



CURRICULUM VITAE

DENNIS W. SMITH

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1999 - Present Kodiak Enterprises, Inc Ft. Wayne Indiana
Senior Fire Expert

- Responsible for scene examination, documentation, evidence collection; origin and cause determination; fire and building code analysis; large loss scene investigation and site management; critical review/peer review and analysis of prior investigations for determining origin and cause, and/or assessing investigative methodology; and fire investigation curriculum development, instruction and training.

1973 – 1999 Atlantic City Fire Department Atlantic City, New Jersey
Fire Captain (Retired)

- More than eleven years experience in origin, cause and arson investigation. More than five years experience in conducting plan review and field inspections of construction and fire protection systems. Held a variety of civil service titles and positions with the fire department, including:
 - 1993-1998: Assigned to the Fire & Arson Investigation Unit at the rank of *Fire Captain* as an state certified “Arson Investigator.”
 - Responsible for the determination of origin, cause and responsibility of fires; the investigation of arson and arson related crimes as a criminal investigator.
 - 1988-1993: Assigned to the Fire Protection Unit of the Fire Prevention Bureau at the rank of “*Fire Protection Inspector/Fire Prevention Specialist*” and one year in a provisional appointment as the “*Fire Protection Sub-Code Official/Assistant Chief Fire Inspector.*”
 - Responsible for plan review and site inspections of new construction, renovation and alteration to insure compliance with the New Jersey Uniform Construction Code (the BOCA National Building Code). As the sub-code official, was responsible for the administration and supervision of the Fire Protection Unit.
 - 1983 – 1988: Assigned to the Fire Prevention Bureau at the rank of “*Fire Protection Inspector/Fire Prevention Specialist.*”
 - Responsible for Fire Investigations, Fire Protection Inspections, Prevention Inspections (BOCA Fire Prevention Code), and Public Fire Education.

- 1977 – 1979: Assigned to the Fire Prevention Bureau at the rank of “*Fire Inspector.*”
 - Responsible for Fire Investigation, Fire Prevention Inspections and Fire Protection Inspections.

1988 - 1999 Dennis W. Smith & Associates Absecon, New Jersey

Principal

- Consulting services related to fire origin and cause investigation, fire and building code analysis, and training instruction.

EDUCATION

1990 University of Maryland College Park, Maryland
Bachelor of Science/Fire Science

1987 Stockton State College Pomona, New Jersey
Bachelor of Arts/Criminal Justice

1976 Atlantic Community College Mays Landing, New Jersey
Associate of Science/Fire Control Technology

1975 – present Continuing Education and Training

- *Attended more than one hundred-ten seminars concerning: fire investigation, arson investigation (including the National Fire Academy resident course), building and fire code enforcement and administration, fire administration, management, and leadership, and firefighting tactics and strategy.*

LICENSES & CERTIFICATIONS

National Association of Fire Investigators

- Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator (CFEI) Certification #3060-258
- Certified Fire Investigation Instructor (CFII)



International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC)

- *Accredited Fire Investigator I* 331092

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Bureau of Construction Code Enforcement, License # 1037

- *Construction Official*
- *Fire Protection Sub-Code Official*
- *Building Sub-Code Official*
- *Fire Protection Inspector, H.H.S.* (High Rise – Hazardous Structures)
- *Building Inspector, I.C.S.* (Industrial – Commercial Structures)

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Bureau of Construction Code Enforcement

- Certified Instructor

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Fire Safety:

- *Fire Official/Fire Inspector* Certification #A001063/123494
- *Fire Service Instructor, Level II* Certification #123494
- *Firefighter I* Certification #123494

New Jersey Department of Law & Public Safety, Division of Criminal Justice

- *Certified Arson Investigator (1993-1999)*

Private Investigator Licenses

- State of Montana License #: 8695
- State of Texas Registration #: 502670

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

NFPA Technical Committee for Fire Investigations, “NFPA 921, Guide for Fire & Explosion Investigations”

