

IOWA CHAPTER INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
ARSON INVESTIGATORS, INCORPORATED



32nd
Annual



Fire Investigation Seminar

and

Annual Meeting



West Des Moines Marriott
West Des Moines, Iowa

September 9 – 12, 2014

See what's in store for this year!

REGISTRATION INFORMATION



West Des Moines Marriott

1250 Jordan Creek Parkway
West Des Moines, Iowa 50266



Make your own reservations – Phone: 515-267-1500 (Single – \$109 + tax)

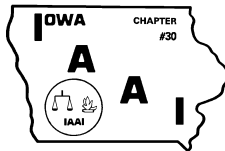
Room block will be held until August 27, 2014

Registration for Iowa Chapter members is \$250 prior to August, 25, 2014. This includes noon meals, BBQ ticket and one banquet ticket. After August 25, 2014, the price is \$275. One-day registration is \$100, does not include banquet, BBQ or membership. Extra banquet tickets may be purchased for \$35 each. Registration for non-Iowa Chapter members is \$350 prior to August 25, 2014, after August 25, 2014, the price is \$375.

The seminar registration **does not include membership** Iowa Chapter membership is \$30.

Send registration form to:

Iowa Chapter IAAI INC.
PO Box 65101
West Des Moines, IA 50265



ALL SEMINAR ATTENDEES ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR THEIR NAME TAGS AT ALL SEMINAR ACTIVITIES.



Please Note:

On WEDNESDAY – Classes are running concurrently. The BASIC FIRE CAUSE DETERMINATION (Jeff Hutcheson & John Ticer) and VENTILATION EFFECTS ON FIRE & EXPLOSION AND EXPLOSIONS & THE DEBRIS FIELD (Peter Dahl). ***Please indicate below which class you will be attending.***

- Wednesday class with Jeff Hutcheson and John Ticer
- Wednesday class with Peter Dahl

ELECTIONS

The Chapter has the following positions open for elections: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, Director of Insurance, and Director of Prosecution

SEMINAR REGISTRATION FORM

Please Print or Type

Name: _____

Address: _____

Employer: _____

Telephone: Home Number _____ Work Number _____

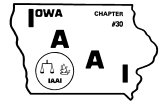
E-mail: _____ IAAI Member? Yes No

Seminar Registration \$250: _____



2014 Iowa IAAI Conference

September 9-12, 2014



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2014

1:00 p.m.	Board Meeting
3:00 p.m.	Registration/Display Room Set-up
5:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Early Registration
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	<i>Insurance for Fire Service & Law Enforcement Investigators</i> – Alan Clark

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2014

7:30 – 8:30 a.m.	Registration
8:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Opening Ceremonies President Mark Crooks Nominating Committee Report
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	RUNNING CONCURRENTLY <i>Basic Fire Cause Determination</i> – Jeffrey Hutcheson & John Ticer and <i>Fire Growth & Development and its Effects on Origin Determination Based on Ventilation</i> – Peter Dahl
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch (Provided)
1:00 – 5:00 p.m.	RUNNING CONCURRENTLY <i>Basic Fire Cause Determination (Continued)</i> – Jeffrey Hutcheson & John Ticer and <i>Explosions & How the Debris Field can Assist in Origin Hypothesis Development</i> – Peter Dahl
5:00 – 6:00 p.m.	Sectional Meetings
6:30 p.m.	Reception (Cash Bar) & Barbeque

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2014

8:00 – 11:00 a.m.	<i>Emerging Trends in the Investigation of Insurance Claims</i> – Matthew Smith, Esq.
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Annual Meeting
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch (Provided)
1:00 – 5:00 p.m.	<i>Combating the CSI Mystique: The Effect of Television and Movies on Claims Investigation and Courtroom Testimony</i> – Matthew Smith, Esq.
6:00 – 6:30 p.m.	Social Hour (Cash Bar)
6:30 p.m.	Banquet

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2014

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	<i>Civil Litigation for Fire Investigators</i> – Sean O'Brien and Dave May
12:00 p.m.	Seminar Test

SEMINAR TOPICS AND SPEAKERS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2014

INSURANCE FOR FIRE SERVICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT INVESTIGATORS – Alan L. Clark

Insurance for Fire Service & Law Enforcement Investigators covers information you can get from insurance company files, how to find and request the information and resources available from insurance carriers. Topics will include why insurance companies pay off on arson claims, what drives claim decisions, and laws and statutes regarding unfair claims practices.

Alan L. Clark is the Assistant Vice President of Special Investigations at Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company. He has been with Grinnell Mutual since 1981.

