

Vern Canon | Senior Fire Investigator, IAAI-CFI (V)

1172 National Drive, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95834
Field Office, Grass Valley, CA 95949

Cell Phone: 530-718-0292
Vern.Canon@efiglobal.com

Professional Summary:

Mr. Canon spent over 30 years in the fire service starting as a volunteer firefighter in 1973, was hired as a fire prevention officer/firefighter in 1982 and was eventually promoted to Battalion Chief/Fire Marshal. During his fire service career, he investigated various types of fires for origin and cause, worked as a law enforcement officer in conjunction with enforcement of laws relating to fires and firefighting, was well versed in local, state, and national fire and building codes, and he reviewed construction plans and observed the testing of various fire protection, detection, and suppression systems. He developed, implemented, and supervised various fire inspection programs. He supervised daily and emergency fire department operations including responding to fires, vehicle accidents, and other types of emergencies. He also worked several years for a local ambulance service and an Emergency Medical Technician and worked at a local community college as a mechanic and bus driver.

He is currently a Senior Fire Investigation and has expertise on the following areas:

- Determining origin and cause of fires and explosions in structures.
- Determining origin and cause of fires and explosions in vehicles and equipment
- Evaluation of fire suppression and detection systems
- Fire and life safety in buildings

Licenses and Certifications:

Certified Fire Investigator, International Association of Arson Investigators, Certificate 22032731

Motor Vehicle Fire endorsement IAAI, Certificate 22-032731

Asbestos Operations and Maintenance

National Board of Fire Services Certified, Certificate 294786

Certified Fire Investigator, California Conference of Arson Investigators, Certificate #581

Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator, National Association of Fire Investigators, Certificate #3434-0345

Private Investigator, California Bureau of Security & Investigative Services

Fire Investigator I, California State Board of Fire Services, Certificate #880263

Fire Investigator II, California State Board of Fire Services, Certificate #870167

Fire Prevention Officer I, California State Board of Fire Services, Certificate #771416

Fire Prevention Officer II, California State Board of Fire Services, Certificate #870149

Firefighter I, California State Board of Fire Services, Certificate #007508

Fire Officer, California State Board of Fire Services, Certificate #015342

Fire Prevention Officer, California State Board of Fire Services, Certificate #15

Certified Uniform Fire Code Inspector, UFC Association, Certificate #500378-000

Fire Protection Specialist, California State Board of Fire Services, Certificate #000048

Professional Experience:

EFI Global - Unified Investigations & Sciences, Inc., Senior Investigator, 2012 to present
Unified Investigations & Sciences, Inc., Special Investigator, 2010 to 2012

Nevada County Consolidated Fire District, Battalion Chief & Fire Marshal, 1982 – 2010
Sierra Community College, Mechanic and Bus Driver, 1980 – 1982

Lincoln's Ambulance Service Emergency Medical Technician, 1975 – 1980
Grass Valley Fire Department, Firefighter/Marshal/Investigator, 1973 – 1991

Watt Park Fire Protection District, Firefighter/Assistant Fire Chief/Captain 1973 – 1991

Specialized Education:

Vehicle fire investigation, fireworks and explosions, post blast identification, CCAI, 2022
Explosions and their investigations, explosion dynamics, identification of bombs, explosions and their investigations, explosion dynamics, identification of bombs, explosives, IED's, serial bombers and their motives, CCAI, 2021

Laser scanner systems demos, fire alarm systems, natural and LP-Gas explosions, accidental & electrical fire causes, live-burn demos, drones, and legal aspects of subrogation, CCAI 2019

Fundamentals of fire investigations including education requirements of NFPA-1033, CCAI, 2019

California Conference of Arson Investigators, CCAI, 2019

Fire Chemistry, IAAI, CFITrainer.net, 2018

California Conference of Arson Investigators, CCAI, 2018

Fire Protection Systems, IAAI, 2018

Fundamentals of Residential Building Construction, IAAI, 2018

The Scientific Method for Fire and Explosion Investigation, IAAI, 2018

Electrical smart meter fires and evidence, IAAI California Roundtables, 2017

Modern Techniques of Fire & Arson Investigation, California Chapter – International Association of Arson Investigators, 2017

Essentials of NFPA-1033, Unified Investigations & Sciences; In-service Webinar Series; 2017

Modern Techniques of Fire & Arson Investigation, California Chapter – International Association of Arson Investigators, 2016

