



Indiana Service Center

Steven L. Cottingham, IAAI-CFI
Senior Investigator

Bloomington, Indiana
800-848-9313

EDUCATION:

Ball State University
September 1978 to May 1982

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

Unified Investigations & Sciences, Inc.
Indianapolis, Indiana
Special Investigator, Senior Investigator
August 2004 to Present

Bloomington Fire Department
Bloomington, Indiana
Fire Inspection Officer
December 1996 to July 2004

City of Bloomington, Code Enforcement
Bloomington, Indiana
Chief Building Official
March 1993 to December 1996

City of Bloomington, Code Enforcement
Bloomington, Indiana
Code Enforcement Officer
May 1990 to March 1993

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY (Cont.):

City of Bloomington, Code Enforcement
Bloomington, Indiana
Housing Code Inspector and Assistant Officer
July 1988 to May 1990

Indiana State Fire Prevention & Building Safety Commission,
Member of Task Force to adopt 1996 Indiana 1 & 2 Family
Dwelling Code
January 1994 through November 1995

SPECIALIZED TRAINING:

- Fire Findings, Investigation of Gas and Electric Appliance Fires, Benton Harbor, Michigan, November 2007, 30 hours (tested)
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Robinsonville, Mississippi, Vehicle Fire Investigation, March 2006, 20 hours (tested)
- Illinois Chapter-International Association of Arson Investigators, Whittington, Illinois, Fire Investigation Conference, May 2005, 14 hours (tested)
- Unified Investigations & Sciences, Insurance Investigations, Dallas, Texas, May 2005
40 hours
- IAAI Chapter 14, Indiana Fire & Arson Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana
August 2004, 24 hours
- Indiana University Law School, Expert Witness Experience, Bloomington, Indiana
June 2004, 8 hours
- Department of Justice, Domestic Terrorism, Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center,
Crane, Indiana, November 2003, 8 hours
- IAAI Chapter 14, Annual Fire Investigation Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana
August 2003, 22 hours
- Indiana University Law School, Expert Witness Experience, Bloomington, Indiana
June 2003, 8 hours

SPECIALIZED TRAINING (Cont.):

- International Code Council, Overview of the 2000 International Fire Code
Indianapolis, Indiana, April 2003, 8 hours
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Explosives Destruction Techniques,
Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane, Indiana, October 2002, 40 hours
- IAAI Chapter 14, Annual Fire Investigation Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana,
August 2002, 22 hours (tested)
- National Training School, Fire Alarm Installation Methods, Bloomington, Indiana
May 2002, 18 hours (tested)
- IAAI Chapter 14, Annual Fire Investigation Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana,
August 2001, 22 hours (tested)
- Wicklander-Zulawski & Associates, The Reid Method of Criminal Interviews and
Interrogation, Bloomington, Indiana, March 2001, 21 hours (tested)
- IAAI Chapter 14, Electrical Fire Investigation, Bloomington, Indiana,
September 2000, 8 hours (tested)
- IAAI Chapter 14, Annual Fire Investigation Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana,
May 2000, 28 hours
- IAAI Chapter 14, Evidence Collection, Preservation & Storage, Indianapolis, Indiana
August 1999, 8 hours (tested)
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Expert Courtroom Testimony
Fisher's Indiana, February 1999, 20 hours (tested)
- Office of the Indiana State Fire Marshal, Treatment for Juvenile Firesetters
Indianapolis, Indiana, February 1999, 6 hours
- Fire Inspectors Association of Indiana, Juvenile Firesetter Intervention, Brownsburg,
Indiana, December 1998, 8 hours
- Office of the Indiana State Fire Marshal, John Barracato, Arson Investigation,
Indianapolis, Indiana, December 1997, 12 hours

EXPERIENCE:

Mr. Cottingham has over 9 years of experience as a fire origin and cause investigator working within the fire service. He has investigated and/or supervised well over 400 fire and explosion incidents. Many of these investigations have involved product liability/subrogation issues, multi-million dollar loss exposures and those with multiple fatalities. He also has over 16 years of experience inspecting new construction and existing occupancies for compliance with state building, mechanical, electrical and fire codes.

CERTIFICATIONS:

Certified Fire Investigator (IAAI-CFI) - International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI), 2004, Certification # 14-055

Certified Fire & Explosion Investigator (CFEI) - National Fire Investigators Association, 1999, Registration # 6361-2302

Fire Investigator I, State of Indiana Public Safety Training Institute
1998, Certification #34619

Master Fire Prevention/Inspection, Office of the Indiana State Fire Marshal
Certification #34619 (53-005)

Certified Building Inspector, International Conference of Building Officials 1993,
Certification #66269

Certified Combination 1 & 2 Family Dwelling Inspector (Building Mechanical,
Plumbing & Electrical), International Conference of Building Officials, 1993,
Certification #65208

Master Electrician License, Issued by the City of Bloomington, 1995, 2004, License
#1566

COURT QUALIFICATIONS:

Expert Witness - Fire Origin & Causation: Criminal and Civil Courts for the State of
Indiana.

Expert Witness for arbitration hearings in Indiana

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI)

Indiana Chapter-International Association of Arson Investigators
(Board of Directors: 2001-present)

National Fire Investigators Association (NAFI)

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)

GUEST LECTURER-INSTRUCTOR:

Mr. Cottingham has been lead instructor for two classes of Fire Investigator I, and all of his students have passed their certifications. He has also been the instructor for Fire Inspector I. Throughout his career in the fire service he developed numerous fire prevention and education programs. He has spoken numerous times to civic groups and at career days about the fire service.

Documenting and Recording the scene (8 hour presentation)

“K” rated fire extinguishers in commercial kitchens

Fire in the workplace

Portable fire extinguishers in the work place

Fire Prevention for High school health class

Fire prevention for 2nd grade Allstate, “Be cool about fire safety”

Fire prevention for pre-schools