



Massachusetts Service Center

James E. Bales, CFI
Special Investigator

Gardiner, New York
845-255-6236

EDUCATION:

International Association of Arson Investigators
Saint Louis, Missouri
Certified Fire Investigator

Corning Community College
Corning, New York
Fire Service Engineering

New York State Fire Academy
Montour Falls, New York
Fire Investigator Levels I and II

New York State Fire Investigators
Niagara Falls, New York
Certified Fire Investigator

EMPLOYMENT:

Unified Investigations & Sciences Inc.

Palmer, Massachusetts

Special Investigator

May 2005 to Present

Ulster County Arson Task Force

Kingston, New York

Chief Fire Investigator

September 1982 to Present

James E. Bales Investigations

Gardiner, New York

July 2001 to April 2005

Crawford Investigation Services

Kenner, Louisiana

August 2002 to April 2005

SPECIALIZED TRAINING:

- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Hazardous Materials Refresher, Gardiner NY, December 2007, 04 Hours
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 2007, 12 Hours – Tested
- Massachusetts Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Appliance Fires & Legal Issues, Cape Cod, MA, June 2007, 20 Hours – Tested
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators Spring Seminar, Kerhonkson, NY, May 2007, 10 Hours – Tested
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Annual Arson Conference, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, April 2007, 36 Hours – Tested
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators Winter Seminar, Plainview NY, February 2007, 12 Hours – Tested
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 2006, 16 Hours – Tested
- FEMA Emergency Management Institute National Response Plan (NRP) an Introduction ICS 800.A Course October 2006, 10 Hours – Tested
- FEMA Emergency Management Institute National Incident Management System (NIMS) ICS 700 Course October 2006, 10 Hours – Tested
- FEMA Emergency Management Institute ICS for Single Resources & Initial Action Incidents ICS 200 Course October 2006, 3 Hours – Tested
- FEMA Emergency Management Institute Introduction to the Incident Command System ICS 100 Course October 2006, 3 Hours – Tested
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Annual Arson Conference, Denver, Colorado April 2006, 36 Hours – Tested
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Winter Seminar, Poughkeepsie NY, February 2006, 12 Hours – Tested

SPECIALIZED TRAINING (Cont.):

- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 2005, 12 Hours – Tested
- Collision Safety Institute, Crash Data Retrieval School, Irving, Texas, October 2005, 24 Hours
- Unified Investigations & Sciences, Inc., UIS Investigation School / Investigations, Dallas Tx, May 2005, 40 Hours
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Annual Arson Conference, Washington DC, April 2005, 28 Hours – Tested
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Winter Seminar, Latham NY, February 2005, 12 Hours
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 2004, 12 Hours – Tested
- New Mexico Tech, Incident Response to Terrorism, Montour Falls NY, November 2004, 4 Hours – Tested
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Spring Seminar, Alexandria Bay NY, May 2004, 8 Hours – Tested
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Annual Arson Conference, Saint Louis Mo, April 2004, 28 Hours – Tested
- Westchester County Fire Investigators, Electrical Fire Investigation, Purchase NY, April 2004, 4 Hours
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Winter Seminar, Liverpool NY, February 2004, 12 Hours – Tested
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 2003, 12 Hours – Tested
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Vehicle Fire Investigations Death & Injury, Beckley WV, September 2003, 20 Hours - Tested

SPECIALIZED TRAINING (Cont.):

- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Hazardous Materials First Responder Operations, Gardiner, NY, June 2003. 4 Hours
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Annual Arson Conference, Reno Nevada, April 2003, 28 Hours
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Winter Seminar, Fishkill NY, February 2003, 12 Hours – Tested
- Massachusetts Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Fatal Fire & Explosion Scene Investigation, Boston Ma, January 2003, 6 Hours – Tested
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 2002, 12 Hours
- Rockland County Fire Training Center, Flashover Survival Training, Pomona NY, October 2002, 6 Hours
- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Live Fire Training Safety Course 1-B, Milton NY, August 2002, 3 Hours
- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Live Fire Training Safety Course 1-A, Shawangunk Valley NY, June 2002, 3 Hours
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Annual Arson Conference, Milwaukee Wi, May 2002, 32.5 Hours - Tested
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Spring Seminar, Lake George NY, May 2002, 10 Hours
- Ulster County District Attorney, Conference on Legal Issues, Kingston NY, April 2002, 16 Hours
- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Hazardous Materials First Responder Operations, Gardiner NY, April 2002, 4 Hours
- Massachusetts Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Fire Scene Reconstruction & Documentation, No. Andover Ma, March 2002, 6 Hours – Tested