- *Alternate Member (1999 – present)*
- *Principal Member (1988 – 1999)*

NFPA Technical Committee for Fire Investigator Professional Qualifications, “NFPA 1033 Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire investigator”

- *Principal Member (1991 – present)*
- *Alternate Member (1991)*

National Association of Fire Investigators

- *Director (1995 – present)*
- *Training Staff (1993 – present)*

International Fire Service Training Association (IFSTA)

- *Fire Investigator Committee, Member (2007 – present)*
- *Fire Origin and Cause Committee, Member (2003 – 2004)*
- *Fire Investigator Committee, Member (1996 – 1999)*

International Association of Arson Investigators – NFPA 921 Study Guide Development Committee

- *Member (2000 – 2002)*

International Association of Arson Investigators, Indiana Chapter #14

- *Member 2000 – 2004*
- *Director (2000-2001)*

NFPA Technical Review Committee, “Fire Investigation” video series.

- *Member (1997 – 1998)*

National Institute of Justice, “National Guidelines for the Collection & Preservation of Fire Scene Evidence”

- *Technical Working Group (TWG) Member (1998 – 1999)*
- *Editing Committee Member (1998 – 1999)*

New Jersey Division Criminal Justice Academy, Curriculum Development Committee for Arson Investigation Programs

- *Member (1994 – 1996)*

New Jersey Fire Safety Commission’s Master Planning and Research Advisory Committee

- *Member (1991 – 1999)*

Atlantic Community College, Construction Code Advisory Committee

- *Member (1993 – 1994)*

Absecon Volunteer Fire Department, Absecon, New Jersey

- *Member (1978 – 1982)*

Pleasantville Volunteer Fire Company #1, Pleasantville, New Jersey

- *Member (1972 – 1975)*

PUBLICATIONS

NFPA Fire Journal, May/June 2008, “NFPA 921 Overview,” National Fire Protection Association, Quincy, Massachusetts, p.84

“The National Fire Investigator”, Spring 2007, “The Pitfalls, Perils and Reasoning Fallacies of Determining Fire Cause in the Absence of Proof: The Negative Corpus Methodology,” National Association of Fire Investigators, Sarasota, FL, p.4 - 11

ISFI Proceedings 2006, “The Pitfalls, Perils and Reasoning Fallacies of Determining Fire Cause in the Absence of Proof: The Negative Corpus Methodology,” National Association of Fire Investigators, Sarasota, FL, June 2006, p.313

NFPA Fire Journal, May/June 2005, “Must Fire Investigators Prepare a Written Report?,” National Fire Protection Association, Quincy, MA, p.65

Fire and Arson Investigator, Vol. 54, Number 4, April 2004, Disjunctive Syllogism: Faulty Reasoning in Fire Investigation, p.4

Users Manual for NFPA 921, Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigation, National Fire Protection Association, Quincy, Massachusetts, 2003. Co-author Chapter 2 – Basic Methodology; Co-author Chapter 16 – Cause Determination.

NFPA 921, Guide for Fire & Explosion Investigation, 1992 edition: Co-author Chapter 5, “Legal Considerations.” 1995 edition: Principal author Chapter 17 “Incendiary Fires.” 1998 edition: Principal author Section 9-3 “Preservation of the Fire Scene and Physical Evidence.” 2001 edition: Principal author Section 19.4.8 “Motives for Fire-setting Behavior.” Authored and collaborated on many other sections and subsections of text, and been involved in discussions and development of 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001 & 2004 editions.

Fire and Arson Scene Evidence: A Guide for Public Safety Personnel, U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice, 6/2000, Co-Editor.

InterFire VR, Fire Investigation Virtual Reality Training Program, featured in “Preserving the Fire Scene.”

Fire Engineering, “*Firefighters Role in Preserving the Fire Scene*”, January 1997, Vol. 150, No. 1, p. 103-108.

The National Fire Investigator, Journal of the National Association of Fire Investigators, “*Firefighters’ Role and Responsibility in Preserving the Fire Scene and Physical Evidence*”, Spring 1996, Vol.35, No.1, p. 7-11.

