

Professional Summary:

Mr. Newcomb has over 28 years of experience in both law enforcement and the fire service. He has been in various investigative capacities for 26 years and has specialized in fires and explosions for 17 of those years. To date, Mr. Newcomb has either lead or assisted with the investigation of over 775 fire and explosives incidents of all types, including large losses, accidental, and criminal/incendiary fires including homicides. Many of these have led to convictions or guilty pleas in Court. He served as a volunteer and/or part-time fire fighter for 12 years. Mr. Newcomb holds his Advanced Law Enforcement Certificate and is certified as a Level II fire fighter.

Areas of Expertise:

- Fire & Explosion Investigations
- Criminal Investigations
- Law Enforcement Operations
- Fire Suppression
- Hazardous Materials Response

Licenses and Certifications:

Certified Fire Investigator, International Association of Arson Investigators, #24-091366

Certified Fire Investigator, North Carolina Office of State Fire Marshal

Advanced Law Enforcement Certificate, NC Criminal Justice Training and Standards Commission

Criminal Justice Instructor, NC Criminal Justice Training and Standards Commission
(General, Instructor Orientation, Hazardous Materials/WMD)

Fire Fighter (Level II), NC Office of State Fire Marshal

Hazardous Materials Operations, NC Office of State Fire Marshal

Project Experience:

Fatal Fire Investigation Fayetteville, NC

Lead the origin and cause examination of a residential structure fire which resulted in the deaths of a mother and her two children. Determined the fire was caused by a nail impinging of a 220V electrical line which fed the HVAC system resulting in high resistance heating over time.

Arson Investigation Fayetteville, NC

Lead the cause and origin examination of a residential structure fire where the fire had been intentionally set by the husband-and-wife homeowners. Charges were filed and the defendants plead guilty to lesser charges.

Court Qualifications / Depositions:

Litigation CV available upon request.

Professional Experience:

EFI Global, Fire Investigator, Oct. 2023 – Present
Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement Instructor, Fayetteville Technical Community College 2003 – Present
North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation (1998-2023)
Assistant Special Agent in Charge (Southeastern District) (6/15 – 2/23)
Assistant Special Agent in Charge (Fire/Arson Program Coordinator) (6/10 – 6/15)
Special Agent (Fire/Arson) (2/06-6/10)
Criminal Specialist (Computer Crime Agent) (3/04-2/06)
Special Agent (Criminal) (2/98 – 3/04)
Nash County Sheriff's Office (1995-1998)
Criminal Investigator (7/97 – 1/98)
Patrol Corporal (7/96 – 7/97)
Patrol Deputy (1/95 – 7/96)
Cumberland Road Fire Department, Fire Fighter
Part Time Fire Fighter 2014 – 2020
Volunteer Fire Fighter 2008 – 2014

Specialized Education:

Digital Photography and the Fire Investigator, CFITrainer.net/IAAI 2023
Explosion Dynamics, CFITrainer.net/IAAI 2023
Critical Evaluation and Testing of Commonly Reported Accidental Causes, CFI Trainer.net/IAAI 2023
Fire Flow Analysis, CFITrainer.net/IAAI 2023
NC/SC IAAI 2022 Documenting the Fire Scene
NC/SC IAAI 2022 Statement Analysis
NC/SC IAAI 2022 Challenges to Expert Qualifications
NC/SC IAAI 2022 The Team Approach – Achieving Maximum Potential
NC/SC IAAI 2022 Prevalence of Hypothesis at Fire Investigations
NC/SC IAAI 2022 Advanced Fire Scene Documentation
NC/SC IAAI 2022 Case Study – Maternal Filicide (Molly Delgado)
Trending Topics in Fire Investigations-Electrical Aspects, Asheville-Buncombe CC 2022
NC/SC IAAI 2021 Case Studies
NC/SC IAAI 2021 Statement Analysis
NC/SC IAAI 2021 Burn Boston Burn" (Boston Serial Arsonist)
NC/SC IAAI 2021 Ethics
NC/SC IAAI 2021 Battery Fires
NC/SC IAAI 2021 Evidence

NC/SC IAAI 2019 921-1033 Updates
NC/SC IAAI 2019 Expert Witness Testimony
NC/SC IAAI 2019 Interviewing Techniques
NC/SC IAAI 2019 Technical Report Writing
NC/SC IAAI 2019 Legal Updates
NC/SC IAAI 2019 Post Blast Investigations
NC/SC IAAI 2019 Understanding Basic Electricity
NC/SC IAAI 2019 Youth Fire Setter Intervention
Expert Witness Courtroom Testimony, IAAI 2014
OSHA Respirator Essentials and Fit Testing, UNC Health, 2014
The Utilization of NFPA 921 and NFPA 1033 in Fire Investigations, Fire Investigative Training Services 2014
Wildland Fire Case Development (FI 310), US Dept. Homeland Security/NC Dept. of Agriculture 2013
NCIAAI 2013 Legal Aspects of Discovery
NCIAAI 2013 Court Room Testimony
NCIAAI 2013 CV's & Resumes
NCIAAI 2013 Car Fires
NCIAAI 2013 Ignition Analysis
NCIAAI 2013 Interviewing
NCIAAI 2013 Report Writing
NCIAAI 2013 Sketching
NCIAAI 2013 Criminal Forensics
NCIAAI 2013 Insurance Resources
NFPA 921 and 1033 Editions: Important Revisions, CFITrainer.net/IAAI 2013
Writing the Initial Origin and Cause Report, CFITrainer.net/IAAI 2013
NFPA 1033 and Your Career, , CFITrainer.net/IAAI 2013
The Scientific Method for Fire & Explosion Investigation, CFITrainer.net /IAAI 2013
Introduction to Evidence, CFITrainer.net/IAAI 2013
Physical Evidence at the Fire Scene, CFITrainer.net/IAAI 2013
Introduction to Fire Dynamics & Modeling, CFITrainer.net/IAAI 2013
Fire Protection Systems, CFITrainer.net/IAAI 2013
Fundamentals of Residential Building Construction, CFITrainer.net/IAAI 2013
Investigating Fatal Fires, CFITrainer.net/IAAI 2013
Investigation Motor Vehicle Fires, CFITrainer.net/IAAI 2013
Documenting the Event, CFITrainer.net/IAAI 2013

Education:

Bachelor of Arts in Economics, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, May 1992

Affiliations:

International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI) Member since 2012
NC Chapter of International Association of Arson Investigators, Member since 2006
Former Training Committee and Chapter Treasurer-Director

Courses Instructed/ Guest Lecturer:

- Determining Origin and Cause
- Evidence Collection
- Fatal Fire Investigations
- Fire/Arson Investigations
- Interviewing
- Report Writing
- Arson for First Responders
- Arrest Search & Seizure – Constitutional Law
- Hazardous Materials Awareness/Response
- Bloodborne Pathogens
- Various Case Studies