SPECIALIZED TRAINING (Cont.):

- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Winter Seminar, Auburn NY, February 2002, 12 Hours
- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Emergency Response to Terrorism, Clintondale, NY, January 2002, 16 Hours
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 2001, 12 Hours – Tested
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Annual Arson Conference, Atlantic City NJ, May 2001, 28 Hours – Tested
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Winter Seminar, Latham NY, February 2001, 12 Hours – Tested
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 2000, 12 Hours – Tested
- New York State Fire Academy, Electrical Fire Investigation Course, Camp Smith NY, June 2000, 16 Hours – Tested
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Annual Arson Conference, Grand Rapids Mi, May 2000, 28 Hours – Tested
- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Weapons of Mass Destruction Awareness Training, Gardiner, NY, January 2000, 4 Hours
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 1999, 12 Hours – Tested
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Fire Investigation Techniques, Las Vegas NV, May 1999, 28 Hours – Tested
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Spring Seminar, Niagara Falls NY, May 1999, 12 Hours
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Team Approach to Fire Investigations, Halifax NS, April 1999, 16 Hours - Tested

SPECIALIZED TRAINING (Cont.):

- National Safety Council, Certified Emergency Vehicle Operator-Fire, Shawangunk Valley NY, March 1999, 12 Hours – Tested
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Winter Seminar, Geneva NY, February 1999, 12 Hours – Tested
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 1998, 12 Hours
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Annual Arson Conference, Portland Oregon, May 1998, 28 Hours
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Spring Seminar, Old Forge NY, June 1998, 12 Hours – Tested
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 1997, 12 Hours
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Vehicle Arson / Theft Investigations, Uniondale NY, October 1997, 21 Hours - Tested
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Annual Arson Conference, Toronto Canada, May 1997, 28 Hours – Tested
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Winter Seminar, Syracuse NY, January 1997, 12 Hours – Tested
- Connecticut Chapter – International Association of Arson Investigators, Annual Arson Seminar, Hartford Ct, November 1996, 12 Hours – Tested
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 1996, 12 Hours
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Annual Arson Conference, Saint Louis Mo, May 1996, 28 Hours – Tested
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Spring Seminar, Niagara Falls NY, May 1996, 12 Hours – Tested

SPECIALIZED TRAINING (Cont.):

- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Winter Seminar, Colonie NY, February 1996, 12 Hours – Tested
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 1995, 12 Hours
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Electrical and Flashover Investigations, Hartford Ct, March 1995, 20 Hours - Tested
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Team Resources to take the Profit Out of Arson, Uniondale NY, February 1995, 12 Hours
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 1994, 12 Hours
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Spring Seminar, Alexandria Bay NY, May 1994, 12 Hours
- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Incident Command System, Modena NY, March 1994, 12 Hours
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Photography, Statement Analysis, & Electrical Fires, Niagara Falls NY, February 1994, 12 Hours – Tested
- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Radiation Safety, Highland NY, January 1994, 9 Hours
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 1993, 12 Hours
- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Fire Behavior & Arson Awareness, Pine Hill NY, November 1993, 12 Hours
- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Ladder Company Operations, New Paltz NY, October 1993, 18 Hours
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Spring Seminar, Cortland NY, May 1993, 12 Hours

SPECIALIZED TRAINING (Cont.):

- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Winter Seminar, Albany NY, February 1993, 12 Hours
- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Preparing For Command, Gardiner NY, January 1993, 24 Hours
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 1992, 12 Hours
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire Service Supervision-Team Effective, Montour Falls NY, May 1992, 12 Hours
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Transportation Fires, Kerhonkson NY, May 1992, 12 Hours
- Walden Fire Conference, OSHA Training Refresher, Walden NY March 1992, 8 Hours
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Public and Private Fire Investigations, Niagara Falls NY, February 1992, 12 Hours
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 1991, 12 Hours
- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Hazardous Material II, Gardiner, NY, May 1991, 24 Hours
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Investigation of Explosive Devices, Auburn NY, May 1991, 12 Hours
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Annual Arson Conference, New Orleans La, May 1991, 28 Hours
- New York State Association of Fire Chiefs, Disaster Management Seminar, Circleville NY, April 1991, 6 Hours
- Marlboro Fire Department, OSHA Refresher Training, Marlboro NY, March 1991, 8 Hours

SPECIALIZED TRAINING (Cont.):

- LUKAS Tool Company, Auto Vehicle Extrication Training, Gardiner NY, March 1991, 3 Hours
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Post-Fire Scene Investigation, Syracuse NY, February 1991, 12 Hours
- Connecticut Chapter – International Association of Arson Investigators, Annual Arson Seminar, Hartford Ct, November 1990, 12 Hours
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 1990, 12 Hours
- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Fire Police, Gardiner NY, September 1990, 9 Hours
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Spring Seminar, Cortland NY, May 1990, 12 Hours
- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Initial Fire Attack, Gardiner NY, May 1990, 18 Hours
- New York State Association of Fire Chiefs, Fire Ground Command Seminar, Poughkeepsie NY, February 1990, 6 Hours
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Winter Seminar, Rochester NY, February 1990, 12 Hours
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 1989, 12 Hours
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Spring Seminar, Alexandria Bay NY, May 1989, 12 Hours
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Winter Seminar, Syracuse NY, January 1989, 12 Hours
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 1988, 12 Hours

SPECIALIZED TRAINING (Cont.):

- International Association of Arson Investigators, Annual Arson Conference, Niagara Falls NY, May 1988, 28 Hours
- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Hazardous Materials II, Gardiner NY, April 1988, 16 Hours
- New York State Association of Fire Chiefs, Building Construction Principles, Poughkeepsie NY, March 1988, 6 Hours
- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Solid Fuel Heating Safety, Gardiner NY, February 1988 9 Hours
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Winter Seminar, Corning NY, January 1988, 12 Hours
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 1987, 12 Hours
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Spring Seminar, Kingston NY, May 1987, 12 Hours
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 1986, 12 Hours
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Spring Seminar, Alexandria Bay NY, May 1986, 12 Hours
- Sawkill Fire Department, Fire Service Photography, Sawkill NY, April 1986, 6 Hours
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 1985, 12 Hours
- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Essentials of Fire Fighting, Gardiner NY, October 1985, 39 Hours
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY, November 1984, 12 Hours
- Walden Fire Conference, Hazardous Materials Recognition, Walden NY April 1984, 8 Hours

SPECIALIZED TRAINING (Cont.):

- Walden Fire Conference, Fire Department Tactics & Operations, Walden NY
April 1984, 8 Hours
- New York State Fire Instructor, Liquid Petroleum Gas Emergencies, Shawangunk Valley
NY, April 1984, 8 Hours
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY,
November 1983, 12 Hours
- Walden Fire Conference, Air Pack Confidence, Walden NY, April 1983, 12 Hours
- New York State Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators, Winter
Seminar, Troy NY, January 1983, 12 Hours
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Seminar, Montour Falls NY,
November 1982, 12 Hours
- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Pump Operator, Gardiner NY,
May 1982, 18 Hours
- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Grass, Brush & Fire Fighting,
Gardiner NY, March 1982, 9 Hours
- Walden Fire Conference, Special Fire Situations, Walden NY, November 1981, 12 Hours
- Sullivan County Fire Investigators, Fire Investigation Seminar, Loch Sheldrake NY,
October 1981, 9 Hours
- New York State Fire Academy, Fire/Arson Investigation Course, Montour Falls NY,
August 1981, 80 Hours – Tested
- Walden Fire Conference, Handling LP Gas Emergencies, Walden NY
October 1980, 8 Hours
- Walden Fire Conference, Fire Investigation Level II, Walden NY
October 1980, 8 Hours
- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Fire Department Management &
Operations, Shawangunk Valley NY, July 1980, 24 Hours

