

JT Collier | Fire Investigator, IAAI-CFI

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Professional Summary:

J.T. Collier has 29 and a half years of experience in the fire service as a fire investigator, deputy fire marshal, firefighter/paramedic, toxicology paramedic and hazardous materials technician. In 2007 Mr. Collier co-founded Western States Fire Investigations, a company that specializes in fire/arson origin and cause investigations. Mr. Collier has investigated and determined the origin and cause of fires occurring in commercial structures, industrial sites, residential homes, restaurant occupancies, agricultural sites, recreational vehicles, commercial vehicles and automobiles. Mr. Collier has extensive training and experience in fire protection systems and inspection of those systems as an Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). Mr. Collier is a Certified Fire Investigator IAAI-CFI, through the International Association of Arson Investigators and a Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator NAFI-CFEI, through the National Association of Fire Investigators. Mr. Collier has been awarded the grade of Member (MIFireE) in the Institution of Fire Engineers, USA Branch. Mr. Collier also holds designation as an Evidence Collection Technician IAAI-ECT, through the International Association of Arson Investigators. He has over 1000 hours of classroom and practical instruction directly related to fire/arson investigations. Classes include interviews and interrogations, fire science/behavior, fire dynamics, fire chemistry, fire modeling, flammable liquids, fuel gases, fire origin and cause determination, electrical fire investigation, courtroom testimony, vehicle fire investigations, commercial kitchen suppression systems, and evidence collection/preservation. In addition to fire and arson investigation training, Mr. Collier is a certified hazardous materials technician with specialized training in hazardous materials, radiological materials, illicit drug laboratories, fuel gases, explosion scene investigation and weapons of mass destruction.

Areas of Expertise:

- Commercial, industrial and residential losses
- Hazardous materials
- Fire code

Licenses and Certifications:

Private Investigator, Arizona Department of Public Safety, AZ, License #1709714

Certified Fire Investigator, International Association of Arson Investigators #28-091632

Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator, National Association of Fire Investigators #12854-7056

Evidence Collection Technician, International Association of Arson Investigators, #AZ-2903

Project Experience:

Loves Corporation, Winslow, AZ Fuel Tanker Explosion

Fuel tanker explosion while operator loading multi-compartment tank with fuel at loading platform.

**Nationwide Insurance Co. Gilbert, AZ
Residential Apartment Complex Fire**

Multi-million-dollar fire loss to Residential Apartment complex under construction. Fire consumed 16 of 17 buildings on 10-acre site and extended to multiple homes and adjacent apartment complex before being extinguished. Conducted multiple joint examinations with local agencies and ATF to determine accidental cause of fire.

**Imemories, Gilbert, AZ
Warehouse Fire**

Large loss warehouse fire containing client photos, videos and other media.

**MCATF, Casa Grande, AZ
Apartment Buildings Under Construction Loss**

Nine apartment buildings under construction fire loss due to arson.

Court Qualifications/ Depositions:

Litigation CV available upon request.

Professional Experience:

EFI Global Inc, Fire Investigator, 2018 – Present
Western States Fire Investigations, Owner/Fire Investigator, 2008 – 2018
Scottsdale Fire Department, Deputy Fire Marshal, 2007 – 2021
Scottsdale Fire Department, Firefighter/Paramedic Hazmat Tech., 1992-2007

Specialized Education:

International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, NFPA 921 Update, May 21, 2021, 8 hours
CFI Trainer, Residential Electrical Systems, May 20, 2021, 3 hours
CFI Trainer, Basic Electricity, May 19, 2021, 4 hours
CFI Trainer, Fire Protection Systems, May 18, 2021, 3 hours
CFI Trainer, Investigating Natural Gas Systems, May 18, 2021, 3 hours
CFI Trainer, Charting Your Career Path in Fire Investigations, March 8, 2020, 3 hours
CFI Trainer, Introduction to Appliances, March 2, 2020, 3 hours
CFI Trainer, Critical Evaluation and Testing of Commonly Reported Accidental Causes, March 2, 2020, 3 hours
CFI Trainer, Understanding Undetermined, September 22, 2019, 3 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Advanced Fire Investigation Seminar; Legal Issues, Homicide/Arson, Social Media, July 31-August 2, 2018, 20 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators, International Training Conference, May 20-25, 2018; 32 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Advanced Fire Investigation Seminar; Learn to Burn & Fire Effects on Bodies, July 19-21, 2017, 20 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators, International Training Conference, April 10-14, 2017; 32 hours

