



The Connecticut State Police Fire & Explosion Investigation Unit  
The Office of Education & Data Management *and*  
The Connecticut Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators  
*in cooperation with*  
The Commission on Fire Prevention and Control *proudly present*



## The 13th Annual Vehicle Fire Investigation School

September 25, 26 & 27, 2013  
Connecticut Fire Academy  
Windsor Locks, Connecticut  
**Tuition Fee: \$175.00**

### About the Program

This program will focus on the legal aspects of vehicle fire investigations. A review of Connecticut case law pertaining to vehicle search and seizure, and the methods used to properly determine origin and cause of vehicle fires will be presented, all of which will allow the experienced Investigator to render a reliable opinion. The program will consist of classroom lecture/presentation, class discussions and live vehicle burns.

Enrollment will be limited to 30 individuals and there is a \$175.00 nonrefundable registration fee. Lunch and breaks will be provided. **Attendance at all three sessions is mandatory.** Tuition reimbursement may be available through the Connecticut FAIR Plan.

All completed applications must be submitted to this office no later than 1600 hours on **September 6, 2013**. Please

**do not** call the Office of Education & Data Management or the Connecticut State Police Fire & Explosion Investigation Unit. No telephone requests will be honored.

**Do not send registration fee with the application.**

After review by the selection committee, the candidates selected to attend will be notified by mail and will then submit a completed registration form along with the \$175.00 registration fee.

Preference may be given to graduates of the Annual Advanced Fire Investigation School provided by this Agency or its equivalent.

**20 hours of continuing education credit will be awarded.**

### Program Instructors

**Dennis Lyons** — Mr. Lyons is the President of S. D. Lyons, Inc., with offices in Massachusetts and Connecticut. He began his career in Automotive Accident Reconstruction and Vehicle Forensics in 1978 with APC Engineering and Avery Technical Services in Rhode Island. Mr. Lyons has extensive training and experience in fire investigation, auto mechanics, locksmithing and physical damage evaluation. He is a court-qualified expert in the areas of fire origin and cause, automotive ignition and security system analysis, mechanical failure analysis and physical damage analysis. The technical staff at his company consists of mechanical engineers, fire investigators, certified master technicians and locksmiths and provides accident reconstruction and automotive forensic services throughout New England. (S.D Lyons, Inc., 1898 Fall River Avenue, Seekonk, MA 02771; 508-336-9393)

**Sergeant Christopher M. Bartolotta** — Sergeant Bartolotta has been employed by the State of Connecticut State Police since 1990, and is currently assigned to the Western District Major Crime Squad. He is a certified Law Enforcement Trainer on a wide variety of subjects that include police policy and procedure, enforcement techniques, patrol functions, drug-alcohol issues, fraudulent documents, criminal investigations and numerous other topics.

**Michael G. Gailor, Esq.** — Attorney Gailor graduated from UCONN Law School and became Assistant States Attorney. He has worked as a prosecutor since 1995. Attorney Gailor lectures on testifying as an expert witness for IAAI and the Annual Advanced Fire Investigation School. He also participates in the mock trial for the Fire Investigation School.

**Detectives John M. Sawyer and Paul G. Makuc** — Detective Sawyer has been with the Connecticut State Police Fire & Explosion Investigation Unit (CSP FEIU) since 2002 and Detective Makuc since 2005. Both have attended numerous advanced courses in Fire and Explosion Investigation and Courtroom Procedures, including the National Fire Academy in Maryland and the FBI Academy in Virginia. Both are instructors for the State of Connecticut Fire Marshal Pre-Certification Program, the Advanced Fire Investigation School, and are certified POST Instructors. Both have testified at numerous criminal arson trials and given depositions on fire investigations. Both are Certified Accelerant Detection Canine Handlers, working countless fire scenes with their assigned accelerant detection canines "Lily" and "Baxter."

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## Program Schedule

### Wednesday, September 25, 2013

- 0800—0830**      **Registration**
- 0830-0845**      **Opening Remarks**  
Jeffrey J. Morrisette, State Fire Administrator, CT Fire Academy  
Sergeant Mark D. Grasso, Acting Commanding Officer CSP FEIU
- 0845-1000**      **A Practical Approach to Vehicle Fire Investigations**  
Detectives John M. Sawyer and Paul G. Makuc, CSP FEIU
- 1000—1200**      **Overview of Legal Aspects Pertaining to Vehicle Fires**  
Assistant State's Attorney Michael G. Gailor, Office of Chief State's Attorney
- 1200—1230**      **Lunch** (Fire Academy Cafeteria)
- 1230—1700**      **Determining the Origin and Cause of Vehicle Fires**  
Dennis Lyons, Owner S.D. Lyons, Inc.

