022 Vision 20/20 Symposium. He believes that a fire investigator's mission should be to use the information that they collect to prevent fires in the future. He is an International Code Council (ICC) Certified Fire Inspector and has training in fire protections systems and fire prevention programs.

Track #2: Advanced Fire Investigation Topics

8:00AM to 5:00pm Tu.-Th. Lunch will be catered to the site all three days.

Tuesday Nov. 14th. Electrical Aspects of Fire Investigation

Instructor: Michael G. Abraham, P.E., ATF

The electrical aspects of fire investigation course is designed for investigators, engineers, insurance professionals, and attorneys to achieve an understanding of electrical concepts and their application to fire investigation. The course topics of discussion include Electrical Safety, Electrical Theory, Electrical System and Component Identification, Appliances, Batteries, Lighting Systems, Electrical Failure Analysis, Arc Mapping, Electronic Data Exploitation, and Case Studies.

Instructor Bio: Michael G. Abraham, PE is a licensed electrical engineer with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF). He works out of the ATF Fire Research Laboratory located in the Washington, D.C. metro area. He provides forensic engineering support to Federal, State, and Local investigations on electro-mechanical engineering matters as they pertain to the origin and cause of fires and explosions. Michael also responds as a member of the ATF National Response Team (NRT) to large-loss fire and explosion scenes. He has instructed nationally on behalf of the ATF, internationally for the US State Department, and for several state and local organizations. He has participated in high profile and large loss fire and explosion investigations scenes across the US and its



territories. Prior to the ATF, he worked as a private sector forensic engineer and as the principal design engineer on numerous mechanical, electrical, and fire protection projects throughout the NYC metro area. Michael has been a certified Firefighter/Emergency Medical Technician with a volunteer fire department for over 20 years in Central New Jersey.

Wednesday Nov. 15th. Fire Dynamics, Ventilation, and Compartment Fire Dynamics
Instructor: Jonathan Butta P.E., ATF

This course addresses eight of the sixteen topics outlined in Section 1.3.7 of NFPA 1033 (Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigator) necessary to perform as a fire investigator. Basic scientific and engineering principles relating to fire dynamics are taught in conjunction with relevant case studies and practical demos.

This course begins with a review of the fundamentals of fire dynamics principles and builds upon that with an introduction to more advanced topics to include compartment fire dynamics, damage dynamics, and multiple interactive case studies. Damage dynamics is a methodology used to assist in determining the origin of a fire within a complex compartment based upon knowledge of available fuel locations, as well as the ventilation sources. The interactive case studies will allow groups of investigators to view photographs from complex training cells in order to make origin determinations. After the groups have determined an origin for each of the case studies, photos, video, and data collected during the fires will be presented to the group.

Instructor Bio:

Jonathan Butta, P.E. currently works as a Fire Research Engineer with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Fire Research Laboratory (FRL), located in Beltsville, MD. He graduated from the Department of Fire Protection Engineering at the University of Maryland with a Bachelor of Science degree in May 2012, and a Masters of Engineering in December of 2017. Jon has worked for the ATF FRL for over ten years, assisting with forensic laboratory fire testing and investigations. Jonathan is also a member of the ATF National Response Team (NRT), responding to large loss fire events throughout the United States.



Thursday Nov. 16th. (Morning session) Fire Scene Photography
Instructor: Juliana Cheryl Andersson, Photographer

This training will focus on a brief orientation to photography, basic photography documentation method and procedures, educational presentation basics and three visual communication techniques that greatly improve your ability to organize your images to communicate your findings. This course will be a combination of classroom and hands on learning in a burn cell. The students will be putting it all together to create an educational presentation.

Instructor Bio:

Juliana Cheryl Andersson has 40 years of experience and training in art and photography; wet and dry darkroom, film and digital; large, medium and small camera formats. She has been a professional photographer specializing in documentary, wedding and portrait, photojournalism, bereavement for 21 years. She has 11 years of fire service photography experience and training; including fire investigation and forensic photography. Miss Anderson has provided forensic fire photography instruction at the IAAI Training Conference in 2023 at Cherokee, NC, the Washington IAAI Chapter conference and on CFITrainer.net. She has also provided fire scene photography services to many fire departments nationwide.



Thursday Nov. 16th. (Afternoon session) Legal Consideration for Arson Cases and for Civil Litigation

Instructors:

Kevin A. Schummer, Esq., Grotefeld Hoffman Law

And a Bonner County Assistant District Attorney to be announced.

Both tracks will be exposed to burn cells so have the appropriate clothing and footwear with you.

Host Hotel

Tripple Play Resort Hotel & Suites

175 W. Orchard Ave.

Hayden, ID 83835

Government rate: \$105.00 This rate will be honored for all. Non-government attendees will be taxed.

How to book your room:

Please email Tami Crawford directly to receive government discount rates for our block of reserved rooms. This will avoid the national call center. **Mention "Fire Investigation Conference" in your email to receive the discounted rate.** You need to specify your check in and check out dates as we have two tracks that run on different days. Blocked rooms will be held until Nov. 5th.

tami.crawford@3play.com

The closest commercial airport is 41 miles from the host hotel, Spokane, WA. (GEG)

Training Site:

Kootenai County Emergency Operations Center (2.2 miles from the host hotel)
1662 W. Wyoming Ave.
Hayden, ID 83835

Other events:**Monday Night; Presidents Reception, 7:00PM to TBD**

Host hotel

Tuesday Night Mixer 6:00PM to 9:00PM

Tripple Play Fun Park, attached to the hotel.

Complimentary pizza, bowling, axe throwing and more. **(Alcohol not included)**

Wednesday at lunch

General Membership Meeting

We will be voting on bylaws changes. **The changes will be emailed to all members for review prior to the conference.**

Map of training area, Hayden, ID

