

32nd Annual Conference
Central Illinois Fire Investigators Association
February 16th –18th, 2024



This Years Topics:
Fire Pattern Recognition
By Jason Mardirosian
Fire and Human Behavior
And
Arson and Fraud Case Studies
By Todd J Hedglin



Jason Mardirosian

2024
Featured
Speakers



Todd J Hedglin

All Sessions are Tested and Sanctioned by IL-IAAI

Location : Holiday Inn and Suites Peoria at Grand Prairie 7601 N. Orange Prairie Peoria, IL



Who Should Attend

- * Fire/Arson Investigators, Public and Private Sector
- * Insurance Industry
- * Fire Department First Responders
- * Law Enforcement Officers/Investigators/Detectives
- * Prosecutors
- * Federal State, County, or Local Level Investigators
- * Military Investigators
- * Engineers, consultants and anyone else who is tasked with the duty of Investigating fires.

Why Should Investigators Attend

- * In today's investigations it is imperative the investigator can demonstrate that he/she is following and in compliance with the standards of the fire investigation industry, for the purpose of this class NFPA® 1033 Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigator.
- * When you testify or are required to participate in depositions the expert may be required to present an up to date and accurate curriculum vitae that includes compliance documentation with regard to the requirements of the NFPA® 1033 standard.
- * Fire investigators have been familiar with NFPA® 921, Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigators for many years. Today as an investigator, the question must be asked, can I assure the court, opposing counsel, and my agency or company, that I meet the requirements of NFPA® 1033, Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigator, Especially in the area of the post-secondary education requirements.





Conference Schedule—Friday, February 16th

11 AM - 1 PM **Sign-in and Registration / Ticket for Raffle**

1 - 2:45 PM **Jason Mardirosian, MS BS IAAI – CFI, CI, ECT**

NAFI – CFEI, CFII

Fire Pattern Recognition

This course will discuss the fundamental aspect of recognizing, analyzing, and categorizing various fire patterns noted during scene examinations. We will also discuss the foundational importance of the ability to do a sound and accurate fire pattern analysis and the importance and plays in court

2:45 - 3:00 PM **Break**

3:00 - 5 PM **Jason Mardirosian, MS BS IAAI – CFI, CI, ECT**

NAFI – CFEI, CFII

Fire Pattern Recognition Continued

5 - 11 PM **Hospitality Room**

Fridays Conference Schedule

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Saturday Conference Schedule

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Conference Schedule Saturday, February 17th

7 - 8 AM **Breakfast / Sign-in and Registration / Ticket for Raffle**

8 - 8:15 AM **Opening Introductions**

8:15 - 9:45 AM **Todd J Hedglin**

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Fire and Human Behavior

This unique subject matter will begin with a brief introduction centered on human behavior and response during fire incidents, followed by addressing the basics of data and information gathering as it pertains to fire investigation. Additional topics will include a short summary on the history of and common motives for arson.

The objective of this course is to provide an overview of the recognized fire setter subtypes and expand on each with a brief case study and explanation outlining the characteristics of individuals within these subtypes. This will include discussion on interviewing and obtaining the most reliable and useful information from your interview.

This presentation in no way is intended to make anyone an expert on the subject. It is designed to expose you as the investigator to additional possibilities, and to obtain valid and reliable information. It is my hope this experience is a benefit to anyone who conducts questioning with regard to fire cases.

9:45 - 10 AM **Break**

10:00 - Noon **Fire and Human Behavior (Continued) by Todd Hedglin**

Noon - 1 PM **Lunch Provided**

1 - 3 PM **Fire and Human Behavior (Continued) by Todd Hedglin**

3 - 3:15 PM **Break**

3 - 5 PM **Fire and Human Behavior (Continued) by Todd Hedglin**

5 - 11 PM **Hospitality Room**



Sunday Conference Schedule

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Conference Schedule Sunday, February 18th

7-8 AM

Sign – in / Breakfast

8-8:15 AM

Opening Introductions and Announcements

8:15-10 AM

Todd J Hedglin

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Arson and Fraud Case Studies

This presentation begins with a brief introduction to fire investigation and how it differs from an arson investigation. Then more looks explicitly at the distinctive subject matter of how arson is used to commit fraud. Using case studies, we will explore fire and arson incidents, document the scene during an information-gathering process, define the importance of eliminating accidental vs. intentional ignition scenarios, and determine what is needed to render an opinion that supports your hypotheses.

10– 10:15 AM **Break**

10:15– 11:30 **Todd J Hedglin**

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Arson and Fraud Case Studies Continued

Questions and Answers

Post Test

**Note all listed times are approximately and may slightly vary due to questions, class studies, or special interest subject matter being extended in any particular section.*





Featured Speaker

Jason Mardirosian, MS BS

IAAI – CFI, CI, ECT NAFI – CFEI, CFII

Mr. Mardirosian is a 28 year veteran and lieutenant with the Chicago fire department, and spent 17 years in their fire investigation unit. Jason has over 20 years experience in the private sector doing numerous consultations and is currently an investigator for FEC LLC.