The Times, NFPA Fire Service Section Magazine, “*Firefighters Role and Responsibility in Preserving the Fire Scene and Physical Evidence*”, Issue 3, September 1995, p. 6-9.

The Scanner, February & March 1989, “*PEOSHA: First Step in Fire Fighter Safety*”, a two-part series on the New Jersey legislation for mandatory Firefighter safety and training standards.

PEER/MANUSCRIPT REVIEW

Working Together to Solve Arson and Bombing Cases (working title), August 2007 Panache Editorial, Inc., 1627 Tesla Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80909. Contact: Sharon Green, for Thomson Delmar Learning, Clifton Park, NY

Fire Investigation in Commercial Kitchen Systems, Author: Phillip Ackland, Phillip Ackland Holdings Ltd., Sumerland, B.C., Canada, 2005

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

International Association of Arson Investigators (since 1978)

International Code Council (since 2004)

National Association of Fire Investigators (since 1990)

National Fire Protection Association (since 1984)

Indiana Chapter #14, International Association of Arson Investigators (2000-2005)

Indiana Arson and Crime Association, Inc. (2000-2005)

INSTRUCTOR EXPERIENCE

August 5, 2008, “The Pitfalls, Perils and Reasoning Fallacies of Determining Fire Cause in the Absence of Proof: The Negative Corpus Methodology”, National Association of Fire Investigators, 2008 Advanced National Fire & Explosion Investigation Training Program, Sarasota, Florida

June 2, 2008, “The Pitfalls, Perils and Reasoning Fallacies of Determining Fire Cause in the Absence of Proof: The Negative Corpus Methodology”, National Fire Protection Association, Annual General Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada

May 31 - June 1, 2008 - “NFPA 921 – *Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations*”, (Presentation Topics: Chapter 4 – Basic Methodology, Chapter 6 – Fire Patterns, Chapter 17 – Origin Determination, Chapter 19 – Cause Determination, Chapter 19 – Affixing Responsibility and Classification of Cause), National Fire Protection Association, Annual General Meeting, Professional Development Pre-Conference Seminars, Las Vegas, Nevada

March 19, 2008, “Searching & Processing the Fire Scene”, “Documenting the Fire Scene”, National Association of Fire Investigators, Annual Conference, Denver, Colorado

September 19, 2007 – “NFPA 921, Chapter 6, Fire Patterns”, Lehigh and Northampton County Fire Investigators Training Association, Bethlehem, PA

August 7, 2007 – “Documenting the Fire Scene”, “Searching the Fire Scene”, National Association of Fire Investigators, Annual Conference, Sarasota, FL

June 4, 2007 - “Investigating Incidents Involving Total-Release Foggers and Fumigators”, National Fire Protection Association, Annual General Meeting, Boston, MA

June 1 -2, 2007 - “NFPA 921 – *Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations*”, National Fire Protection Association, Annual General Meeting, Professional Development Pre-Conference Seminars, Boston, MA

June 27, 2006, “The Pitfalls, Perils and Reasoning Fallacies of Determining Fire Cause in the Absence of Proof: The Negative Corpus Methodology”, International Symposium on Fire Investigation Science and Technology (ISFI), Cincinnati, OH

June 2 – 3, 2006, “NFPA 921 – *Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations*” National Fire Protection Association, Annual General Meeting, Professional Development Pre-Conference Seminars, Orlando, FL

August 9-10, 2005, “Documenting the Fire Scene”, “Determining Fire Cause”, “Analyzing the Fire for Cause and Responsibility”, National Association of Fire Investigators, Annual Conference, Sarasota, FL

June 4-5, 2005 - “NFPA 921 – *Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations*”, National Fire Protection Association, Annual General Meeting, Professional Development Pre-Conference Seminars, Las Vegas, NV

May 20-21, 2004 - “NFPA 921 – *Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations*”, National Fire Protection Association, Annual General Meeting, Professional Development Pre-Conference Seminars, Salt Lake City, UT

