



CURRICULUM VITAE

DENNIS E. FIELD

IAAI-CFI®, IAAI-CFVI, NAFI-CFEI, NAFI-CVFI, IAMI-CMI

Mr. Field is President of Fire Cause Analysis. He is also a principal of the firm. In 2005 Mr. Field retired from his position as Battalion Chief with the San Bruno Fire Department. Mr. Field has over 35 years of experience in the fire service working in fire suppression as well as in fire prevention. Mr. Field has conducted, supervised or reviewed over 8000 fire investigations. He has testified as an expert witness in fire investigations in both the civil and criminal court systems throughout California.

Mr. Field has an A.S. degree in Fire Science and a B.A. degree in Social Science. In addition he is a California State Certified Fire Investigator (Level II) through the California State Fire Marshal's office. He is certified in the following areas: CFI, Certified Fire Investigator, through the INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ARSON INVESTIGATORS (IAAI); CFEI, Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator through the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE INVESTIGATORS (NAFI); CVFI, Certified Vehicle Fire Investigator, through the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE INVESTIGATORS (NAFI); a CMI, Certified Marine Investigator, through the INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MARINE INVESTIGATORS (IAMI). In 2000, Mr. Field was accepted and attended the prestigious Federal Bureau of Investigations Fire /Arson Investigation School at FBI headquarters in Quantico, Virginia. In 2003 he represented his department at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland. He is a licensed private investigator in California, Arizona, Nevada, Washington & Oregon. He has received over 3000 hours of instruction in the field of fire investigations. Mr. Field was a police officer with the Pacifica Police Department for two years prior to entering the fire service. He is P.O.S.T. certified. His knowledge in the law enforcement sector complements his fire investigation skills, especially in the area of incendiary fires. He served as a member of the San Mateo County Fire Investigation Unit from 1991 thru 2005.

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Professional Experience

Total fires investigated within career: 5000+

Private Sector: 1992 to present = 3200+

Public Sector: 1979 to 2005 = 1800+

- Work Distribution: (approximate) 75% structure
 - 12% vehicle/vessel/railroad
 - 2% wildland/grass and brush
 - 11% miscellaneous

Assigned and participated as county fire investigator in conjunction with ATF National Fire Investigation Response Team, Western Region, representing San Mateo County in multimillion dollar incendiary and/or fire losses.

- January 2003 –June 2005

Fire Battalion Chief – Training Chief - Responsible for supervisory, technical and administrative work within one or more major divisions of the Fire Department. Commander of platoon operations, training division, and fire prevention division. Assumes command of the Department in the absence of the Fire Chief. Develops goals, objectives, policies, budget, public information officer, records and reports, implement comprehensive emergency training programs, conduct fire investigations.
- January 1994 – January 2003

Fire Captain / Interim Fire Battalion Chief - Responding to fire and medical emergencies with engine, truck, or rescue equipment, conducting shift training and fire prevention activities, planning, organizing, presenting and implementing company inspections, home inspections, weed abatement, fire hazard, citizen complaints and fire investigations.
- 1999

Acting Fire Marshal - plan checking, site inspections, code research, fire safety issues, oversee engine and truck company building inspections, oversee fire prevention related issues. Code enforcement and mitigation of code violations.

- June 1991 – June 2005

San Mateo County Fire Investigation Unit – Investigation of fires for cause and origin, fire scene photography, collection of evidence, interviewing suspects, written reports, and testifying in court. (1991-2005) Secretary-Treasurer 1995-2000

- October 1980 – February 1994

Firefighter/Acting Fire Captain - Responding to fire and medical emergencies with engine, truck, or rescue companies, supervising shift personnel, maintaining equipment, conducting shift training and fire prevention activities, planning, organizing, presenting and implementing company inspections, home inspections, weed abatement, fire hazards, citizen complaints, and fire investigation.

- September 1988 – January 2005

Training Advisor – San Bruno Reserve Firefighter Program. Assist with duties involving reserve firefighter program. Overseeing safety, implementing training techniques, instruction and drilling.