International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, NFPA 921 2017 ed. Update March 20, 2017, 8 hours
National Fire Academy, Fire Investigation: Electrical Systems, September 2016, 48 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Advanced Fire Investigation Seminar; Meeting NFPA 1033, NFPA 921 & Testifying, July 20-22, 2016, 20 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Butane Hash Oil Seminar, November 4, 2015, 8 hours
CFI Trainer, The Practical Application of the Relationship Between NFPA 1033 and NFPA 921, July 14, 2015, 2 hours
CFI Trainer, DNA, July 14, 2015, 3 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Advanced Fire Investigation Seminar; Report Writing, Interrogation, Polygraph, VSA, July 9-11, 2015, 20 hours
International Association of Fire Investigators, Report Writing for Fire Investigators, April 14, 2015, 2 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Testifying Tips and Lawyer Tricks; The Secrets of Qualifying as a Fire Investigations Expert, March 25, 2015, 13 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Basic Electricity and Fire, February 25, 2015, 8 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Cell Phone Exploitation, January 22, 2015, 8 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Vehicle Fire Investigations Seminar, October 30, 2014, 16 hours
CFI Trainer, Electrical Safety, October 13, 2014, 3 hours
International Symposium on Fire Investigation Science & Technology, September 22-24, 2014
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Advanced Fire Investigation Seminar; Fire/Arson Homicide Fatality, July 9-11, 2014, 20 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, NFPA 921 2014 ed. Update June 19, 2014, 8 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter & Federal Bureau of Investigation, Improvised Explosives Workshop, February 19, 2014, 4 hours
CFI Trainer, Evidence Examination: What Happens at the Lab, December 12, 2013, 4 hours
CFI Trainer, NFPA 1033 and Your Career, December 12, 2013, 2 hours
Public Agency Training Council, Fire/Arson Investigator Conference; Expert Report Writing, December 2-6, 2013, 35 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Advanced Fire Investigation Seminar; Fire Dynamics, July 10-12, 2013, 20 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Fuel Gas Fires Seminar March 13, 2013, 8 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Expert Witness Courtroom Testimony, August 24-26, 2012, 40 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Advanced Fire Investigation Seminar; Electrical Fire Investigations, July 11-13, 2012, 20 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Forensic Photography Seminar, May 17, 2012, 8 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Incendiary Device Investigation Seminar, March 26, 2012, 8 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Vehicle Fire Failure Analysis Seminar, November 6, 2011, 16 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, 2011 NFPA 921 Update Seminar, September 23, 2011, 8 hours

International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Advanced Fire Investigation Seminar; Scientific Protocols for Fire Investigations, July 15, 2011, 20 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Wildland Origin & Cause Seminar, May 20, 2011, 8 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Daubert Seminar, February 18, 2011, 7.5 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter & Arizona Homicide Investigators, Homicide and Death Related Fire Investigations Seminar, November 1, 2010, 8 hours
National Fire Academy, Forensic Evidence Collection, October 2010, 48 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Advanced Arson Investigation Seminar, July 17, 2010, 20 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Arson 4 April 16, 2010, 40 hours
Arizona Fire Marshals Association in conjunction with United Fire Equipment, Commercial Kitchen Suppression Systems, March 11, 2010, 6 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Natural Gas Seminar February 24, 2010, 8 hours
CFI Trainer, Preparation for the Marine Scene, November 5, 2009, 4 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Arson 3, October 16, 2009, 40 hours
CFI Trainer, Effective Investigation and Testimony, September 11, 2009, 3 hours
CFI Trainer, An Analysis of the Station Nightclub Fire, September 11, 2009, 4 hours
CFI Trainer, Arc Mapping Basics, September 9, 2009, 4 hours
CFI Trainer, Motive, Means, and Opportunity: Determining Responsibility in an Arson Case, September 9, 2009, 4 hours
CFI Trainer, Fire and Explosion Investigations; Utilizing NFPA 1033 and 921, September 8, 2009, 4 hours
CFI Trainer, Postflashover Fires, September 8, 2009, 4 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Advanced Arson Investigation Seminar, July 17, 2009, 24 hours
National Fire Academy, Fire Dynamics/Fire Modeling, December 2008, 80 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, NFPA 921 2008 Edition Update, November 20, 2008, 8 hours
CFI Trainer, Vacant and Abandoned Buildings, September 16, 2008, 4 hours
CFI Trainer, Ventilation Impact on Fire Development, September 16, 2008, 4 hours
International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Advanced Arson Investigation, July 16, 2008, 24 hours
Scottsdale Fire Department, NFPA 921 update, June 26, 2008, 8 hours
National Fire Academy, Interview/Interrogation Courtroom Testimony, June 2008, 80 hours
CFI Trainer, Investigating Fatal Fires, May 14, 2008, 4 hours
CFI Trainer, MagneTek: A Case Study in The Daubert Challenge, March 31, 2008, 2 hours
CFI Trainer, Physical Evidence at the Fire Scene, January 16, 2008, 4 hours
CFI Trainer, Critical Thinking Solves Cases, January 14, 2008, 4 hours
CFI Trainer, Documenting the Event, January 13, 2008, 4 hours
CFI Trainer, Investigating Motor Vehicle Fires, January 12, 2008, 4 hours
Public Agency Training Council, Electrical Fire Investigation, April 28-30, 2008, 20 hours
National Fire Academy, Origin and Cause Fire Investigation, December 2007, 80 hours
Arizona State Fire Marshal, Basic Arson Fire Investigation, September 2007, 24 hours
CFI Trainer, Insurance and the Fire Investigation, September 22, 2007, 4 hours
CFI Trainer, Digital Photography and the Fire Investigator, September 21, 2007, 4 hours