November 14-15, 2003 - “NFPA 921 – *Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations*”, National Fire Protection Association, Fall Conference, Professional Development Pre-Conference Seminar, Reno, Nevada

September 16, 2003, Illinois Chapter, International Association of Arson Investigators, Urbana, IL

August 12, 2003, National Association of Fire Investigators, Annual Conference, Sarasota, FL

November 15, 2001, National Society of Professional Insurance Investigators, Cincinnati, Ohio

October 27, 2001, Northwest Ohio Arson Seminar, Ohio

September 28, 2001, South Dakota Chapter, International Association of Arson Investigators, Pierre, South Dakota

September 12, 2001, State Farm Insurance Co. – Special Investigation Units (SIU) Training Seminar, Bloomington, Illinois

July 23 - 25, 2001, National Association of Fire Investigators (NAFI) Annual Seminar, Sarasota, Florida.

February 13, 2001, Insurance Committee for Arson Control (ICAC), 12th Annual National Arson Investigation Training Seminar, Dallas, Texas

September 19, 2000, Professional Fire & Fraud Investigators Association, St. Louis, Missouri

July 25 - 26, 2000, N.A.F.I. Annual Seminar, Schaumburg, Illinois

June 15 – 16, 2000, PARCO – Professional Arson Cooperative of Florida, Inc., Clearwater Beach, Florida.

Summer Semester 2000 (May–August), Ivy Tech State College, Ft. Wayne, IN, “Fire/Arson Investigation.”

September 13, 1999, State Farm Insurance Co. – SIU Training Seminar, Bloomington, Ill.

August 10, 1999. National Association of Fire Investigators, Schaumburg, Illinois

December 1998. "Flashover", Atlantic City Fire Department, Atlantic City, N.J.

December 1998. "Fire Investigation Procedure" Atlantic City Fire Department, Atlantic City, N.J.

November 17, 1998. New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice Academy, Sea Girt, N.J.

November 14, 1998. NFPA Fall Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia.

October 5-8, 1998. Canadian Association of Fire Investigators (CAFI), Yorkdale, Ontario, Canada

Spring Semester 1998. **Rutgers University**, for New Jersey Division of Fire Safety Fire Officials and Fire Inspectors Re-Certification Program: “Determining Origin and Cause.”

May 29, 1998	Burlington County Public Safety Center
May 15, 1998	Morris County Fire & Police Academy
May 9, 1998	Monmouth County Fire Academy
April 24, 1998	Middlesex County Fire Academy
April 3, 1998	Bergen County Police & Fire Academy
March 27, 1998	Camden County Emergency Training Center

Fall Semester 1997. . **Rutgers University**, for New Jersey Division of Fire Safety Fire Officials and Fire Inspectors Re-Certification Program: "Determining Origin and Cause."

December 12, 1997,	Camden County Emergency Training Center
December 5, 1997,	Morris County Fire Academy
November, 22, 1997,	Atlantic County Fire Training Center, Egg Harbor Township, NJ
November 14, 1997,	Dempster Fire Training Center, Lawrenceville, NJ
October 10, 1997,	Monmouth County Fire Academy, Freehold, NJ

Spring Semester 1997. . **Rutgers University**, for New Jersey Division of Fire Safety Fire Officials and Fire Inspectors Re-Certification Program, "Determining Origin and Cause."

June 13, 1997,	Middlesex County Fire Academy
June 6, 1997,	Cape May County Fire Academy
May 1, 1997,	Monmouth County Fire Academy
April 18, 1997,	Morris County Fire Academy
April 11, 1997,	Bergen County Fire Academy
March 14, 1997,	Atlantic County Fire Academy

March 16-19, 1998. Region 4 Fire Investigation Council, Renton, Washington.

November 18, 1997. NFPA Fall Meeting, Kansas City, Missouri.

September 22-25, 1997. Ontario (Canada) Chapter of the I.A.A.I. and Canadian General Insurance, Burlington, Ontario, Canada.

September 18, 1997. NFPA Regional Meeting, Wilmington, Delaware.

