

E. METTS HARDY, CFEI, CHMT

Regional Vice President, Southeast Region

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE: 35

EDUCATION

Business Administration coursework,
Delta State University

LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator,
NAFI, #3808-544, 1992

Certified Fire Causation Instructor,
Tennessee State Fire School

Certified Hazardous Materials Technician,
Georgia Institute of Technology, #1000

Licensed Private Investigator:
Tennessee, #0000086
South Carolina, #PCD1513
Georgia, #04198

AFFILIATIONS

International Association of Arson
Investigators (IAAI). Chapters:
Tennessee

National Association of Fire Investigators
(NAFI)

Tennessee Advisory Committee on Arson

National Fire Protection Association

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

EFI Global, Regional Vice President,
Southeast Region, 1998 – Present;
District Manager/Senior Investigator, April
1996 – July 1998; Special Agent/Senior
Investigator, September 1986 – March
1996

Newell Investigative Services, Special
Investigator, September 1985 – August
1985

Equifax Insurance Services, Fire
Investigator, February 1985 – August
1985

Bolivar County Fire Department,
Investigator/Command Officer/
Firefighter/EMT, November 1976 –
August 1986

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Mr. Hardy has more than 35 years of experience conducting fire service and insurance-related investigations, specializing in causes of fire and explosions in residential/commercial properties, vehicles, etc. He has conducted in excess of 3,000 fire origin and cause investigations. He has also attended and instructed various seminars and continuing education programs related to fire investigation and NFPA 921 for the public and private sector. Mr. Hardy has also provided expert witness testimony in state and federal courts in origin and causes of fires and explosions in Mississippi, Louisiana, Kentucky and Tennessee.

COURT QUALIFICATIONS

Expert Witness: Fire Causation, State Courts – Mississippi, Arkansas, Kentucky, Tennessee

Expert Witness: Fire Causation, Federal Court – Tennessee

SPECIALIZED EDUCATION

Fire/Arson Detection, National Fire Academy, Jackson, Mississippi

Electrical Fire Investigation, University of Alabama - Birmingham

Fire Investigation of Electrical Causes, University of Southern Mississippi

Advanced Arson, Mississippi State Fire Academy

Fire/Arson Investigation, International Association of Arson Investigators

Cause and Origin on Fires, Tennessee State Fire Marshal's Office

Fire Investigation Techniques, Tennessee International Association of Arson Investigators

Arson Detection Instruction Training, Tennessee State Fire School

Hazardous Material Emergency Response, Georgia Institute of Technology

Cause and Origin of Fires and Explosions, Eastern Kentucky University

Fire/Arson Detection, National Fire Academy

Fire Investigation, Tennessee Advisory Committee on Arson

Scientific Method for Fire Investigation & Explosion Investigation, CFITrainer.net, IAAI

Introduction to Fire Dynamics and Modeling, CFITrainer.net, IAAI

COURSES INSTRUCTED / GUEST LECTURER

Accidental Fire Causes

Fire Investigation, Level II

Fire Cause and Origin

Fire Cause Recognition

Practical View of NFPA 921

RELEVANT PROJECT EXPERIENCE:

Confidential Client – Tennessee – Fire Investigation

Conducted origin and cause investigation in regards to a fire at a four story nursing home that resulted in multiple fatalities. Investigation included fire dynamic and spread studies, as well as failure analysis to determine cause.

Confidential Client – Tennessee – Explosion Investigation

Conducted origin and cause investigation of residence that caught fire and exploded. Investigation resulted in determining that the fire was an intentional act as a result of the home owner disconnecting the supply line to the HVAC and initiating a fire with kerosene until the fire reached the escaping gas.

Confidential Legal Client – Tennessee – Personal Injury Defense

Conducted origin and cause investigation into a gas leak and fire that critically burned a construction worker. The worker sued the city and various other parties for his injuries. Investigation determined that the incident was the result of negligence of the individual filing suit. Case was withdrawn.

Confidential Client – Tennessee – Fire Investigation

Conducted origin and cause investigation into a fire loss that destroyed over a million dollars' worth of residential property. Investigation determined fire intentionally started by homeowner or his agent. Client denied coverage. Case adjudicated in Federal Court and client prevailed and was awarded all costs.

PRESENTATIONS

Hardy, Metts. "Fire Investigation for Reliable Results." Manufacturer's Alliance Products Liability and Product Safety Council, October 2008.

Hardy, Metts. "Vehicle Fire Investigation." Florida Advisory Council on Arson Prevention, November 2007.

Hardy, Metts. "Interviewing Emergency Responders." National Society of Professional Insurance Investigators, March 2005.

Hardy, Metts. "Large Loss Management." Florida IAAI, September 1998; Tennessee Advisory Committee on Arson Annual Seminars, 1992 – 1994, 1997.

Hardy, Metts. "Evidence Collection Practices According to NFPA 921." State Farm Insurance Company, November 1996.

Hardy, Metts. "Fire Cause and Origin." Motlow State Community College, March 1994.

Hardy, Metts. "National Fire Academy's Fire and Arson Detection." Robertson County Fire Department, January 1992; Wilson County Emergency Management Society, September 1992.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Volunteer Instructor Service Award, August 1993

Certificate of Merit for Outstanding Achievement in Arson Investigation, May 1993