He is a past president and life member of the International Association of Arson Investigators. Mr. Clark is also a Past President and Life Member of the Iowa Chapter of the IAAI. He is currently on the board of directors of the Insurance Committee for Arson Control (ICAC).

Mr. Clark has been a featured speaker in Australia, New Zealand, Israel, Canada, Saudi Arabia, United Kingdom, Sweden, Venezuela, and throughout the United States. Mr. Clark is qualified as an expert witness in five states for both civil and criminal trials as a fire origin and cause expert. He has 40 years of fire investigation experience.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2014

BASIC FIRE CAUSE DETERMINATION – Jeffrey Hutcheson & John Ticer

This workshop will focus on the basics of fire investigation. Defining and evaluating burn patterns combined with learning basic fire behavior to determine the area and point of origin will be emphasized. The class will also examine what information is needed by investigators to begin an investigation and how firefighters at the scene can be an important part of that investigation. Participants will rely on several case presentations to assist in understanding fire behavior and burn pattern analysis. The class will also briefly examine the primary motives for fire setting and how the fire scene can aid investigators in establishing motive. The class is intended for participants who are being exposed to fire investigations for the first time or who have limited training and experience in the field.

Assistant Fire Chief (Retired) Jeff Hutcheson spent 30 years with the Council Bluffs Fire Department (CBFD) before retiring in 2012. Jeff worked his way through the ranks and transferred into the Fire Prevention Bureau as a Fire Inspector/Fire Investigator where he spent three years before his promotion to Fire Marshal. Jeff is an IAAI-CFI and NAFI-CFEI and CVFI. He is a Past President of the Iowa Chapter of IAAI and a current board member. He also served for four years on the IAAI Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors, serving as the Foundation President in 2013-2014. Jeff has been an adjunct instructor at Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs and has been a member of the Iowa Chapter since 1999. Upon his retirement from the CBFD, Jeff started working in the private sector as a Fire Investigator for Donan Engineering Company, Inc.

S/A John Ticer is a graduate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha with a double major in Criminal Justice and Psychology. In 1990 he graduated from the DPS academy transferring to the Iowa State Fire Marshal's Office in 1992. During the 22 years with the State Fire Marshal's Office he spent six years as a Fire Inspector conducting fire inspections throughout central and south central Iowa. He became a Special Agent with the State Fire Marshal's Office in 1998, a position he continues to hold. During his career he has investigated over 900 fire and explosive related cases and has been a firefighter on both the Carlisle and Treynor Volunteer Fire Departments. He is certified as a Fire Fighter one, Hazmat Technician, Clandestine Lab Specialist, Accelerant Canine Handler and Explosives Technician. He has taught at the State Fire Marshal's two week Fire and Arson School for 14 years, Iowa Western Community College as an adjunct instructor and numerous State Fire Schools, Regional Fire Schools and county and local fire classes.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2014 – Running Concurrently in Morning

FIRE GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT AND ITS EFFECTS ON ORIGIN DETERMINATION BASED ON VENTILATION – Peter Dahl

This is a hands on presentation and working review of the Viking Motel Research Project relating to the study of fire growth and development and its effects on origin determination based on ventilation. Fires were set in ten nearly identical hotel rooms. The participants will be asked to opine to an area of origin based upon their review and understanding of photographs, videos and class room discussion prior to revealing each fire's actual origin.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2014 – Running Concurrently in Afternoon

EXPLOSIONS & HOW THE DEBRIS FIELD CAN ASSIST IN ORIGIN HYPOTHESIS DEVELOPMENT – Peter Dahl

This is a hands on presentation intended to help the participants by providing an understanding of the various phases of a residential fugitive fuel explosion and how the debris field can assist in origin hypothesis development.

Peter Dahl is the owner and operator of Dahl & Associates Inc., Fire and Explosion Analysis. He is a Certified Fire Investigator (CFI-IAAI) as well as a Certified Fire & Explosion Investigator (CFEI-NAFI) and instructor. Mr. Dahl actively pursues research and scientific studies related to fire and explosion determination. He has been a licensed Private Investigator in the State of Minnesota since 1991.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2014 - Morning

EMERGING TRENDS IN THE INVESTIGATION OF INSURANCE CLAIMS – Matthew J. Smith, Esq.

