
Michael Hoffman | Vice President, Fire Sciences, MSc, IAAI-CFI

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Professional Summary:

Mr. Hoffman has over 20 years of experience specializing in fire investigations. Mr. Hoffman has extensive experience assisting clients with complex subrogation claims and liability defense claims to establish the origin and causes of fires in structures, vehicles, and watercraft. He is an IAAI Certified Fire Investigator, NAFI Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator, and NAFI Certified Vehicle Fire Investigator.

Licenses and Certifications:

Certified Fire Investigator (IAAI-CFI) - International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI);
Certification # 53-020

Certified Fire & Explosion Investigator (CFEI) - National Association of Fire Investigators;
Registration # 8302-3489

Certified Vehicle Fire Investigator (CVFI) - National Association of Fire Investigators;
Registration # 8302-3489v

Florida Private Investigator License #C1200533

Georgia Private Investigator License #PDE049538

Professional Experience:

EFI Global, Vice President, Fire Sciences, 2021-Present

EFI Global, Sr. Principal Fire Scientist, 2018-2021

Unified Investigations & Sciences, District Manager 2012-2018

SEA Limited, Fire Investigator, 2001-2012

Education:

Master of Science, Forensic Science, Marshall University, Huntington, WV, 2001

Bachelor of Science, Biological Sciences, Clemson University, Clemson, SC, 1999

Affiliations:

International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI)

Florida Chapter-International Association of Arson Investigators

National Association of Fire Investigators (NAFI)

Member - 2011 NFPA 921 Task Group - Cause Chapter

NFPA 1033 - Principal Member, Technical Committee

Courses Instructed/ Guest Lecturer:

Fire Scene Investigation
Spoliation of evidence/preservation of the scene
Explosion Investigations
Subrogation in Fire Investigations
Heavy Machinery and Equipment Fire Investigation
NFPA 921 and NFPA 1033
Commercial Trucking Fires
Fire Cause Determination
Fire Behavior
Automotive Fires

Specialized Education:

Knowledge 1: Motor Vehicle Fires Tier 1, IAAI, 2023
Motor Vehicles: The Engine and the Ignition, Electrical, and Fuel Systems, IAAI, 2022
Motor Vehicles: Transmission, Exhaust, Brake, and Accessory Systems, IAAI, 2022
Investigating Motor Vehicle Fires, IAAI, 2022
Georgia Fire Investigators Association; Annual Conference – various topics; 2021
Electric & Hybrid Vehicle Fires; CFITrainer.net; 2021
Electric & Hybrid Vehicle Design Basics; CFITrainer.net; 2021
Introduction to Fire Dynamics and Modeling CFITrainer.net; 2021
EFI Global; Fire Investigator Health & Safety in the Post-fire Environment, 2020
International Association of Arson Investigators; Electrical System & Hot Surface Ignition Heat Sources; 2019
International Association of Arson Investigators; Investigating Natural Gas Events; 2019
International Association of Arson Investigators; Patterns of Heat Flow and Melted Conductors; 2019
International Association of Arson Investigators; Flame Jetting Awareness and Investigative Challenges; 2019
International Association of Arson Investigators; Origin and Cause; 2019
Investigation Pre-Fire Premises Security; Michael Reynolds; Unified Investigations & Sciences; In-service Webinar; 2017
Unified Investigations & Sciences; In-service Webinar Series; Essential of NFPA 1033; 2017
International Association of Arson Investigators, 2016 Annual Conference; 2016
A Ventilation-Focused Approach to the Impact of Building Structures and Systems on Fire Development; CFITrainer.net / IAAI, 2015
NFPA 921 and 1033 2014 Editions: Important Revisions; CFITrainer.net / IAAI, 2014

Metallurgical Studies and the Investigation of RV Refrigerator Fires; Brad Plank, Unified In-Service Webinar; 2014

Caterpillar Equipment Identification; Ring Power Corporation; 2014

Commercial Kitchen Fires; Jay Kramarczyk, Unified In-Service Training Webinar; 2014

NFPA 921 and the Daubert Expert, Brian Henry, Esq., Unified In-Service Training; 2013

International Association of Arson Investigators, 2013 Annual Conference; 2013

Writing the Initial Origin and Cause Report; CFITrainer.net / IAAI, 2013

Fire Investigator Scene Safety; CFITrainer.net / IAAI, 2012

Florida Advisory Committee on Arson Prevention (FACAP); FACAP Training Conference; 2012

National Society of Professional Insurance Investigators; 2012 Ohio Joint Insurance Fraud Seminar; 2012

National Association of Fire Investigators; Vehicle Fire, Arson & Explosion Investigation Science & Technology Seminar; 2011

Documenting the Event; CFITrainer.net / IAAI, 2011

Arc Mapping Basics; CFITrainer.net / IAAI, 2011

NC/SC International Association of Arson Investigators; Fire Investigative Approaches; 2010

NC/SC International Association of Arson Investigators; Fire Investigative Approaches; 2009

SC Chapter International Association of Arson Investigators; NFPA 921 Update; 2009

NC/SC International Association of Arson Investigators; Fire Investigative approaches; 2007

Mid-Atlantic Mariners Club; What to Know About Ethanol & Inspections; 2006

MD/Washington, D.C. Chapter International Association of Arson Investigators; Motor Vehicle Fire Investigation by Lee Cole & Associates; 2006

International Association of Marine Investigators; 16th Annual Training Conference; 2006

International Association of Arson Investigators; IAAI Expert Courtroom Testimony; 2005

SEA; Live Burn Testing; 2004

MD/Washington, D.C. Chapter International Association of Arson Investigators; Forensic Fire Scene Evidence at the ATF National Laboratory & Fire Research Center; 2004

Ohio Chapter International Association of Arson Investigators and the Ohio State Fire Marshal's Office; 49th Annual Ohio Arson School; 2003

National Society of Professional Insurance Investigators; 6th Annual Seminar; 2003

Ohio Chapter International Association of Arson Investigators; Arson Detection; 2003

Fire Findings; Investigation of Gas and Electric Appliance Fires; 2002

Ohio Chapter International Association of Arson Investigators and the Ohio State Fire Marshal's Office; 48th Annual Ohio Arson School; 2002

Southern Ohio Fire and Arson Investigators Association; Arson Investigation; 2002

National Society of Professional Insurance Investigators; 5th Annual Seminar; 2002

State of Ohio Department of Commerce and Division of State Fire Marshal; Arson Detection; 2002

State Farm Insurance; Preparing for Depositions; 2001

Federal Bureau of Investigation; Legal Issues, Bomb Scenes, and the Witness Stand; 2000

West Virginia Fire Marshal's Office; Bomb Scene Investigations; 2000

West Virginia Fire Marshal's Office; Arson Indicators and Fire Fatalities; 2000

West Virginia Chapter International Association of Arson Investigators; Arson Detection for the First Responder; 2000