### Thursday, September 26, 2013

- 0800—1200**      **Determining the Origin and Cause of Vehicle Fires (continued)**  
**Live Burns on Fire Training Grounds**  
Dennis Lyons, Owner S.D. Lyons, Inc.
- 1200—1230**      **Lunch** (Fire Academy Cafeteria)
- 1230—1700**      **Determining the Origin and Cause of Vehicle Fires (continued)**  
**Overview of Live Burn Scenarios**

### Friday, September 27, 2013

- 0830—1000**      **Theft / Fraud Related Issues / Auto Theft Unit Assistance**  
Sergeant Christopher M. Bartolotta, CSP Auto Theft Unit
- 1000-1100**      **NICB As an Investigative Resource**  
John Gasiorek, National Insurance Crime Bureau
- 1100-1200**      **Concluding the Vehicle Fire Investigation and Course Overview**  
Detectives John M. Sawyer and Paul G. Makuc, CSP FEIU
- 1200-1230**      **Lunch** (Fire Academy Cafeteria)
- 1230-1330**      **Course Critiques and Certificates**



[www.ct.gov/des](http://www.ct.gov/des)



## 2013 VEHICLE FIRE INVESTIGATION SCHOOL APPLICATION

<b>SECTION I - GENERAL INFORMATION</b>		(For office use only)
<b>NAME</b> <i>(As you would like it to appear on your certificate)</i>		
<b>HOME ADDRESS</b> <i>(Street, Town, State and Zip Code)</i>		<b>ID NUMBER</b>
		<b>WORK PHONE NO.</b> (    )
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS</b>		<b>HOME PHONE NO.</b> (    )
<b>DO YOU HAVE ANY HANDICAPS <i>(including special allergies or medical conditions)</i> WHICH WOULD REQUIRE SPECIAL CONSIDERATION DURING YOUR ATTENDANCE AT THIS COURSE?</b>		
<b>SECTION II - EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION AND AUTHORIZATION</b>		
<b>NAME AND COMPLETE ADDRESS OF ORGANIZATION BEING REPRESENTED</b>		Enter your current position in Organization being represented and number of years in the position.  <b>Position:</b> _____ <b>Years:</b> _____
<b>CHECK THE BOX BELOW TO INDICATE THE COUNTY YOUR ORGANIZATION IS LOCATED IN</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> FAIRFIELD <input type="checkbox"/> LITCHFIELD <input type="checkbox"/> NEW HAVEN <input type="checkbox"/> TOLLAND <input type="checkbox"/> HARTFORD <input type="checkbox"/> MIDDLESEX <input type="checkbox"/> NEW LONDON <input type="checkbox"/> WINDHAM		
<b>Briefly describe your activities or responsibilities as they relate to the course for which you are applying and identify how you will utilize the information obtained from the course:</b>		
<b>CHECK THE BOX(ES) BELOW THAT BEST DESCRIBE YOUR ORGANIZATION</b>		
<b>JURISDICTION</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> STATEWIDE <input type="checkbox"/> CITY/TOWN/VILLAGE <input type="checkbox"/> FIRE DISTRICT <input type="checkbox"/> FEDERAL/MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY/BUSINESS <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER _____	<b>TYPE OF ORGANIZATION</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> CAREER <input type="checkbox"/> VOLUNTEER <input type="checkbox"/> COMBINATION	<b>AFFILIATION</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> FIRE SERVICE <input type="checkbox"/> LAW ENFORCEMENT <input type="checkbox"/> EMERGENCY MGMT. <input type="checkbox"/> JUDICIAL <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER _____

(OVER)

## 2013 VEHICLE FIRE INVESTIGATION SCHOOL APPLICATION

Do you investigate vehicle fires now?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Number of vehicle fires investigated \_\_\_\_\_

List previous Vehicle Fire Investigation courses you have attended (including National/Federal, State and Private sponsored courses). Attach additional page if necessary.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THIS APPLICATION IS SEPTEMBER 6, 2013**

**DO NOT** send tuition fee of \$175.00 with this application

*Accepted applicants will be notified in writing after September 6, 2013*

***Please Note: ATTENDANCE AT ALL SESSIONS IS MANDATORY***

**Class times are 0800 – 1700 Wednesday and Thursday and 0830-1330 on Friday**

### SECTION III - RELEASE FROM LIABILITY

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby acknowledge and agree that I will be covered by my personal or department's workers' compensation insurance coverage while participating in the above training course and that the Connecticut Fire Academy, its Commissioners, Officers, Agents, or Employees and the State of Connecticut, its Commissioners, Officers, Agents, or Employees and that the CT Chapter of the IAAI, its Officers, Agents, or Employees, shall not be liable for any injuries or death sustained during such training.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

I hereby authorize the above applicant to participate in the above course and, therefore, understand that the above mentioned employee will be covered by my department's compensation insurance coverage while participating in such training and that the Connecticut Fire Academy, its Commissioners, Officers, Agents, or Employees and the State of Connecticut, its Commissioners, Officers, Agents, or Employees and that the CT Chapter of the IAAI, its Officers, Agents, or Employees, shall not be liable for any injuries or death sustained during such training. This applicant is considered by my department's standards to be physically and emotionally fit to perform fire investigation evolutions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF SUPERVISOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

Submit Application to: Division of Construction Services  
OEDM / Vehicle Fire School  
1111 Country Club Road  
Middletown, CT 06457  
FAX: (860) 685-8611