- 1985 – 1987

Training Development Committee. Assist fire chief and staff officers in redefining and modernizing training goals and objectives for firefighters, including research, testing and implementing new training procedures.

- September 1983 – June 2005

Public Education Representative. Planning, organization and implementation of “Learn Not to Burn” program, teach this program at city elementary schools, counsel juvenile fire setters, organization of Junior Fire Marshal program, public information presentations to organizations regarding fire safety and earthquake preparedness, organization of senior citizens’ home safety inspection program.

Education

- **Bachelor of Arts Degree, Social Science, CSU, San Francisco** 1976
- **Associate of Arts Degree, Fire Science, College of San Mateo** 1982
- **Community College Limited Teaching Credential** 1987
- **Peace Officer Standards and Training Academy, Gavilan College** 1979

Professional Designations and Certifications

- **Certified State Chief Officer (CA)** 2001
- **Certified State Fire Officer I (CA)** 1987
- **Certified State Fire Prevention Officer (CA)** 1993
- **Certified State Fire Investigator (CFI) Level II (CA)** 2002

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- Certified National Fire Investigator (CFI, IAAI) #10736, # 22-133 2000
- Certified Fire + Explosion Investigator CFEI, NAFI) #12731 2007
- Certified Vehicle Fire Investigator (CVFI, NAFI) #12731-6353V 2011
- Certified Marine Investigator, CMI (IAMI) #03377-109 2012
- Certified State Fire Instructor I (CA) 1993
- Certified State Fire Investigator I (CA) 1993
- Community College Vocational Teaching Credential (CA) 1987
- FBI National Academy, Advanced Arson 2000
- FireFighter I (CA) 1986
- FireFighter II (CA) 1987
- San Francisco Fire Department Recruit Training 1987
- NFPA-Building Fire Safety Systems Section (member)
- NFPA-Fire Science and Technology Educators Section (member)
- Emergency Medical Technician 1 (Defibrillator) 1981
- Police Officer Standards and Training POST 1979
- Chemical Agents Training 1979
- Law Enforcement Photography 1998
- Evidence Collection and Processing 1979
- Private Investigator-California, PI #15631 1992
- Private Investigator – Arizona, #1562109 2014
- Private Investigator – Nevada #R-004673 2002
- Private Investigator- Oregon, PI-ID #51492 2012
- Private Investigator-Washington LIC #4291 2016
- Investigator San Mateo County Fire Investigation Unit 1991-2005
- Auto Extrication,
- S.A.F.E.R. Rescue System
- Flammable Liquids School
- American Red Cross, C.P.R. (basic, and community)
- American Red Cross, Lifesaving
- American Red Cross, Water Safety
- American Red Cross, Standard First Aid
- American Red Cross, Advanced First Aid
- American Red Cross, First Responder,
- High-rise Firefighting
- Professional Association of Underwater Instructors
- National Association of Underwater Instructors
- FireFighter Fitness Testing Seminar
- Wildland Firefighting-Safety and Attack 2004
- Waterous Fire Pump Instructional Workshop
- Firefighting Tactics
- Fire Hydraulics
- Rescue Practices
- Heavy Rescue
- Fire Management
- Building Construction / Fire Protection Hazardous Materials

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Professional Licenses and Affiliations

- California Conference of Arson Investigators (CCAI) member since 1991
- International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI) CFI # 10736 2005, # 22-133 2013
- National Association of Fire Investigators (NAFI) #12731
- International Association of Marine Investigators (IAMI) CFI #03377
- San Mateo County Fire Investigation Team – (retired)
- American Red Cross
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) #2087010
- Northern California Training Officers Association
- Northern California Fire Prevention Officers Association
- California State Firefighters Association (CSFA)
- Western Regional Master Builders Association
- Western Lath, Plaster, Drywall Association
- Civil Defense-San Mateo County Operational Area
- Contractor's License, C-35, State of California, #457982
- Private Investigator's License, State of California, #15631
- National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications
- SAMS, (Society of Accredited Marine Surveyors) affiliate
- ABYC, American Boat and Yacht Council