Post flashover fires, CFITrainer.net / IAAI, 2016

Understanding the Fire Investigator's Job, CFITrainer.net

/ IAAI, 2016 Use of drones for fire investigation, IAAI

California Roundtables, 2016 Spray-on polyurethane

insulation, IAAI California Roundtables, 2016 Smart meters, IAAI California Roundtables, 2016 Vessel Fires, IAAI California Roundtables, 2016 Charleston Sofa Super Store Fire, CFITrainer.net / IAAI, 2015 A Ventilation-Focused Approach to the Impact of Building Structures and Systems on Fire Development, CFITrainer.net / IAAI, 2015 Writing the Initial Origin and Cause Report, CFITrainer.net / IAAI, 2015 Diesel exhaust regeneration systems and particulate filters, IAAI California Roundtables, 2015 U.S. Product Safety Commission, Working with Fire Investigators, IAAI California Roundtables, 2015 Fire Debris Evidence Handling, IAAI California Roundtables, 2015 Self-Heating and Ignition of Vegetative Materials, IAAI California Roundtables, 2015 Modern Techniques of Fire & Arson Investigation, California Chapter – International Association of Arson Investigators, 2015 Asbestos Operations and Maintenance-Initial, Environmental Safety Training Professionals, Ltd., 2015 Annual Refresher with Asbestos Awareness, 2014 OSHA 29 CFR 1910.1200-Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals, Unified Investigations and Sciences, Inc., 2014 HAZWOPER Standard, CFITrainer.net / IAAI, 2014 Wildland Fire Investigations, CFITrainer.net / IAAI, 2014 NFPA 921 and 1033, 2014 Editions: Important Revisions, CFITrainer.net / IAAI, 2014 Investigating Motor Vehicle Fires, CFITrainer.net / IAAI, 2014 Marijuana grow operations and honey oil extraction, IAAI California Roundtables, 2014 Ignitable liquids in the 21st Century, IAAI California Roundtables, 2014 NFPA 1033 update, IAAI California Roundtables, 2014 Smart electrical and gas meters, IAAI California Roundtables, 2014 Evidence; collection and preservation, IAAI California Roundtables, 2013 Gas absorption refrigerator fires, IAAI California Roundtables, 2013 Fire weather and weather data for fire investigators, IAAI California Roundtables, 2013 Your Arson Investigation on Trial and Your Investigation Report Under the Microscope, IAAI California Roundtables, 2013 Documenting the Event, CFITrainer.net / IAAI, 2013 Modern Techniques of Fire & Arson Investigation, California Chapter – International Association of Arson Investigators, 2013 Modern Techniques of Fire & Arson Investigation, San Luis Obispo, CA, March California Chapter – International Association of Arson Investigators, 2013 Asbestos Awareness-Annual Refresher, February 2013 Modern Techniques of Fire & Arson Investigation, California Chapter – International Association of Arson Investigators, 2012 Modern Techniques of Fire & Arson Investigation, California Chapter – International Association of Arson Investigators, 2012 Hazmat School – Annual Refresher with Asbestos Awareness, 2012 Arc Mapping Basics, CFITrainer.net / IAAI, 2012

Health and safety issues for fire investigators, IAAI California Roundtables, 2012
Bilancia Ignition Matrix, IAAI California Roundtables, 2012
Forensic fire scene photography, IAAI California Roundtables, 2012
Ground-fault and arc-fault breakers and other electrical issues, IAAI California Roundtables, 2012
Scene Safety, CFITrainer.net / IAAI, 2011
Preservation and collection of evidence during inclement weather conditions, IAAI California Roundtables, 2011
NFPA 921 and NFPA-1023 review and updates, IAAI California Roundtables, 2011
Large loss fire investigations, IAAI California Roundtables, 2011
Subrogation for both the public and private investigator, IAAI California Roundtables, 2011
Modern Techniques of Fire & Arson Investigation, California Chapter – International Association of Arson Investigators, 2011
2011 Annual Seminar, Modern Techniques of Fire & Arson Investigation, International Association of Arson Investigators, 2011
Modern Techniques of Fire & Arson Investigation, California Chapter – International Association of Arson Investigators, 2011
Modern Techniques of Fire & Arson Investigation, California Chapter – International Association of Arson Investigators, 2010
San Luis Obispo Fire Investigation Strike Team, San Luis Obispo Coroner Division, San Luis Obispo Sheriff's Department, Forensic Fire Death Investigation, 2010
Advanced Explosives Recognition, Central Valley Arson Investigators, 2010
Fire Prevention Professional Development Workshop, California Fire Prevention Institute, 2010
Modern Techniques of Fire & Arson Investigation, California Chapter – International Association of Arson Investigators, 2010
Forensic Fire Scene Reconstruction, DeHaan/Icove, Northern California Fire Prevention Officers Association, 2010
Forensic Fire Scene Reconstruction, Northern California Fire Prevention Officers Association, 2010
Situational awareness for fire investigators, IAAI California Roundtables, 2010
Vessel (boat) fires, IAAI California Roundtables, 2010
Hazards to fire investigations, IAAI California Roundtables, 2010
Insurance issues and available assistance to investigators, IAAI California Roundtables, 2009
IAAI and CFI Trainer.net programs, IAAI California Roundtables, 2009
Vehicle fires and mechanical issues, May IAAI California Roundtables, 2009
Insurance issues and fraud trends, IAAI California Roundtables, 2009
Modern Techniques of Fire & Arson Investigation, California Chapter – International Association of Arson Investigators, 2009
Fire Prevention Professional Development Workshop, California Fire Prevention Institute, 2009
Modern Techniques of Fire & Arson Investigation, California Chapter – International Association of Arson Investigators, 2009

Affiliations:

California Conference of Arson Investigators,
Roundtable Coordinator International Association of Fire
Investigators
Sacramento – Sierra Regional Arson Task
Force National Association of Fire and
Explosive Investigators
National Fire Protection Association,
California State Fireman's Association
California Fire Chief's Association; Northern California Fire Prevention
Officers Association California Association of Licensed Private Investigators

Publications and Presentations:

Fire Scene Examination of Burned Vehicle #4, Fire Arson Investigator, California
Conference of Arson Investigators, Winter-2011