Russell Wilson | Senior Fire Investigator, IAAI-CFI, NAFI-CFEI, IAAI-MVFI

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Professional Summary:

Since 1996, Mr. Wilson has served in the public and private sectors as a Fire Investigator and Forensic Technician. Throughout the Midwest, he has conducted over 3500 fire and explosion investigations involving residential and commercial large loss, heavy equipment, vehicles, fatalities, insurance fraud, complex subrogation, product installation issues and product defects.

Mr. Wilson has also conducted failure analysis of plastics, PEX, PVC, plumbing, appliance failures, natural gas and propane systems.

Mr. Wilson is a Certified Fire Investigator through the International Association of Arson Investigators and the National Association of Fire Investigators and meets the National Board for Fire Service Professional Qualifications of NFPA 1033.

Mr. Wilson has been accepted as an expert witness in State Courts and has provided testimony in both criminal and civil cases.

Licenses and Certifications:

Certified Fire Investigator, International Association of Arson Investigators, 40-102705

Certified Fire & Explosion Investigator, National Association of Fire Investigators

International Fire Instructor II/III, State of Indiana

International Firefighter II, State of Indiana

Certified Hazardous Material Technician, State of Indiana

Indiana Law Enforcement Academy, 40Hr. Pre-Basic

Certified Private Investigator, State of Iowa

Private Investigator, Illinois, 129.508579

Motor Vehicle Fire Investigator

Professional Experience:

EFI Global, Fire Investigator, Service Center: Minneapolis, MN, 2023 - Present
Wilson Forensic Consulting, LLC, Owner, Davenport, IA, 2021 - 2023
Scott County Sheriff's Office, Chaplin, Iowa, 2023 - Current
Moline Police Department, Crisis Counselor – Chaplain, Illinois, 2022 - Current
American Structurepoint, Inc., Project Manager, Fire Investigator, Forensic Technician

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Indianapolis, Indiana, 2013 - 2021
Unified Investigations & Sciences, Inc., Special Investigator, Indianapolis, Indiana 2012 - 2013
Unified Investigations & Sciences, Inc. Special Investigator, Memphis, Tennessee 2004 - 2012
Summershill Fire Department, Training Officer, Lieutenant, Olive Branch, Mississippi 2006 - 2009
Sheridan Fire Department, Firefighter, EMT, Lead Investigator, Sheridan, Indiana 1996 - 2004, 2017 - 2021
Sheridan Police Department, Commissioned Chaplain, Sheridan, Indiana 2017 - 2021

Court Qualifications/ Depositions:

Litigation CV available upon request.

Specialized Education:

Iowa Chapter IAAI ATC 2026. September 15-17, 2026. 15.50 hours. Fire Dynamics, Mental Health For The First Responder, Farm Equipment Fire Investigations, Fire Scene Photography, Evidence Collection
2026 IAAI, Motor Vehicles Fire Investigation, 3-day
2026 IAAI, Motor Vehicles: Investigation, 3 hours, tested
2026 IAAI, Motor Vehicles: Exhaust, Brake, Accessory, and Transmission Systems, 3 hours, tested
2026 IAAI, Motor Vehicles: Engine and Ignition, Electrical and Fuel Systems, 3 hours, tested
Iowa Chapter IAAI, Annual Training Conference. August 8, 2025 - August 10, 2025.
Illinois Chapter IAAI, Annual Joint Chapter Training Conference. January 26, 2026.
Heating Appliance Fires, Scene Preservation and Fuel-Gas Fires and Explosions, IAAI, Jan. 27, 2025
Traumas of Law Enforcement, Concerns of Police Survivors, July 2024
Fire Investigation and Safe Investigation of PV, EV and Lithium-Ion Fires, IAAI, Jan. 2024
Fire Science, Trial Preparation, Fire restoration and Recovery, IAAI, Sept. 2023
Post Traumatic Purpose PTSD, Moline, IL, 2023
2022 IAAI Iowa Chapter Annual Training Conference
2019 IAAI Indiana Chapter Annual Training Conference
40 Hour Pre-Basic – Indiana Law Enforcement Academy 2017
2017 IAAI – ITC Las Vegas, NV
Critical Incident Stress Management, 2016
2015 IAAI Indiana Chapter Annual Training Conference
2014 IAAI Indiana Chapter Annual Training Conference
Association of Bay Area Governments, ABAG Training Center, OSHA Annual Hazwoper Refresher August 2012, 8 hours, tested
International Association of Arson Investigators, CFITrainer.net, Arc Mapping Basics, June 2012, 4 hours, tested
Association of Bay Area Governments ABAG Training Center. Asbestos Awareness, March 2012, 2 hours, tested
International Association of Arson Investigators, Inc., CFITrainer.net, Fire Investigators Scene Safety, December 2011, 3 hours, tested
Alabama Association of Arson Investigators - Fire Marshal's Association of Alabama, Advanced Arson Investigation Seminar, October 2011, 27 hours, tested