Teaching Experience

- 2010 - Instructor, IAMI, Training Seminar, Galveston Texas, Marine Fire Investigation
- 2011 - Instructor, Wildland Litigation Conference, San Diego CA, Railroad Fires
- 2011 - Instructor, CCAI, Marine Fire Investigations, Sausalito CA
- 2011 - Instructor, CCAI, Marine Fire Investigations, West Sacramento, CA
- 2013 – Instructor, CCAI, Marine Fire Investigations, Moss Landing, CA,
- 2013–NFPA 1033 Technical Committee on Fire Investigator Professional Qualifications (PQU-FIV) alternate committee Member
- 2014 - IAMI Board Approved "Subject Matter Expert" - IAMI CMI Instructor Program

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- 2014- Key Developer-San Francisco Fire Department Fire Investigator H-6 examination,
- 2015-Guest Speaker, East Bay Claims Association, 5 FATALITY LIMOUSINE FIRE
- 2015-IAMI FIRE INVESTIGATOR POCKET GUIDE, REVISION COMMITTEE
- 2015-Published Article, REKINDLE, Cal. Conf. Arson Investigators, Sept.
- 2016-Instructor, SF Marine Claims Association, FCA, Vessel Fire Investigations
- 2016-Instructor, IAAI, Annual Training Conference, Orlando, Fla. Marine Fire Investigations (Navigating Troubled Waters)
- 2016-NFPA 1033 Technical Committee Seated Chair, Professional Qualifications
- 2016-IAMI Marine Investigators Pocket Guide, revision of original document
- 2017-NFPA 921 Guide, 2020 committee task group, Chapter 30, Marine Fire Investigations
- 2018-NFPA 921 Guide, 2020 committee task group, Chapter 30, Marine Fire Investigations
- 2018-NFPA 1033 Technical Committee Seated Chair, Professional Qualifications
- 2018-Instructor, IAMI, Western Regional Training, Pt. Orchard WA., marine fire investigations “Navigating Troubled Waters” D. Field CV 3/2020 Page 6
- 2018-Instructor, Cal. Assoc. Joint Powers Authorities, Lake Tahoe, CA, Public Entity Liability After Wildfires
- 2019-NFPA 1033, Principal, Technical Committee, Fire Investigator Professional Qualifications,
- 2019-Consultant for SFFD/District Attorney, arson investigator training videos
- October 2019- Speaker, Joint Powers Authority: Extinguishing Public Entity Liability after a Fire. Indian Wells, CA
- 2022-NFPA 1033, Principal, Technical Committee, Fire Investigator Professional Qualification,
- 2022-Instructor, Western States Auto Theft Investigators (WSATI), Long Beach Fire Department, Burn or Learn “CARBEQUE”, pattern analysis dynamics, live vehicle burns
- 2022-Instructor, Western States Auto Theft Investigators (WSATI), Lake Tahoe Nevada, Annual Conference, live vehicle burns

Professional Development

- IAAI Annual Training Conference, Denver, May 2006
- Alameda County Arson Task Force Live Burn and Field Investigation, Hayward 2006
- IAAI Annual Training Conference, Victoria BC, May 2007
- NFPA 921 Update Training, FCA, August 2008

