



**Unified**

Investigations & Sciences, Inc.



## **Gulf Coast Service Center**

**William "Chris" Powell, IAAI-CFI**  
*Senior Investigator*

Pensacola, Florida  
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### **EDUCATION:**

Pensacola Junior College  
Pensacola, Florida  
Associate of Science  
Criminal Justice

### **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:**

Unified Investigations & Sciences; Inc.  
Pensacola, Florida; November 2009 – Present  
Special Investigator

Florida State Fire Marshal, Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations  
Pensacola, Florida; November 1992-October 2009  
Detective

Florida Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco  
Tampa, Florida; November 1990-November 1992  
Special Agent

Escambia County Sheriff's Department  
Pensacola, Florida; August 1984 to November 1990  
Deputy Sheriff/Investigator

## **SPECIALIZED TRAINING:**

- Florida Advisory Committee on Arson Prevention (FACAP); Ocala, Florida; 2010 FACAP Training Conference; November 2010; 16 hours
- International Association of Arson Investigators; Orlando, Florida; Annual Fire Investigation Seminar and General Meeting; May 2010; 36 hours
- Unified Investigations & Sciences, Dallas Texas, Insurance Investigations Training Program, January 2010, 40 hours (tested)
- Florida Advisory Committee on Arson Prevention (FACAP); Ocala, Florida; 2009 FACAP Training Conference; November 2009; 16 hours
- Florida Advisory Committee on Arson Prevention (FACAP); Ocala, Florida; 2008 FACAP Training Conference; November 2008; 16 hours
- Florida Arson Seminar, Orlando, Florida; 2006 Annual Arson Investigation Seminar; 35 hours
- Clandestine Laboratory Investigations III; Florida State Fire College; Ocala, Florida; 2005; 24 hours
- Florida Insurance Fraud Education Committee (FIFEC); Orlando; Florida; Insurance Fraud Seminar; June 2004; 24 hours
- Florida Advisory Committee on Arson Prevention (FACAP); Ocala, Florida; FACAP Training Conference; November 2003; 18 hours
- Post Blast Investigations, Criminal Justice Training Academy; Tallahassee, Florida; 1997; 40 hours
- National Fire Academy, Initial Fire Investigations; Florida State Fire College; Ocala, Florida; 1997; 48 hours (tested)
- Investigating Mobile Home Fires; Florida State Fire College; Ocala, Florida; 1994; 40 hours
- Florida Arson Seminar, Orlando, Florida; 1993 Annual Arson Investigation Seminar; 32 hours
- Chemistry for Arson Investigation; Florida State Fire College; Ocala, Florida; 1993; 40 hours (tested)
- Cause and Origin Investigations; Florida State Fire College; Ocala, Florida; 1993; 40 hours (tested)

### **SPECIALIZED TRAINING (cont.):**

- Legal Issues; Florida State Fire College; Ocala, Florida; 1993; 40 hours (tested)
- Latent Investigation; Florida State Fire College; Ocala, Florida 1993; 40 hours (tested)
- Basic Fire and Arson Investigation Training Program; Florida State Fire College; Ocala, Florida 1992 120 hours
- Certified Fire Investigator (IAAI) CFITrainer Web Training 82 hours (tested)

### **EXPERIENCE:**

Mr. Powell has over 500 hours of classroom training and over 19 years of proven and court-tested experience as a fire origin and cause investigator; working within the law enforcement sector. He has personally investigated well over 1000 fire incidents and supervised many others as a Field Training Officer. These investigations have involved significant property losses/liability/subrogation issues, multi-million dollar losses and those with multiple fatalities and serious bodily injury investigations.

### **CERTIFICATIONS:**

Certified Fire Investigator (IAAI-CFI) - International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI); since 2008; Certification # 09-097

Certified Fire Investigator (CFI) - National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications; since 2008; Certificate # 255859

Fire Investigator I and II - Division of State Fire Marshal; Bureau of Fire Standards and Training; 2001; Certificate # 106268

Fire Instructor I and II - Division of State Fire Marshal; Bureau of Fire Standards and Training; 2007; Certificate # 118718

### **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:**

Mr. Powell maintains membership in a number of professional organizations that are associated with insurance investigations and insurance defense. Some of those include:

International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI)

Florida Advisory Committee for Arson Prevention (FACAP)

Gulf Coast Claims Association

**COURT/EXPERT WITNESS QUALIFICATIONS:**

Mr. Powell has qualified and testified many times as an expert witness in Florida Criminal Courts.

Mr. Powell has also given expert witness testimony in the Northern District of Florida, Federal Court.

**GUEST LECTURER-INSTRUCTOR:**

Mr. Powell has taught Fire Origin and Cause (Kirk's Fire Investigation curriculum) as an adjunct instructor at Pensacola Junior College (Pensacola, Florida) and Northwest Florida University (Formerly Okaloosa Walton College). Topics have included elementary chemistry of combustion; nature and behavior of fire; combustion properties of liquid and gaseous fuels; combustion properties of solid fuels; sources of ignition; structure fire and their investigations; grass and wildland fire investigations; automobile and ship fire investigations; electrical causes of fire; explosions and explosive combustion; evidence collection and preservation; fire related deaths and injuries; arson as a crime.

Mr. Powell was a speaker at the 2010 Florida Advisory Committee on Arson Prevention (FACAP) Seminar.

**CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDER:**

Mr. Powell is an approved fire service instructor in the state of Florida and has the following course(s) approved to deliver to college students:

Fire Origin and Cause Investigation (40 hours)