

Rick Dowden | Senior Fire Investigator, IAAI-CFI (V)

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Professional Summary:

Mr. Dowden has over 400 hours of classroom fire investigation training extending over 23 years of experience as a firefighter, fire marshal, and fire origin and cause investigator working within the fire community. He has investigated over 400 fire and explosion incidents throughout Indiana. These investigations have involved residential and commercial buildings, automobiles, farm and heavy equipment. The investigations have included serious injuries, fatalities and large losses.

Areas of Expertise:

- Fire Investigations – Origin and Cause
- Fire Investigations – Incendiarism
- Fire Investigations – Heavy Equipment, Farm Implements and Automobile

Licenses and Certifications:

Motor Vehicle Fire Credential Endorsement IAAI-CFI (V), 2021

Certified Fire Investigator (IAAI – CFI), International Association of Arson Investigators, IN, Certification #14-061346, 2014

Indiana Certified Driver/Operator Pumper, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2013

Indiana Certified Hazardous Materials Technician, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2013

Indiana Certified Safety Officer, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2012

Indiana Certified Trench Rescue Technician, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2011

Indiana Certified Trench Rescue Operations, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2011

Indiana Certified Fire Officer 1, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2010

Indiana Certified Confined Space Technician, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2010

Indiana Certified Confined Space Operations, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2010

Indiana Certified Rope Rescue Technician, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2009

Indiana Certified Vehicle and Machinery Rescue Technician, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2009

Indiana Certified Hazmat 1st Responder Operations, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2009

Indiana Certified Rope Rescue Operations, Indiana Department Homeland Security, 2009

Indiana Certified Technical Rescue Awareness, Indiana Department Homeland Security, 2009

Indiana Certified Instructor II/III, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2009

Indiana Certified Nims First Responder Operations, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2008

Indiana Certified Nims First Responder Awareness, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2008
Indiana Certified Instructor I, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2008
Indiana Certified Fire Officer Strategy and Tactics, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2007
Indiana Certified Hazmat 1st Responder Awareness, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2004
Indiana Certified Fire Inspector I, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2004
Indiana Certified Fire Investigator I, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2004
Indiana Certified EMS-Emergency Medical Technician, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2003
Indiana Certified Firefighter II, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2001
Indiana Certified Firefighter I, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2001
Indiana Certified Basic Firefighter, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2001
Indiana Certified Mandatory Firefighter, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, 2001
Private Investigator, State of Ohio, License #20211100406621

Professional Experience:

EFI Global Indianapolis, Indiana 2020 - Present
Anderson Fire Department, Anderson, Indiana 2002-2022
Firefighter/EMT/Hazardous Material Technician, Fire Investigator 2002-2022
Anderson Fire Department, Chief Instructor, 2013-2019
Anderson Police Department, Fire Marshall, 2012-2014

Specialized Education:

HAZWOPER, March 2026, 8 hours (Tested)
Fire Investigator Conference, IAAI Indiana Chapter 14, August 2025, 20 hours (tested)
Fire Investigation Conference, IAAI Indiana Chapter 14 Danville, IN., Aug. 2024 24 hours (tested)
Fire Investigation Conference, IAAI Indiana Chapter 14 Danville, IN., Aug. 2023 24 hours (tested)
Fire Effects Part 2: Combustion by products Effects, CFITrainer.net, June 2023, 3 hours (tested)
Fire Effects Part 1: Heat effects on fuels, CFITrainer.net, May 2023, 3 hours (tested)
Electric & Hybrid Vehicle Fires November 2022, 3 hours (tested)
Ethical Duties beyond the Fire Scene October 2022, 3 hours (tested)
Emerging Technologies in Fire Investigations August 2022, 3 hours (tested)
IAAI Indiana Chapter 14, Fire Investigation Conference, Danville, IN. 2022, 23 hours (tested)
Critical Evaluation and testing of common accidental causes July 2022, 3 hours (tested)
Alternative Fuel Vehicles June 2022, 3 hours (tested)
Knowledge 1 Motor Vehicle Fires November 2021, 8 hours (tested)
IAAI Indiana Chapter 14, Fire Investigation Conference, Danville, IN. 2021, 24 hours (Tested)
Motor Vehicle Fire Investigation- 3-day March 2021, 24 hours (tested)
Introduction to Appliances, February 2021, 3 hours (tested)
Motor Vehicles: Transmission, Exhaust, Brake, and Accessory Systems February 2021 3 hours (tested)
Electric & Hybrid Vehicle Design Basics, February 2021, 3 hours (tested)
IAAI Indiana Chapter 14, Fire Investigation Conference, Plainfield, IN. August 2019, 21 hours (Tested)