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- IAMI Annual Training Seminar, Portland Oregon, March 2009
- Wildland Fire Litigation Conference, Reno Nevada, April 2009
- IAAI Annual Training Conference, Arlington, TX, May 2009
- CCAI bi-annual Training Conference, San Luis Obispo, Nov. 2009
- IAAI-Investigation and Testimony. Seattle, WA, Nov. 2009
- IAMI-Annual Training Seminar, Galveston Texas,(*instructor*) Jan 2010
- IAAI-Annual Training Conference, Orlando, FL, May 2010
- IAMI-Annual Training Seminar, Chattanooga Tenn., March 2011
- Wildland Fire Litigation Conference, San Diego, CA. April 2011
- IAAI-Annual Training Conference, Las Vegas NV. May 2011
- NAFI- Vehicle Fire Investigation Seminar, Lexington, KY Sept. 2011
- IAMI-Annual Training Conference, San Diego, CA(*CMI cert*) Feb 2012
- IAAI-CFITrainer: Writing the Initial Origin and Cause Report, tested, 3hrs, Oct 2012
- IAAI-CFITrainer: Documenting the Event, tested 4 hrs, Oct 2012
- Wildland Fire Pattern Recognition Workshop, Berkeley, CA 2013
- Fire Scene Awareness Training, OSHA 1926, CCR
Title 8 Section 1529, 1926, 1532, Berkeley, CA 2013
- CCAI-Marine Fire Investigation Class, Monterey Bay Roundtable, (*instructor*) May 2013
- Fire Scene Awareness Training, OSHA, 1926, FCA, Berkeley CA.
cert.# 13-1055 tested 8 hrs June 2013
- IAAI Annual Training Conference, Las Vegas, NV tested 40 hrs 12 classes April 2014
- Wildland Fire Litigation Conference-Monterey, CA, 12 units April 2014
- Fire Scene Awareness Training, OSHA, 1926, FCA Berkeley CA.
tested 8 hrs , Hazard Communication from Fire Scene Toxins June 2014
- CCAI-Annual Training Seminar, San Luis Obispo, tested 16 hrs Nov. 2014
- IAAI-CFITrainer.net. Ethics and the Fire Investigator, tested 3 hrs, Nov. 2014
- IAAI-CFITrainer.net. Ethics and Social Media, tested 3 hrs, Nov. 2014
- IAAI-CFITrainer.net. The Deposition, part 1, Format, Content, Preparation
tested 3 hrs. Feb. 2015
- IAAI-CFITrainer.net. A Ventilation-Focused Approach to the Impact of Bldg.
Structures and Systems on Fire, tested 4 hrs. Feb. 2015

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- IAAI-CFITrainer.net. Arc Mapping Basics, tested 4 hrs. Feb 2015
- IAAI-CFITrainer.net. Basic Electricity, tested 4 hrs. Feb 2015
- IAAI-CFITrainer.net. Charleston Sofa Super Store Fire tested 4 hrs. Feb 2015
- CCAI- Annual Training Seminar, San Luis Obispo, tested 40 hrs March 2015
- IAAI-CFITrainer.net. Communicating the Value of Membership, Dec 2015
- CFITRAINER.NET, ongoing classes, refer to CE list
- NFPA 1033 PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS, Mandated Compliance, Educational Requirements, tested 40 hours, , CCAI, San Luis Obispo March 2015
- IAAI-CFITrainer.net Investigating Natural Gas Systems, tested 3 hrs June 2015
- IAAI Annual Training Conference, Chicago IL., tested 40 hrs., 7 classes May 2015
- IAMI Annual Training Seminar, Knoxville, TN. 24 hrs, 4 classes March 2016
- IAAI Annual Training Conference, Orlando FL. tested 40 hrs., 9 classes April 2016
- IAAI Annual Training Conference, Bend, OR, tested 24 hrs. 5 classes Sept 2016
- Fire Scene Awareness Training, OSHA 1926, FCA, Berkeley CA. tested 8 hrs. 2016
- IAAI Annual Training Conference, Las Vegas, NV, tested 32 hrs April 2017
- Wildland Fire Litigation Conference, San Diego CA, 15 units April 2017
- CFITrainer.net 2017 (refer to continuing education list)
- Live Burn Workshop, Burn and Learn, 2017, Roseville FD, 4 hours Sept. 2017
- Arson Investigation Updates, Top Ten Mistakes at Trial, Ca., 4 hrs Feb 2018
- IAMI Annual Training Seminar, Norfolk, VA. tested 24 hrs March 2018
- IAAI Annual Training Conference, Frisco, TX, tested, 32 hrs. May 2018
- IAAI Annual Training Conference, Jacksonville, FL., tested 32 hrs. April 2019
- WSATI- Western States Auto Theft Investigators, forensic theft class 4 hrs July 2019
- SAMS- International Meeting and Educational Conference, Savannah, GA, 20hrs Sept 2019
- IAMI ATS Training Seminar, Las Vegas, NV; 96 hrs Feb-Mar 2023