There are myriad social, economic and industry-specific changes in the past decade that have an effect on the insurance claims investigation process. In order to stay ahead of the curve in our changing environment, emerging trends must be identified, and their advantages and disadvantages must be clearly deciphered. In the face of these changes, this program addresses how to identify these trends in property and bodily injury claims, and how to use these new trends to a distinct advantage.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2014 - Afternoon

COMBATING THE CSI MYSTIQUE: THE EFFECT OF TELEVISION AND MOVIES ON CLAIMS INVESTIGATION AND COURTROOM TESTIMONY – Matthew J. Smith

We have all heard about the effect of CSI and similar TV shows on juries in cases involving forensic evidence, but did you ever wonder where this show came from? And, if you are a lawyer, expert, or even a witness, have you considered the effect jurors watching decades of television and movie depictions of courtrooms may have on YOUR case? Without understanding juror expectations, you may lose your case before you ever take the stand or begin your opening statement. This program traces more than 50 years of television, movie and “pop” culture trends to illustrate the impact of media in today’s courtrooms.

Matthew J. Smith

Mr. Smith is the founder and president of the law firm Smith, Rolfes & Skavdahl Company, L.P.A with seven offices in Ohio, Kentucky, Michigan and Florida.

A 1980 graduate of the College Conservatory of Music of the University of Cincinnati with a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Radio, Television and Film he received his Juris Doctorate Degree in 1983 from the Salmon P. Chase College of Law of Northern Kentucky University. He is admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court, state and federal courts in Ohio, Michigan and Florida, the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the United States Court for the District of Columbia.

After working in broadcasting, marketing and public relations, Mr. Smith began his legal career with Cameron, Marriott, Walsh & Hodges in Florida in 1985. Returning to Ohio, in 1989, he founded the law firm which would later become Smith, Rolfes & Skavdahl Company, L.P.A.

Mr. Smith’s practice is concentrated in the field of insurance law focusing on insurance investigations including personal injury, medical fraud, property claims and bad faith litigation. Mr. Smith is a past National and Ohio State Chapter President of the National Society of Professional Insurance Investigators, a member of the American Bar Association, Defense Research Institute, Council on Litigation Management, Ohio State Bar Association, the Michigan Bar, the Florida Bar, the Kentucky Bar Association and the Bar of the District of Columbia. He is also a member of the Cincinnati, Ohio, Bar Association and the Past Chair of the Joint Committee of the Cincinnati Bar Association and the Academy of Medicine.

A frequent lecturer on insurance law matters, Mr. Smith has spoken before the International Association of Arson Investigators, of which he is also a member, the Property Loss Research Bureau (PLRB), The Ohio Arson School, The National Society of Professional Insurance Investigators Advance Insurance Fraud Training Seminars, The Florida Insurance Fraud Education Committee Annual Meetings and conducted training programs for major insurers including State Farm, Farmers Insurance Group, Allstate, Chubb Insurance Group, Nationwide and Auto-Owners insurance companies among many others.

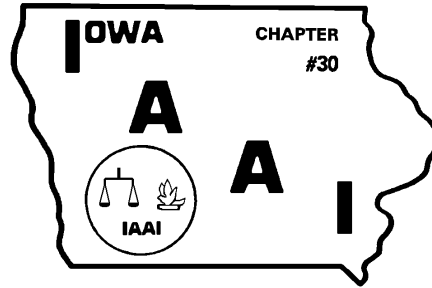
Mr. Smith has been married for 28 years to his wife, Cyndi and they have two daughters. His civic involvement includes serving on campaign committees for many of Ohio’s elected judges and justices of the Ohio Supreme Court as well as work with various ministries and missions programs throughout the world.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2014

CIVIL LITIGATION FOR THE FIRE INVESTIGATORS – Sean O'Brien and Dave May

Attorneys Sean O'Brien and Dave May will discuss issues that will come up when (not if) your fire becomes the subject of civil litigation in an Iowa court. Topics will include (1.) a brief overview of the litigation process, with opportunity to ask the questions you always wondered about but were afraid to ask; (2.) the deposition process and how to handle it; (3.) what you need to know about expert disclosure requirements, both in state and federal court; (4.) Daubert motions and other ways in which your methods can matter in litigation; (5.) spoliation and what it can mean for the case; and (6.) how to prepare for and succeed your trial testimony.

Sean O'Brien and Dave May are shareholders with the Bradshaw Law Firm in Des Moines. They are part of Bradshaw's team of lawyers who focus primarily on fires, explosions, other major property losses. Sean and Dave have each served as Director of Prosecution for the Iowa Chapter of IAAI. They regularly speak on a variety of topics relating to fire investigation.



Please submit your Registration Form

IAAI Officers

Mark Crooks – President
John Grier – 1st Vice President
Becky Nelson – 2nd Vice President
Paul O'Connell – Secretary/
Treasurer

IAAI Directors

David May
Jeff Hutcheson
Jeff Haler
Kurt Blackburn
Greg Siembieda
Zack Spykerman
Todd Hartzler, Chapter Chaplain

The opinions expressed by the
Speakers are not necessarily
those of the International
Association of Arson Investigators
or the
Iowa Chapter of the IAAI.