SPECIALIZED TRAINING (Cont.):

- Ulster Hose Fire Department, Introduction to Fire Investigation, Ulster NY, June 1980, 12 Hours
- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Fire Information Field Investigation Reporting, Bloomington NY, December 1979, 3 Hours
- New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Hazardous Materials I, Gardiner NY, January 1978, 16 Hours

New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Essentials of Fire Fighting, Gardiner NY, January 1978, 39 Hours

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI)

New York State Chapter 23	IAAI
Connecticut Chapter 49	IAAI
Massachusetts Chapter	IAAI
New Jersey Chapter	IAAI
South Africa Chapter	IAAI
Ireland Chapter	IAAI

New York State Fire Service Council
New York State Association of Fire Chiefs
Firemen's Association State of New York
Ulster County New York Arson Task Force
Ulster County Fire Chiefs Association
Ulster County Volunteer Firemen's Association
Four States Association of Fire Investigators
Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association
Gardiner, New York Fire Department
Gardiner, New York Fire District

EXPERIENCE:

Personally investigated, and/or supervised over 1400 investigations. Investigations include fires and explosions, fatalities, court testimony and large dollar loss fires. Investigated fires in New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. Developed numerous skills averaging over 50 fire investigations a year. Served in local fire department attending over 100 fire calls per year. Over thirty years of experience in the automotive industry.

Chairman, V. Chairman, Delegate: NY State Fire Service Council
Delegate: Four States Chapters Association
Vice President, Director: NY State Fire Investigators Chapter 23, IAAI
Committees: International Association of Arson Investigators
Delegate: Firemen's Association State of New York
Delegate: Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association
Director: Ulster County Fire Chief's Association
Delegate: Ulster County Volunteer Firemen's Association
Chief Fire Investigator: Ulster County Arson Task Force
Deputy Chief Fire Investigator: Ulster County Arson Task Force
Fire Commissioner: Gardiner, NY Fire District
Chief: Gardiner, NY Fire Department and District
1st Assistant Chief: Gardiner, NY Fire Department and District
2nd Assistant Chief: Gardiner, NY Fire Department and District
Lieutenant: Gardiner, NY Fire Department
Foreman: Gardiner, NY Fire Department
President: Gardiner Fire Department, Gardiner, NY
President and Vice President: Gardiner, NY Fire Department.
Board of Director: Gardiner, NY Fire Department
Elected Fire Commissioner: Gardiner Fire District, Gardiner, NY
Committee Chair: for two statewide arson investigation seminars
Committee Chair/Member: of numerous state chapter committees
Member: of the Ethical & Practical Grievance, Liaisons, and Site Selection Committees of the International Association of Arson Investigators
Sergeant At Arms: International Association of Arson Investigators

CERTIFICATIONS:

National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications
Certified NFPA 1033 Fire Investigator 1992 to Present

International Association of Arson Investigators
Certified Fire Investigator 1992 to 2012
Re-certification 1997, 2002 & 2007

New York State Fire Investigators, Chapter 23, I.A.A.I.
Certified Fire Investigator 1992 to Present

New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control
Certified Fire Investigator Level I 1999 to Present
Certified Fire Investigator Level II 1999 to Present

New York State Department of State
Licensed Private Investigator 2001 to 2009
Re-certification 2003, 2005 & 2007

New York State Department of Motor Vehicles
Licensed Motor Vehicle Inspector 1973 to 2009
Re-certification 1976, 1979, 1982, 1985, 1988, 1991,
1994, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2004, 2007

COURT QUALIFICATIONS:

Expert witness – Fire Causation
New York State Court, Ulster County

GUEST LECTURER:

Topic: Investigation of Motor Vehicle Fires
State Farm Insurance Company

Topic: Investigation of Motor Vehicle Fires
New York State Chapter 23, IAAI