



James Woolf | Great Lakes District Fire Science Principal, **IAAI-CFI (V), NAFI-CFEI**

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Professional Summary:

James Woolf has over 32 years of combined experience in the fire service and law enforcement. In the fire service, Mr. Woolf has served as a line firefighter and fire officer, fire investigator/inspector, and fire service instructor. In law enforcement, Mr. Woolf has served as a patrol officer, detective and as a Chief of Police. Mr. Woolf is also a U.S. Army veteran and served as a Legal Specialist/Sergeant and Infantry Paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division. He has conducted over 1500 origin and cause investigations. Attended specialized training in fire investigation, motor vehicle fire investigation, explosion investigation, interview and interrogation, evidence collection and Ohio Revised Code. He is a Certified Fire Investigator with Motor Vehicle Fire Endorsement (IAAI), Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator (NAFI), Certified Fire Safety Inspector, Certified Fire Service and Live Fire Instructor, Certified Hazardous Materials Technician and Incident Commander.

Licenses and Certifications:

Certified Fire Investigator, CFI, IAAI, # 01-0922114
Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator, NAFI, #7202-2839
Certified Firefighter Level 2, Ohio Department of Public Safety, #0024422
Certified Fire Safety Inspector, Ohio Department of Public Safety, #0024422
Certified Fire Service Instructor, Ohio Department of Public Safety, #0024422
Certified Live Fire Instructor, Ohio Department of Public Safety, #0024422
Certified Paramedic, Ohio Department of Public Safety, #0024422
Private Investigator, State of Ohio, #20201100351155
Private Investigator, State of West Virginia, #F230201011907
Private Investigator, State of Indiana, #PI20700099
Private Investigator, State of Michigan, #3701207620
Private Investigator, State of Pennsylvania, #CP-10-MD-0000247-2021

Project Experience:

Confidential Client, OH Fire Investigation

Conducted origin and cause investigation regarding a fire in a single-family house that had previously been determined as electrical in cause. Investigation resulted in determining that the fire was intentionally set by the homeowner by pouring flammable liquids in the basement. Case resulted in an aggravated arson conviction.

Confidential Client, OH**Fire Investigation with Hazardous Materials Involvement**

Conducted origin and cause investigation regarding a fire at a waste recycling and disposal facility. Investigation resulted in determining that the fire was caused by the illegal disposal of dangerously reactive chemicals encased in concrete and dumped into a local business dumpster for disposal. The concrete encasements broke open during the recycling process causing air-reactive and water-reactive chemicals to spontaneously ignite, with further firefighting operations causing more violent reactions. Case resulted the manager of a small chemical laboratory being charged.

Court Qualifications/ Depositions:

Litigation CV available upon request.

Professional Experience:

Twinsburg Fire Department, FireMedic/Fire Investigator/Fire Instructor, 1998 – 2020
Highland Hills Fire Department, Village Fire Marshal/FireMedic, 2017 – 2020
Portage County Sheriff's Department, Deputy Sheriff – Special Deputy, 2011 – 2018
Brady Lake Police Department, Chief of Police, 2006 – 2010
Auburn Fire Department, Captain/Fire Investigator/HazMat Officer, 1998 – 2006
Maple Heights Fire Department, FireMedic/Fire Investigator, 1990 - 1998

Specialized Education:

Greater Cincinnati Regional Arson and Fire Investigator Seminar, IAAI OSFM, 2023
Electrical Vehicles/Electrical Considerations in Fire Investigations, Ohio IAAI, 2023
Energy Storage Systems- Fire Hazard Considerations, Fire Smarts, 2023
Fire Effects Part 1: Heat Effects on Fuel, IAAI CFITrainer, 2023
Fire Effects Part 2: Combustion By-Products Effects. IAAI CFI Trainer, 2023
Fire Investigation Unit Tested Continuing Education Training, SW Emergency Response Team, 2023
Knowledge 1 Motor Vehicle Fires Tier 1, IAAI CFITrainer, 2022
Greater Cincinnati Regional Arson and Fire Investigator Seminar, IAAI OSFM, 2022
Fundamentals of Interviewing, IAAI CFITrainer, 2022
Effective Investigation and Testimony, IAAI CFITrainer, 2022
Electric and Hybrid Vehicle Fires, IAAI CFITrainer, 2022
Identifying Damage to Electrical Conductors, DCARI, 2022
Motor Vehicle Fire Investigation-3 Day, International Association of Arson Investigators, 2021
Motor Vehicles: The Engine and Ignition, Electrical, and Fuel Systems, IAAI CFITrainer, 2021
Motor Vehicles: Transmission, Exhaust, Brake and Accessory Systems, IAAI CFITrainer, 2021
Residential Natural Gas Systems, IAAI CFITrainer, 2021
Explosion Dynamics, IAAI CFITrainer, 2021
Fire Chemistry, IAAI CFITrainer, 2021
Critical Evaluation and Testing of Commonly Reported Accidental Causes, IAAI CFITrainer, 2020
Documenting the Event, IAAI CFITrainer, 2020

Fire Flow Analysis, IAAI CFITrainer, 2020
Investigating Motor Vehicle Fires, IAAI CFITrainer, 2020
NFPA 1033 and Your Career, IAAI CFITrainer, 2020
Understanding Undetermined, IAAI CFITrainer, 2020
Writing the Initial Origin and Cause Report, IAAI CFITrainer, 2020
Charting Your Career Path in Fire Investigation, IAAI CFITrainer, 2020
IED Awareness and Security Procedures, Department of Homeland Security, 2019
Fire Investigation for Fire Officers, IAAI CFITrainer, 2019
Fire Investigator Scene Safety, IAAI CFITrainer, 2019
How First Responders Impact the Fire Investigation, IAAI CFITrainer, 2019
Residential Electrical Systems, IAAI CFITrainer, 2019
The Scientific Method for Fire and Explosion Investigation, IAAI CFITrainer, 2019
Chemical Industry Outreach Workshop WMD/IED, Department of Justice/FBI, 2018
Fire Officer, Level I, University of Akron, 2018
Fire Officer, Level II, University of Akron, 2018
Fire Code and Fire Protection, Fire Code Academy, 2018
The HAZWOPER Standard, IAAI CFITrainer, 2016
Fire Investigation: Electrical Systems, National Fire Academy, 2016
Arson Detection, Ohio State Fire Marshal, 2015
Basic Electricity, IAAI CFITrainer, 2015
Charleston Sofa Superstore Fire, IAAI CFITrainer, 2015
Fire Protection Systems, IAAI CFITrainer, 2014
The Impact of Ventilation in Building Structures on Fire Development, IAAI CFITrainer, 2014
Arc Mapping Basics, IAAI CFITrainer, 2013
Electrical Safety, IAAI CFITrainer, 2013
NFPA 921 Updates, Ohio IAAI, 2011
Evidence Examination: What Happens at the Lab?, IAAI CFITrainer, 2011
Introduction to Evidence, IAAI CFITrainer, 2011
Physical Evidence at the Fire Scene, IAAI CFITrainer, 2011

Education:

High School Diploma, College Prep, Kenston High School, Bainbridge, Ohio, 1985

Affiliations:

International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI)
National Association of Fire Investigators (NAFI)
Ohio Chapter, International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI-OH)
International Association of Firefighters (IAFF)

Courses Instructed/ Guest Lecturer:

Fire Investigation and Subrogation Issues
Firefighter I & II, Fire Safety Inspection and Investigation
Fire Officer I & II, Fire Inspection and Investigation