



**Unified**  
Investigations & Sciences, Inc.



## **Midwest Service Center**

**Keith W. Contant, CFI**

*Special Investigator*

Bloomington, Illinois  
877-529-2090  
kcontant@uis-usa.com

### **EDUCATION:**

Richard J. Daley College  
Chicago, Illinois  
Associates of Arts  
Criminal Justice

Southern Illinois University  
Carbondale, Illinois  
Fire Science Management Studies

Harold Washington College  
Chicago, Illinois  
Fire Science Technology Studies

### **EMPLOYMENT:**

Unified Investigations & Sciences, Inc.  
Bloomington, Illinois  
Fire Investigator  
July 2008- Present

Village of Crestwood Police Department  
Crestwood, Illinois  
Police Officer  
January 2008-Present

Village of Richmond Police Department  
Richmond, Illinois  
Police Officer  
December 2000-Present

## **EMPLOYMENT (CON'T):**

TRC Solutions  
Bloomington, Illinois  
Fire Investigator  
October 2007-June 2008

EFI Global, formerly EFI  
Carol Stream, Illinois  
Fire Investigator  
October 1998-October 2007

Chicago Fire Department  
Chicago, Illinois  
Firefighter  
October 1991-Present

## **SPECIALIZED TRAINING:**

- International Association of Arson Investigators – Certificate of Participation, DNA, May 2011, 3 Hours
- International Association of Arson Investigators – Certificate of Participation, An Analysis of the Station Nightclub Fire, May 2011, 4 Hours
- International Association of Arson Investigators – Certificate of Participation, Effective Investigation and Testimony, March 2011, 3 Hours
- International Association of Arson Investigators – Certificate of Participation, Critical Thinking Solves Cases, February 2011, 4 Hours
- International Association of Arson Investigators – Certificate of Participation, Post-flashover Fires, February 2011, 4 Hours
- International Association of Arson Investigators – Certificate of Participation, Electrical Safety, January 2011, 3 Hours
- International Association of Arson Investigators – Certificate of Participation, Fire and Explosion Investigations, January 2011, 4 Hours
- International Association of Arson Investigators – Certificate of Participation, Fundamentals of Interviewing, January 2011, 4 Hours
- International Association of Arson Investigators – Certificate of Participation, Ventilation Focused Approach, January 2011, 3 Hours

## **SPECIALIZED TRAINING (CON'T):**

- International Association of Arson Investigators – Certificate of Participation, Fundamentals of Residential Building Construction, January 2011, 3 Hours
- International Association of Arson Investigators – Certificate of Participation, Documenting the Evidence, January 2011, 4 Hours
- Unified Investigations & Sciences School, August 2009, 40 Hours
- North East Multi-Regional Training- 40 Hr. Basic Evidence Technician, April 2008
- International Association of Arson Investigators- Introduction to Fire Dynamics & Modeling, January 2008
- International Association of Arson Investigators- Investigating Motor Vehicle Fires, January 2008
- Illinois State Police- IWIN Training- January 2008
- Illinois State Police- LEADS Less Than Full Access Training Course, January 2008
- North East Multi-Regional Training- Certificate of Achievement, Firearms Instructors Development: Problem Solving & Liability Issues, November 2007
- Illinois Law Enforcement Training & Standards Board- 40 Hr. Firearms Instructors Course, June 2007
- Illinois State Fire Marshals Office- Hazardous Materials Technician, June 2007
- Illinois State Fire Marshals Office- Hazardous Materials First Responder-Operations, January 2007
- National Forensic Training Institute-Structure Earthquake & Fire Investigations Seminar and Training, December 2006
- National Forensic Training Institute-Vehicle Fire Investigations Seminar and Training, November 2006
- FEMA-National Incident & Management System Introduction, April 2006
- Illinois Law Enforcement Training & Standards Board- Certified Breath Alcohol Operator- June 2005
- North East Multi-Regional Training-40 Hr. Basic Investigations Skills, March 2006

## **SPECIALIZED TRAINING (CON'T):**

- Illinois Law Enforcement Training & Standards Board-Criminal Justice Institute's Police Motorcycle Operator's Course, May 2004
- Engineering & Fire Investigations-Vehicle Fire Investigations Seminar, September 2002
- Engineering & Fire Investigations-Vehicle Fire Investigations Seminar, October 2001
- McHenry Police Department- Immediate Rapid Deployment Training Certificate, June 2001
- Illinois Law Enforcement Training & Standards Board- 40-Hr. Law Review for Illinois Police Officers, March 2001
- Engineering & Fire Investigations-Vehicle Fire Investigation Seminar, September 2000
- Central Illinois Fire Investigators Association-Annual Fire Investigations Training Conference, April 2000
- Central Illinois Fire Investigators Association- Annual Fire Investigations Training Conference, March 1999
- Office of Fire Investigations Chicago Fire Department-IN-Service Training Program, Flashover and It's Effect on the Fire Scene Examination, December 1998
- Office of Fire Investigations Chicago Fire Department-IN-Service Training Program, Use of the Pragmatics Accelerant Detection Device, May 1998
- Office of Fire Investigations Chicago Fire Department-IN-Service Training Program, Electrical Fire Causes, April 1998
- Central Illinois Fire Investigators Association-Annual Fire Investigations Training Conference, March 1998
- Illinois Adversary Committee on Arson Prevention- Winter Seminar, January 1998
- Illinois Fire Service Institute- Hazardous Materials First Responder/Operations, October 1997
- Illinois State Fire Marshal Office-Certified Arson Investigator, July 1997
- Illinois State Fire Marshal Office-Certified Fire Investigator, July 1997

**SPECIALIZED TRAINING (CON'T):**

- Illinois Hazardous Materials Advisory Board- Certified Hazardous Materials First Responder, June 1992
- Illinois State Fire Marshals Office-Certified Firefighter I & II, December 1991
- Illinois Local Government Law Enforcement Officers Training Board- Certified Law Enforcement Officer, Certificate Number 890924, September 1989

**EXPERIENCE:**

Personally investigated approximately 400 structure fires including fires and explosions involving fatalities, complex subrogation losses and large loss fire scenes. Has organized large loss investigations including numerous multi-investigator situations. Has also investigated over 100 vehicle fires and testified concerning vehicle fires.

**PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:**

International Association of Arson Investigators

International Association of Firefighters

Illinois Arson Task Force

Fire Investigators Strike Force

Northern Illinois Arson Task Force

Fire Investigators Association, Central Illinois

**CERTIFICATIONS:**

Certified Evidence Technician, North East Multi-Regional Training, 2008

Certified Firearms Instructor, North East Multi-Regional Training, 2007

Certified Hazardous Materials Technician, Illinois State Fire Marshals Office, 2007

Certified Fire/Arson Investigator, Illinois State Fire Marshals Office, 1997

Certified Firefighter, Illinois State Fire Marshals Office, 1991

Certified Law Enforcement Officer, Illinois Local Government Law Enforcement Officers Training Board, 1989

**LEGAL TESTIMONY:**

Expert Witness, Fire Causation

Court Case # 04 L 1460, Deposition, January 2006, Heineke & Burke, LLC, Eugene Peterson vs. South Shore Imports, Ltd., Structure Fire Loss

Court Case # 05274/22884, Deposition March 2004, State Farm Insurance a/s/o Karen Brown vs. State Farm Insurance Companies, Auto Fire Loss

Court Case # 02 C 50425, Deposition April 2004, Liberty Mutual vs. Ecowater Systems, Inc., Structure Fire Loss