September 2-6, 1997. Montana State University, Great Falls, Montana. 4-Day program on NFPA 921, Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations.

November 13, 1996. National Society of Professional Insurance Investigators, Columbus, Ohio.

September, 30-October 4, 1996. Canada - International Association of Arson Investigators (I.A.A.I.), Canadian Coalition Against Insurance Fraud, The Office of the Fire Marshal and the Cambridge Arson Task Force, Cambridge, Ontario, Canada.

September, 9-12 1996. Metro Fire Investigation Unit-Salt Lake County, Utah. 5th Annual Seminar, Sandy, Utah

May 9, 1996. New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice Academy, Fort Dix, New Jersey

April 29-May 3, 1996. Royal Insurance of Canada, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

April 24-27, 1996. New Mexico Chapter I.A.A.I., Farmington, New Mexico.

March 13, 1996. Virginia Chapter I.A.A.I. Annual Spring Seminar.

February 22, 1996. Atlantic County Fire & Arson Investigators Association Fire Investigation Training Program. Atlantic County Fire Academy, Mays landing, N.J.

1995, Atlantic Community College, Criminal Justice Department, "Crim200: Arson Investigation". Mays Landing, N.J.

November 27, 28, December 4, 7, 8, 1995. New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice Academy, Ft. Dix, N.J. "Arson Investigation" Certification Program

November 1, 1995. Maryland State Fire Marshal's Office, IAAI Maryland Chapter, and MFRI, Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute (MFRI), College Park, Maryland

August 2, 1995. National Association of Fire Investigators (NAFI) and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), Schaumburg, IL

July 1995. "Determining Fire Cause", Atlantic City Fire Department, Atlantic City, N.J.

January 31, 1995 & February 3, 1995. New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice Academy, Arson In-Service Program

September 28, 1994. Northampton County (Penna.) Fire Chief's Association, Easton, Pennsylvania

1994, Atlantic Community College, Criminal Justice Department, "Crim200: Arson Investigation". Mays Landing, N.J.

June & December 1994. "Firefighter's Role in Fire Investigation", Atlantic City Fire Department, Atlantic City, N.J.

June 6-7, 1994. Rutgers University, Twenty-ninth Annual Arson and Fire Investigation Conference. New Brunswick, New Jersey

May 1994. "Fire Officers Training-Fire Investigation Procedure", Atlantic City Fire Department, Atlantic City, N.J.

May 24, June 1, 6 & 8, 1995. New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice Academy, Fort Dix, New Jersey, "Arson Investigation" Training Program

January 1994 - Facilitator for "Arson" at the "Fire Service 2000 Conference II", Rutgers University, co-sponsored by the Master Planning and Research Advisory Council and the Bureau of Fire Safety.

August 1993. "Media Releases" and "Written Reports", Atlantic City Fire Department, Atlantic City, N.J.

March 16-21, 1993. Eastern Kentucky University and National Association of Fire Investigators, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, Kentucky, Seminar Instructor

1992, Atlantic Community College, Criminal Justice Department, "Crim200: Arson Investigation". Mays Landing, N.J.

January 1992 – Facilitator, "Costs of Fire Protection" "Fire Service 2000 Conference", Rutgers University, co-sponsored by the Master Planning and Research Advisory Council and the Bureau of Fire Safety

1990 Atlantic Community College, Criminal Justice Department, "Crim200: Arson Investigation". Mays Landing, N.J.

1988: Atlantic Community College, Criminal Justice Department, "Crim200: Arson Investigation". Mays Landing, N.J.

1980-82: Atlantic Community College, Mays Landing, N.J. Instructed courses required for licensure in accordance to the N.J. Uniform Construction Code Act, P.L.1973, c.217., as a Fire Protection Inspector

- RCS (Residential-Small Commercial Structures)
- ICS – I (Industrial-Commercial Structures)
- ICS – II (Industrial-Commercial Structures)
- HHS (High Rise-Hazardous Structures)

Rev. 10/08