

Arson Scene Search and Evidence Recovery

Instructor: David West

David West is a Retired Detective with the Kentucky State Police, specializing in Arson Investigation and Electrical Fire Analysis for the past 25 years. Mr. West's career began in the Electrical trade as a Contractor. He then became a State Certified Electrical Inspector and used this electrical background to join the Kentucky State Police Arson Division examining electrical failures on fire scenes. He became a police instructor, specializing in Electrical Fires and Fire Related Deaths at the State Police Academy. His expertise has assisted State and Federal Agencies in examining electrical wiring systems, generating official reports, and testifying as an expert witness in cases.

Course Objectives:

This two-day training module will give Fire Officials, Law Enforcement Officers and Insurance fire Investigators, In-depth guidance for processing a fire scene and collecting evidence according to recognized acceptable standards. In addition to procedural knowledge participants will learn scene security, how to organize a team effort with other Investigators, and how to properly identify collect document and maintain a chain of evidence custody.

Day 1

8:00 a.m. — 8:30 a.m.	Registration
8:30 a.m. — 9:30 a.m.	Inventory of tools and equipment
9:30 a.m. — 10:30 a.m.	Establish on scene safety security and accountability
10:30 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.	Organization of the Investigation with other resources
12:00 p.m. — 1:00 p.m.	Lunch (On Your Own)
1:00 p.m. — 3:00 p.m.	Scene examination documentation Processing
3:00 p.m. — 5:00 p.m.	NAFI Exam Offered

Day 2

8:00 a.m. — 9:00 a.m.	Identifying and documenting potential evidence
9:00 a.m. — 10:00 a.m.	Preservation and collection of the evidence
10:00 a.m. — 11:00 a.m.	Comply with Legal Requirements regarding evidence
11:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.	Applying the systematic approach and scientific method
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch (On Your Own)
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Diagrams -Drawings -Photography of the scene
2:00 p.m. — 3:00 p.m.	Taking notes and conducting interviews
3:00 p.m. — 4:00 p.m.	Exit meeting with investigation team members
4:00 p.m. — 5:00 p.m.	Finalizing data and writing reports
5:00 p.m.	Certification Distribution