Investigating Gas and Electric Appliance Fires, Benton Harbor, MI. April 2019, 30 hours (Tested)
IAAI Indiana Chapter 14, Fire Investigation Conference, Plainfield, IN. August 2018, 21 hours (Tested)
Motor Vehicles: Engine, Ignition and Fuel, August 2017, 3 hours (Tested)
IAAI Indiana Chapter 14, Fire Investigation Conference, Plainfield, IN. August 2017, 21 hours (Tested)
Critical Thinking Solves Cases, July 2017, 4 hours (Tested)
Understanding the Investigators Job, July 2017, 3 hours (Tested)
IAAI Indiana Chapter 14, Fire Investigation Conference, Plainfield, IN. August 2016, 21 hours (Tested)
Investigating Fatal Fires, February 2016, 4 hours (Tested)
Wildland Fires Investigation, February 2016, 5 hours (Tested)
Documenting the Event, February 2016, 4 hours (Tested)
Fundamentals of Interviewing, February 2016, 4 hours (Tested)
Accreditation, Certification, and Certificates, February 2016, 3 hours (Tested)
NFPA 1033 and your career, January 2016, 2 hours (Tested)
Evidence Examination: What Happens at the Lab? January 2016, 4 hours (Tested)
Physical Evidence at the Scene, January 2016, 4 hours (Tested)
Digital Photography and the Fire Investigator, January 2016, 4 hours (Tested)
How First Responders Impact the Fire Investigation, January 2016, 2 hours (Tested)
Anderson Police Basic Crime Scene Tech Course, Anderson Police Department, August 2014, 21 hours (Tested)
Fire and Arson Fatality Fire Scene Investigation, Indiana Public Agency Training Council, Plainfield, IN. April 2014, 14 hours (Tested)
Arc Mapping Basics, November 2013, 4 hours (Tested)
Charleston Sofa Superstore Fire, November 2013, 4 hours (Tested)
Investigation Motor Vehicle Fires, July 2013, 4 hours (Tested)
Ethics and Social Media, July 2013, 3 hours (Tested)
DNA, May 2013, 3 hours (Tested)
Introduction to Evidence, May 2013, 4 hours (Tested)
Vacant and Abandoned Buildings: Hazards and Solutions, May 2013, 4 hours (Tested)
Magna Tech: A Case Study in the Daubert Challenge, May 2013, 2 hours (Tested)
Fire Dynamics Calculations, May 2013, 4 hours (Tested)
Understanding Fire Through Candle Experiments, May 2013, 4 hours (Tested)
The Hazwoper, May 2013, 4 hours (Tested)
The Fire Investigator Scene Safety, May 2013, 3 hours (Tested)
Ethics and the Fire Investigator, May 2013, 3 hours (Tested)
The Analysis of the Station Nightclub Fire, May 2013, 4 hours (Tested)
Electrical Safety, April 2013, 3 hours (Tested)
The Scientific Method for Fire and Explosion Investigation, April 2013, 3 hours (Tested)
Basic Criminal Investigation, Texas A&M, February 2013, 40 hours (Tested)
Anderson Police Department Pre-Basic, August 2012, 40 hours (Tested)

Education:

High School Diploma, General Studies, Madison Heights High School, Anderson, IN, 1993

Affiliations:

International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI)



International Association of Firefighters (IAFF)
Indiana Firefighters Association (IFA)
National Society of Professional Insurance Investigators (NSPII)

Honors and Awards:

Heroism Award, Anderson Fire Department, February 2013