CFI Trainer, Introduction to Fire Dynamics and Modeling, September 21, 2007, 4 hours
CFI Trainer, Ethics and the Fire Investigator, September 21, 2007, 3 hours
CFI Trainer, The Scientific Method for Fire and Explosion Investigation, September 18, 2007, 3 hours
CFI Trainer, Fire Investigator Scene Safety, September 18, 2007, 3 hours
CFI Trainer, Introduction to Evidence, September 18, 2007, 4 hours

Education:

Bachelor of Science Public Safety Administration, Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, AZ 2007.

Affiliations:

International Association of Arson Investigators
International Association of Arson Investigators, Arizona Chapter
President 7/2016 – 7/2017
1st Vice President 7/2015 – 7/2016
2nd Vice President 7/2014 - 7/2015
Board Member 7/2012 - 7/2014
Chair of the Education and Training Committee 6/2011-7/2012
Chair of the Communications 7/2017 – 8/2018
International Association of Arson Investigators, Certified Instructor
International Fire Marshals Association
International Code Council, Certified Fire Inspector I
Institution of Fire Engineers, USA Branch, Member Grade, MIFireE
International Fire Service Training Association Fire Investigator 3ed. Validation Committee
National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)
Principal Member of the NFPA Professional Qualifications Committee (Standards 1001-1005)
ASTM International – Member #1421727
ASTM International E30 - Forensic Sciences Committee Member (Voting Member)
Arizona Center for Fire Service Excellence, Certified Fire Inspector 1 & 2
Arizona Fire Marshals Association
Maricopa County Fire Investigation Task Force, Served as Chair & Vice Chair 2013-2014

Courses Instructed/ Guest Lecturer:

Instructor – International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Arson I Scottsdale, Arizona, October 2020
Topic: Electricity & Fire

Instructor – International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Arson I Scottsdale, Arizona, September 2018
Topic: Methodology, Electricity & Fire, Evidence & Spoliation

Instructor – Arizona State Fire School, Mesa, Arizona, September 2018
Topic: Origin and Cause Determination for First Responders

Adjunct Faculty – Mesa Community College, 2012-2014, Teaching Fire Investigations (FSC209, FSC210, FSC211, FSC212)

Adjunct Faculty – Scottsdale Community College, 2000-2012, Teaching Fire Investigations, Hazardous Materials First Responder & Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

Instructor – International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Arson I Tempe, Arizona, March 2015

Topic: Fire Patterns, Building Systems, Documentation, Fire/Explosion Deaths

Instructor – International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Arson I Tucson, Arizona, October 2014

Topic: Basic Electricity, Fire Investigator Standards, Fire Dynamics

Instructor/Mentor – International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Arson IV Tucson, Arizona, April 2014

Topic: Curriculum Vitae, mentoring a group of student fire investigators

Instructor/Mentor – International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Arson III Flagstaff, Arizona, October 2013

Topic: Private Fire Investigators, mentoring a group of student fire investigators

Instructor – International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Arson II Mesa, Arizona, October 2013

Topic: Fire Reports

Instructor – Arizona State Fire School, Mesa, Arizona, September 2013

Topic: Engine Company Fire Origin and Cause Determination

Instructor – International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Arson I Mesa, Arizona, September 2013

Topic: Fire Investigator Standards, Fire Dynamics

Instructor – International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Arson I Scottsdale, Arizona, October 2012

Topic: Electrical Fires, Fire Investigator Standards, Building Construction

Instructor – International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Arson III Flagstaff, Arizona, October 2011

Topic: Private Fire Investigators

Instructor – Arizona State Fire School, Mesa, Arizona, September 2012

Topic: Engine Company Fire Origin and Cause Determination

Instructor – Arizona International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Arson II Tucson, Arizona, August 2011

Topic: Origin and Cause Determination

Instructor – International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Arson I Tucson, Arizona, June 2011

Topic: Fire Investigator Scene Safety

Instructor – International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Arson II Bullhead City, Arizona, April 2011

Topic: Curriculum Vitae

Instructor – International Association of Arson Investigators Arizona Chapter, Scottsdale, Arizona, April 2010

Topic: Forensic Evidence Collection

Instructor – Scottsdale Fire Department Scottsdale, Arizona, March 2010

Topic: Small Appliance Fire Investigation Seminar

Honors and Awards:

Frank J Molina Distinguished Service Award, Arizona Chapter of The International Association of Arson Investigators, 2018

Scottsdale Fire Department, Fire and Life Safety Nominee 2011

Scottsdale Fire Department, Medal of Valor Nominee, 2006