

**Michael Wurtz** | Senior Fire Investigator/ Evidence Collection  
Technician, **IAAI-CFI, CFEI, CVFI**

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### Professional Summary:

Mr. Wurtz background spans over 28 years of fire and explosion investigation related experience. He served over 22 years as a municipal firefighter achieving the rank of Lieutenant prior to his retirement. He launched his investigative career in 1991 while serving his municipality. The concluding 10 years of his career serving as the principal investigator for the municipality's Bureau of Fire Investigations.

He has conducted in excess of 1500 investigations, which included residential, commercial, industrial structures, and motor vehicles of varying types. These investigations have included incendiary, fatalities, complex large losses, fraud, product liability, failure analysis, and subrogation issues. Mr. Wurtz has interacted with municipal, state, and federal agencies. He has achieved Certified Fire/Explosion Investigator and Certified Vehicle Fire Investigator through (NAFI), Certified Fire Investigator (IAAI), and is Pro-Board Certified.

Mr. Wurtz has been a facilitator/instructor for the University of Illinois-Champaign, Illinois Fire Service Institute; instructing in all phases of fire investigation, education and certification of novice investigators.

#### Areas of Expertise:

- Fire Origin and Cause Determination
- Explosion Origin and Cause Determination
- Motor Vehicle Fire Origin and Cause Determination
- Evidence Collection and Preservation Chain of Custody
- NFPA 1003 Compliant
- Hazardous Environments / Asbestos

### Licenses and Certifications:

IL, PERC, #129.2955165

WI, Private Detective, #11647-63

MO, Private Fire Investigator, #2015011601

IN, Private Investigator, Agency #P120700014  
IA, Private Investigator, Agency #1374IL, ID # 104639  
MN, Private Detective, Agency #828  
CFI, International Association of Arson Investigators #12-165  
CFEI, National Association of Fire Investigators #6208-1973i  
CVFI, National Association of Fire Investigators #6208-1973iv  
CFI, Missouri Division of Fire Safety, #15-025  
CFI, National Board of Fire Service Professionals, #297104

### Project Experience:

**Bricktown Central / Jensen Development Corp., Waukeg, IA  
Large Residential Structure Fire**

Lead investigator for large residential apartment structure in various stages of construction.

**Z-Mattress, Chicago, IL  
Large Commercial Manufacturing Fire**

Lead investigator for a fire that occurred in a mattress refurbishing facility.

**Michael Lefevre, Crystal Lake, IL  
Large Residential Structure Fire**

Fire investigation in a large residential structure, ultimately classified as spontaneous heating of improper discarded staining rags. Successful responsibility with the painting contractor.

### Professional Experience:

EFI Global, Inc. Senior Fire Investigator/Evidence Technician, 2018-Present  
Unified Investigations & Sciences, Inc., Fire Investigator, 2012-2018  
Rayburn Fire Scene Investigations, Fire Investigator, 2006-2011  
Stone Park Fire Department, Lieutenant/Fire Investigator, 2004-2005  
University of Illinois-Fire Service Institute, Instructor/Facilitator, 2002-2011  
Rosemont Public Safety, Auxiliary Police Officer / Fire Inspector, 1995-2006  
Maywood Fire Department, Firefighter Lieutenant / Lead Fire Investigator, 1989-2011

### Specialized Education:

IAAI Independent Study-CFI Trainer, Documenting the Event, March 13, 2019, 4hrs (Tested)  
IAAI Wisconsin Chapter, Spring Seminar, June 5-7, 2018, 20hrs (Tested)  
IAAI Illinois Chapter, 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Seminar, November 24, 2017 28hrs. (Tested)  
IAAI Illinois Chapter, Vehicle Fire Investigations, March 28-29, 2017 16hrs. (Tested)  
IAAI Illinois Chapter, Northern Zone Annual Seminar, April 10, 2017 16hrs (Tested)  
IAAI Illinois Chapter, Northern Zone Annual Seminar, January 28, 2016 16hrs (Tested)

Vehicle Fire, Arson & Explosion Investigation, Science & Technology Seminar September 21-24, 2015 32hrs. (Tested)

IAAI International Training Conference, May 19-21, 2015 32hrs. (Tested)

Private Detective Training PPD08, State of Minnesota Private Detective and Protective Agent Service Board: June 2015 12hrs. (Tested)

Title: 4728 Hazard Communication & The Global Harmonizing System Employee Training, February 2014 1 hr. (Tested)