Mr. Mardirosian has an extensive background in investigations and is an international contractor specializing in instruction of arson, fire, and explosion scene investigations. He combines both dynamic classroom presentations and hands on exercises to help the students understand the complexities of such investigations.



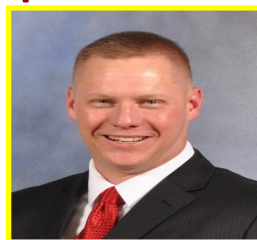
Jason has taught independently, as well as, in a team setting for various agencies and groups including several IAAI chapters, the 40 hour fundamental class hosted by the IAAI, several ATF task forces, and is a contract instructor for the justice department (ICITAP) and he has taught internationally in Algiers, Jamaica, the Virgin Islands and Dubai.

Mr. Mardirosian recently retired after 16 years with the summit police department and was the 2006 investigator of the year recipient from the IAAI.





Featured Speaker



**Todd J Hedglin IAAI-CFI®,
CI, ECT / NAFI-CFEI, CVFI / NWCG-INVF**

Todd Hedglin is the Branch Chief of Fire Investigations for the State of Colorado at the Division of Fire Prevention and Control. His professional career started with a combined period of over 30 years in public and private service to include the fire service and the United States Military. In 2006 Todd began investigating fire for a Denver metro area fire department, then in 2010 for the private sector. After leaving full-time status with the fire service in 2013, he transitioned to full-time employment in private fire investigations with IRIS Fire Investigations, Inc. where he was a fire investigator and the Chief Operations Officer. He has conducted and assisted with investigations in Colorado, surrounding states, and various locations around the country.

Todd is an International Association of Arson Investigators-Certified Fire Investigator (IAAI- CFI®) in addition to various other credentials. As the Chief fire investigator, he manages a team of investigators and conducts origin and cause and arson investigations involving residential and commercial structures, wild-land, vehicle fires and explosions. He is routinely called to lecture and present on fire investigation topics, fire scene photography, interviewing, wild land fire investigations, fire related human behavior. He has presented various topics to public agencies and private enterprises, universities, and local colleges, in addition to presenting internationally. He is the immediate president of the Colorado Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI), and recent Chairperson of the Ethics, Practices & Grievances Committee of the IAAI.



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IL-IAAI Mission Statement

The mission of the Illinois Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators:

- To unite for mutual benefit public officials, private persons, and associations who are engaged in the investigation of the origin and cause of fires.
- To provide, develop and support the establishment of training, educational programs and educational materials to improve the quality of fire investigations.
- To support and sponsor legislation which will improve the quality of fire investigations and reduce the incidents of Arson.
- To develop programs and implement strategies and initiatives to increase public awareness of Arson and its impact on our communities.
- To encourage high professional standards of conduct among fire investigators and continually strive to eliminate all factors that interfere with the investigation of the origin and cause of fires.

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Contact the hotel directly for reservations.

To ensure discounted rate, please indicate you are with the Central Illinois Fire Investigators Association conference.



Hotel Facilities

Welcome to the new Holiday Inn and Suites Peoria at Grand Prairie! Peoria's newest Holiday Inn Hotel is situated amongst the beautiful and upscale Grand Prairie Development in north Peoria, IL. Surrounded by popular shopping, fine dining, casual eateries and the Louisville Slugger Sports Complex, this location is sure to entice both business and leisure travelers alike. Travel is easy and convenient being located just minutes away from the General Wayne Downing Peoria International Airport, I-74, and HWY 150/War Memorial Drive. Our non-smoking hotel is the perfect location when visiting Caterpillar, Peoria Civic Center, Illinois Eye Center, Louisville Slugger Sports Complex, Illinois Cancer Center, Monarch Music Hall or Bradley University's Renaissance Coliseum. Hotel guests may enjoy a plethora of amenities including an Indoor Saline Pool, Fully Equipped Fitness Center, Casually Exquisite Restaurant and Bar, Swift Room Service, Family Friendly Accommodations, and Market24 – an on-site 24 hour food mart. With just over 6000 square feet of banquet space available, let our attentive, expert staff help you plan your next corporate meeting, wedding, award banquet or other social event. With state of the art audio visual equipment, excellent lighting and exceptional catering, your event is sure to WOW.

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Registration Fee

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Non- Members \$190.00

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Price includes all breaks and breakfast /lunch on Saturday, breakfast on Sunday

No cancellation. Registration can be transferred when notice is sent in writing to CIFIA.



For more information, please contact:

Brad Pierson

(309) 494-8734

bpierion@peoriagov.org

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Conference Date: February 16-18 2024

NOTE: Registrations must be postmarked by

February 12, 2024

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