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United States Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration, Clan Lab Re-Certifier, July 2011, 8 hours, tested.
Mississippi Fire Investigators Association, Natchez, MS, 2010 Fall Seminar, October 2010, 20 hours, tested.
Unified Investigations, Memphis, Tennessee, Hazardous Materials Technician Refresher, August 2010, 8 hours.
Tennessee Chapter IAAI, Pigeon Forge, TN, Modern Techniques of Fire and Arson Investigation, August 2009, 40 hours, tested.
Tennessee Chapter IAAI, Pigeon Forge, TN, Expert Courtroom Testimony Program, August 2009, 40 hours, tested.
International Association of Arson Investigators, Inc., The Scientific Method for Fire and Explosion Investigation, CFITrainer.net, July 2009, 3 hours, tested.
Arkansas Chapter IAAI, Eureka Springs, AR, Fire Prevention & Investigations Techniques, October 2008, 12 hours, tested.
Arkansas Chapter IAAI, Eureka Springs, AR, Flashover & Burn Patterns, Gas Explosions/Electrical Failures, Forensic Investigations, October 2007, 12 hours, tested.
Mississippi Fire Investigators Association, 2006 Fall Seminar, October 2006, 20 hours, tested.
Mississippi State Fire Academy, Summershill Fire Department, Jackson, Mississippi, Firefighter Field Day, September 2006, 8 hours
Unified Investigations, Memphis, Tennessee, Hazardous Materials Technician Refresher, August 2006, 8 hours
Arkansas Chapter IAAI, Eureka Springs, AR, Juvenile Fire Setters, Explosions/Meth Lab Awareness, Spoliation of Evidence, October 2005, 12 hours, tested.
Zionsville Fire Department, Zionsville, Indiana, NFPA Firefighter I/II, Crossover from 1st & 2nd Class, August 2003, 8 hours, tested.
Ivy Tech State College, Indianapolis Indiana, Fire Technology, December 2003, 48 hours
Ivy Tech State College, Indianapolis Indiana, Fire Alarm & Protection Equipment, December 2003, 48 hours
Ivy Tech State College, Indianapolis Indiana, Risk Management, August 2003, 48 hours
Ivy Tech State College, Indianapolis Indiana, Building Construction, August 2003, 48 hours
Ivy Tech State College, Indianapolis Indiana, Firefighting Strategy and Tactics, May 2003, 64 hours
New Mexico Tech, Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings, Technical Operations, December 2002, 32 hours, tested.
Ivy Tech College, Indianapolis, Indiana, Fire Officer I/II and Fire Instructor I/II/III, December 2002, 160 hours
Ivy Tech State College, Indianapolis, Indiana, Incident Management System, 88 hours
Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Basic Wildland Firefighting, October 2002, 8 hours
Indiana Fire and Arson Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana, Street Chemistry for Fire Investigators, Post Blast Investigation, August 2002, 22 hours, tested.
Ivy Tech State College, Indianapolis, Indiana, Hazardous Materials Technician, August 2002, 120 hours
Ivy Tech State College, Indianapolis, Indiana, Design & Planning for Prevention and Protection, August 2002, 64 hours

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Sheridan Fire Department, Sheridan, Indiana, Hazardous Materials Operations Refresher, September 2002, 8 hours
Westfield Fire Department, Westfield, Indiana, Laws of Leadership, 2002, 8 hours
Sheridan Fire Department, Sheridan Indiana, Terrorism Tactics and Awareness, September 2001, 4 hours
Indiana Fire and Arson Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana, Fire Death Investigation, Report Writing, and Evidence Collection, August 2001, 32 hours, tested.
Westfield Fire Department, Westfield, Indiana, Stress Management, 2001, 8 hours
Sheridan Fire Department, Sheridan, Indiana, Hazardous Materials Operations Refresher, August 2000, 8 hours
Indiana State Police, Westfield, Indiana, Bomb Recognition, April 2000, 8 hours
RHMES, Noblesville, Indiana, Basic Emergency Medical Technician, 1999, 192 hours
Sheridan Fire Department, Sheridan, Indiana, Clandestine Drug Labs, November 1998, 8 hours
Sheridan Fire Department, Sheridan, Indiana, Incident Command Systems, September 1998, 16 hours, tested.
Sheridan Fire Department, Sheridan, Indiana, NFPA 1st and 2nd Class Firefighter, September 1998 120 hours
Sheridan Fire Department, Sheridan, Indiana, Hazardous Materials Operations Level 2, November 1997, 8 hours
Ivy Tech College, Indianapolis, Indiana, Fire Investigator Training, March 1996, 80 hours
Sheridan Fire Department, Sheridan, Indiana, Hazardous Materials Operations Level 1, December 1996, 8 hours
Sheridan Fire Department, Sheridan, Indiana, Mandatory Fire Training, December 1996, 26 hours

Education:

Fire Science Technology - Fire Investigation, Ivy Tech, Indianapolis, Indiana, 2003

Affiliations:

International Association of Arson Investigators, IAAI
International Association of Arson Investigators, Iowa Chapter
International Association of Arson Investigators, Indiana Chapter
National Association of Fire Investigators, NAFI
Chaplain Fellowship Ministries
Destiny Leaders

Courses Instructed/ Guest Lecturer:

Property Subrogation Law
Fire Investigation for the Insurance Professional
Natural Gas Explosions
Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings
Scene Awareness

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Publications and Presentations:

Solving the Applebee's Kitchen Fire Mystery -2016
Shovel Your Way to the Origin & Cause -2015

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