Additional Training:

Seminars, workshops, and classes attended at the following locations:

San Bruno Fire Department, California State University, San Francisco, College of San Mateo, Skyline College, Gavilan College, Mission College, Oakland Fire Department, San Francisco Fire Department, San Leandro Fire Department, South County Fire Protection

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District, Santa Clara County Arson Task Force, Sacramento County Arson Task Force, San Mateo County Arson Task Force, Campbell Fire Department, Foster City Fire Department, Daly City Fire Department, South San Francisco Fire Department, Millbrae Fire Department, Canada College, Victor Valley JC, FBI Academy, National Fire Academy, Asilomar

Deposition and Trial Testimony

- People of State of California vs Kelleher, Kivilahti, Kenzy, Municipal Court of County of San Mateo, State of California, # 84-02595 Feb. 1985, (Criminal)
- Chase vs Morris, Superior Court, San Francisco, #98-9007, Dec. 1999, (Civil, defendant)
- Nick vs Renfro, Superior Court, San Francisco, #96-6993, Sept. 1996, (Civil, plaintiff)
- State of Cal. vs June Julien, Municipal Court, South San Fran, #9800597, 1998 (Criminal)
- Shipp vs State Farm Insurance, Superior Court, Contra Costa County, #C9602078, Oct. 1998, (Civil, plaintiff)
- Seto vs PG+E, Superior Court, San Francisco, #303500, June 2002, (Civil, defendant)
- Rombauer vs Miners-Pisani, Superior Court, Napa County, civil, 26-13833, July 2003 (defendant)
- Ewing Trust vs Roycis (roofing), Superior Court, San Francisco, Nov. 2004, (Civil, plaintiff)
- American Intl' vs East Wind, civil, Superior Court, Marin, Oct. 2006, defendant, attny: Marilyn Raia, Bullivant-Hauser #CV051160
- Werfeli vs Allstate, civil, Superior Court, Sonoma County, March 2011, (p) attny: Curtis Morris, # SCV 244758
- Geronga, et al. vs Ford Motor Company, civil, Superior Court, San Mateo County, May 4, 2016, CIV 524889, attny: Wm Smith (Abramson Smith Waldsmith)
- Carson (p) vs Lindenmeyer (d), civil, Superior Court, Marin County July 1, 2016. CIV 1502063, attny: DeMartini (State Farm Insurance)

Overview:

Since 1979 Mr. Field has conducted, supervised, or reviewed over 5000 incidents involving fire and/or explosions in residential and commercial buildings, marine vessels, motor vehicles, mobile homes, piers, warehouses, factories and construction equipment, railroads, wildland, as well as numerous fatalities. Fatalities and serious injury.

Sources of ignition/malfunction have included, but were not limited to: household appliances (HVAC appliances), clothes washers and dryers, dishwashers, power tools, machinery, microwave ovens,

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swimming pool equipment, televisions, toasters, water heaters, cigarette lighters, welding operations, smoking materials, copiers, computers, electronic devices, light fixtures, gas and electric utility lines and services, fuel delivery systems, spontaneous ignition, chemical fires, incendiary devices and explosive devices, farm equipment, gasoline, electric and diesel motors, elevators, machinery rooms, winery operations, tire recycling plants, lumber mills, agricultural buildings and processing facilities, factories and high rise buildings, public transportation vehicles including mass transportation: buses (public and private), railroad (Amtrak, CSX) locomotives, passenger cars, freight cars, maintenance ROW equipment, marine vessels, container ships, marinas, BART vehicles, agricultural, logging and heavy equipment, vegetation and wildland, utility companies and processing equipment.