Environmental Group Services Limited, OSHA General Industry & Construction Industry Operations & Maintenance Curriculum, 29CFR1926.1101(K)(2)(ii) & 29CFR1910.100(j)(2), October 2014 8hrs. (Tested)

IAAI Illinois Chapter, Northern Zone Annual Seminar, April 1, 2014 16hrs (Tested)

IAAI Independent Study-CFI Trainer, The Scientific Method for Fire and Explosion Investigation, March 1, 2014 3hrs (Tested)

IAAI Independent Study-CFI Trainer, NFPA 921 and 1033 2014 Edition, Important Revisions, March 1, 2014 3hrs (Tested)

IAAI Independent Study-CFI Trainer, The Hazwoper Standard, March 2013 4hrs (Tested)

IAAI Independent Study-CFI Trainer, Arc Mapping Basics, March 2013 4hrs. (Tested)

IAAI Independent Study-CFI Trainer, Fire and Explosions Investigations, Utilizing NFPA 1033 and 921, January 17, 2012 4hrs (Tested)

Investigation of Structure Fires, "Fire Behavior, Evidence Handling, Subrogation" September 2012 8hrs. (Tested)

Unified Investigation & Science, Private Investigations, August 2012 32hrs. (Tested)

De Lisle Associates LTD, Initial Operations & Maintenance Compliance with 40 CFR 763 & 29 CFR 1926.1101, October 2012 32 hrs. (Tested)

Fire Investigator Strike Force, Investigating Fires Motor Homes & Recreational Vehicles, May 2012 6hrs.

Fire Investigator Strike Force, Writing the Investigative Report, October 2012 6hrs.

Fire Investigator Strike Force, Preparing for Deposition, September 2012 2hrs.

IAAI Illinois Chapter, Fire Investigation Training Conference, September 12-16, 2011 36 hrs. (Tested)

Investigator Strike Force Fire, Restaurant Fire Investigation, October 2011 6hrs

National Board Fire Service Professional Qualifications, NFPA 1033-(2009), September 2010 4hrs. (Tested)

Fire Investigator Strike Force, Case Review of Fatal Fires, January 2010 4hrs.

Fire Investigator Strike Force, Securing & Investigation of Abandoned Building, April 2010 4hrs.

Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshall, Senior Officer Development for the 21st Century, February 20-21, 2010

IAAI Illinois Chapter, Fire Investigation Training Conference, September 2009 32 hrs. (Tested)

Fire Findings Laboratories, Residential Electricity for Fire Investigators, April 2008 16hrs. (Tested)

FEMA Center for Domestic Preparedness, Advanced ICS Command Complex Incidents, ICS-400, February 2008 16hrs. (Tested)

FEMA Center for Domestic Preparedness, Advanced ICS Command Complex Incidents, ICS-300, November 2007 16hrs. (Tested)

CFI Trainer, Digital Photography for Fire Investigators, July 2007 4hrs. (Tested)

CFI Trainer, Insurance and Fire Investigations, July 2007 4hrs. (Tested)

FEMA National Incident Management Institute, IS-00100, September 2006 8hrs (Tested)

FEMA National Incident Management Institute, IS-00200, September 2006 8hrs (Tested)

FEMA National Incident Management Institute, IS-00700, September 2006 8hrs (Tested)

North East Multi-Regional Law Enforcement Training, Basic Evidence Technician, September 2005 40hrs. (Tested)

#### Education:

General Studies / Fire Service Technology, Triton College, River Grove, IL

#### Affiliations:

International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI)-International  
IAAI Chapters-Illinois, Wisconsin,  
National Association of Fire Investigators (NAFI)-National  
National Society of Professional Insurance Investigators (NSPII)-National  
Professional Fire & Fraud Investigators Association-State, MO

#### Courses Instructed/ Guest Lecturer:

Live Fire Evolutions Regarding Investigations  
Fire Behavior  
Fire Patterns Analysis  
Origin Determination  
Cause Determination  
Sources of Ignition  
Fire Scene Documentation  
Fire Scene Processing & Reconstruction  
Collection and Preservation of Physical Evidence  
Fire-Related Fatalities  
Motor Vehicle Fires  
Explosion Investigation

#### Publications and Presentations:

Wurtz, Michael, "Course Curriculum; Fire Investigation Modules I, II, III" University of  
Illinois Fire Service Institute, Illinois State Fire Marshall, 2007

\*\*\*Litigation CV available upon request.