

Professional Summary:

Mr. Leksell has over twenty-five years’ experience in Fire Origin and Cause Investigations.

Mr. Leksell has served in various positions and committee chairs for the Pennsylvania Association of Arson Investigators (PAAI). He is also a member of the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI) and the National Association of Fire Investigators (NAFI).

Mr. Leksell has been an instructor at the Allegheny County Fire Academy, the Community College of Allegheny County and the Academy of Court Reporting business college. Mr. Leksell has taught and written courses in Fire Investigation, Insurance Investigation, Firefighting and Emergency Medical Services. Mr. Leksell currently serves as a Board Member and has served as a Zone Leader for the Pennsylvania Association of Arson Investigators (PAAI). He is also a member of the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI) and the National Association of Fire Investigators (NAFI).

Mr. Leksell has conducted origin and cause investigations within the following areas of expertise:

- Residential Structures
- Commercial and Mercantile Structures
- Automobiles, passenger and commercial Vehicles
- Marine craft
- Subrogation Claims and Product failure

Licenses and Certifications:

NAFI Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator, #7591-3136-V

NAFI Certified Vehicle Fire Investigator

IAAI Certified Fire Investigator, PA-29-031120

NPQS Certified Firefighter 1, #150937

NPQS Certified Fire Instructor 1, #98269

NPQS Certified Fire Inspector 2, # 51037

NPQS Certified Plans Examiner 2, # 52261

NPQS Certified HazMat Awareness, # 42947

Private Investigator, PA

Private Investigator, WV

Private Investigator, MD

Private Investigator, OH

Project Experience:

Nationwide Insurance/Law Offices of Dapper Baldasare Bensen Behiling & Kane, P.C. Seven Springs, PA. Large Loss Fire Investigation

Fire Investigator and Scene Coordinator for a large loss involving multiple privately owned condominiums at a resort. Damages included extensive fire and structural damage with collapse that also resulted in two fatalities. The site exam occurred over multiple days and incurred the control of access and recording of other experts and representatives being involved, concluding with the securing of evidence items from the loss site.

State Farm Insurance/Law Offices of Weber Gallagher Simpson Stapleton Fires & Newby LLP Waterford, PA. Propane Residential Explosion Investigation

Fire Investigator for residential structure that involved an explosion involving a propane supply and a failure of an appliance. The incident resulted in injuries to the occupants with one succumbing to their injuries. The scene investigation took place over several days with multiple experts involved, followed by various testing and evidence exams over three years.

Liberty Mutual Insurance Company/ Law Offices of Dibella Geer McAllister Best Pittsburgh, PA. Commercial Restaurant Fire

Fire Investigator for a commercial property that contained various restaurants and food service tenants in the downtown commercial district. The incident involved an imported wood fired pizza oven and the installation to a pre-existing ventilation system. The scene examination occurred over several days that detailed controlling the scene security, establishing the scheduled exams and the retrieval/coordination of evidence items from the loss site in efforts to determine the origin and cause.

Court Qualifications/ Depositions:

Litigation CV available upon request.

Professional Experience:

EFI Global, Zelienople, PA, Senior Fire Investigator, 2008 – Present
ARCCA, Pittsburgh, PA, Senior Fire Investigator, 2006-2008
Robson Forensics, Cranberry Twp., PA, Fire Investigator, 1997-2006
Donald B. Cypher & Associates, Saxonburg, PA, Investigator Assistant, 1995-1997

Specialized Education:

Pennsylvania Association of Arson Investigators Training Seminars, 1998 through 2023
Certified Plans Examiner II - Bucks County Community College, September 2016
Certified Fire Inspector II – Bucks County Community College, May 2016
Certified Fire Officer I – Allegheny County Fire Academy, February 2016
Fire Dynamics Fundamentals – Allegheny County Fire Academy, February 2016
Fire Dynamics Strategy and Tactics – Allegheny County Fire Academy, February 2016
Certified Fire Service Inspector I– Bucks County Community College, September 2014
EMS Instructor – Community College of Allegheny County, March 2013

Education:

Associates Degree, Fire Science, Community College of Allegheny County – 1999
Plum Senior High School – General Studies with Computer Aided Drafting Classes - 1994

Affiliations:

Pennsylvania Association of Arson Investigators (PAAI)
International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI)
National Association of Fire Investigators (NAFI)

Courses Instructed/ Guest Lecturer:

Mr. Leksell has taught classes in various Firefighter and Fire Investigation courses through the Allegheny County Fire Academy and the Community College of Allegheny County since 1998 to present.

Essentials of Firefighting
Structural Burn Classes
Arson Detection for First Responders
Fire and Arson Investigation
Fire Investigation & NFPA 921
Emergency Vehicle Driver Training (EVDT/EVOC)
Emergency First Responder
Emergency Medical Technician

Mr. Leksell had taught credited courses involving Fire Investigation and Insurance Fraud Investigation through the Academy of Court Reporting from 2006 to 2008