



FORENSIC FIRE INVESTIGATION Massachusetts, Rhode Island & Connecticut

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Scott S. Popovich

IAAI-CFI (V), ECT NFPA-CFI, CFPS NAFI-CFEI, CVFI
PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT

QUALIFICATIONS & CURRICULUM VITAE

EXPERIENCE

THERMALOGIX, LLC

2020 - PRESENT

PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT

Duties: Owner; Determine the origin and/or cause of fires; Document scenes with photographs and 3D scanning equipment; Identify, collect and preserve evidence; Conduct forensic evidence analysis; Conduct forensic testing; Conduct interviews; Analysis of products as it relates to failure modes; Conduct fire hazard analysis; Failure analysis of electrical and mechanical components; Prepare comprehensive written reports regarding findings; Provide expert opinions and recommendations to clients and attorneys; Conduct technical review of cases with engineers; Prepare protocols and estimates; Maintain professional, working relationships with federal, state and local fire investigators.

THE WRIGHT GROUP, INC.

2019 - 2020

FIRE ANALYST

Duties: Determine the origin and/or cause of fires; Document scenes with photographs, sketches, and notes; Collect and preserve evidence; Conduct forensic evidence analysis; Conduct forensic testing; Conduct interviews; Design analysis of products as it relates to failure modes and effects analysis; Conduct fire hazard analysis; Mechanical failure analysis of electrical and mechanical components; Building of design models and testing of designed products; Prepare comprehensive written reports regarding findings; Provide expert opinions and recommendations to clients and attorneys; Conduct technical review of cases with fellow analysts and engineers. Prepare protocols and estimates.

RIMKUS CONSULTING GROUP, INC.

2015 - 2019

FIRE CONSULTANT

Duties: Responsible for investigating fire and causation in commercial facilities, residential structures, automobiles, marine vessels, and heavy equipment. Investigates fires involving electrical devices, assesses potential liabilities and subrogation issues surrounding the incident. As case manager collects evidence, photographs, documents, conducts interviews with witnesses, fire departments, state fire marshal and police agencies. Prepare detailed investigative reports pertaining to the origin and cause of fire losses.

WOONSOCKET, RHODE ISLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT

1990 - 2015

ASSISTANT FIRE MARSHAL

2012 - 2015

Duties: Examined fire scenes and collected evidence for determining the origin and cause of a fire. Prepared and maintained investigative reports for prosecution of code violators and arsonists. Inspected buildings to locate hazardous conditions and fire code violations such as combustible materials, electrical wiring problems and inadequate or non-functioning fire exits. Conducted fire code compliance follow ups to ensure that corrective actions had been taken where violations had been found.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

2012 - 2015

Duties: Developed, planned and executed emergency response training for CVS Corporate Headquarters, recognized with an award for project development. Reviewed emergency plans of individual organizations such as corporate facilities to ensure their adequacy, maintained emergency communications systems for readiness in the event of natural disasters or other emergencies. Collaborated with other officials to prepare and exercise to manage disasters and emergencies. Planned, implemented and supervised mass inoculation events for the Rhode Island Department of Health.

LIEUTENANT

2009 - 2012

Duties: Oversaw and managed fire crews at emergency incidents including fires, EMS and hazardous material incidents. Detailed incident reports and personnel service records. Supervised and ensured safety of fire station personnel.

FIREFIGHTER

1990 - 2009

Duties: Administered medical aid as an emergency medical technician. Performed fire ground activities including hose lays, set up of ladders and nozzle work. Operated all fire department equipment including engine companies, ladder trucks and rescues. Conducted public education and information activities at schools and public events.

EDUCATION

University of New Haven, New Haven, Connecticut

M.S. - Fire and Arson Investigation

Roger Williams University, Bristol, Rhode Island

B.S. - Public Administration

Community College of Rhode Island, Warwick, Rhode Island

A.S. - Fire Science

SPECIALIZED EDUCATION

Rhode Island State Crime Laboratory

- Evidence Technician class (Scientific Evidence I & II)

The Henry C. Lee Institute of Forensics

- Death and Homicide Investigation, Crime Scene and Evidence Photography

National Fire Academy

- Fire Arson Origin and Cause Investigation
- Youth Fire Setting Prevention and Intervention
- Interview Interrogation/Courtroom Testimony
- Forensic Evidence Collection
- Electrical Aspects of Fire Investigation

New England Fuel Institute

- Licensed Rhode Island Oil Heat /Technician course,
- Storage Tank Installation and Maintenance Training

Rhode Island Fire Academy

- 1031 Fire Inspector, Asst. Deputy State Fire Marshal
- ICS 100, 200, Confined Space Awareness
- Firefighter I and II, Explosive Incident Response

IAAI CFI Trainer

- Varied arson specific classes. (Transcript on request)

LICENSES & CERTIFICATIONS

- Certified Fire Investigator CFI (V) with Motor Vehicle Endorsement by the International Association of Arson Investigators
- Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator (CFEI) by the National Association of Fire Investigators
- Certified Vehicle Fire Investigator (CVFI) by the National Association of Fire Investigators
- Certified Fire Protection Specialist (CFPS) by the National Fire Protection Association
- Certified Fire Inspector (CFI) by the National Fire Protection Association
- Certified Evidence Collection Technician (ECT) by the International Association of Arson Investigators
- Certified Fireplace and Chimney Inspector by the Fireplace Investigation Research and Education Service Certificate # FCI-276
- Certified Chimney Sweep by the Chimney Safety Institute of America # 9756 (Expired)
- FAA licensed UAS (Unmanned Aerial Systems) Pilot Certificate # 4069679
- Licensed Private Detective
- NFPA Hot Works Safety Certificate #0102879
- TWIC card holder (Transportation Workers Identification Card)
- Licensed Oil Heat Technician
- Licensed Hoisting Equipment Operator by the State of Rhode Island

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- IAAI (International Association of Arson Investigators)
- CTIAAI (Connecticut Chapter of International Association of Arson Investigators)
- MAIAAI (Massachusetts Chapter of International Association of Arson Investigators)
- RIIAAI (Rhode Island Chapter of International Association of Arson Investigators)
- NFPA (National Fire Protection Association)
- NAFI (National Association of Fire Investigators)
- SFPE (Society of Fire Protection Engineers)

SEMINARS & OTHER EDUCATION

▪ CFI trainer, Principles of Fire Investigation Multi-Program	2020
▪ MAIAAI, Large Scene Fire Investigations-Worcester Cold Storage Review	2019
▪ MAIAAI, Subrogation	2019
▪ IAAI, ITC General Session, Jacksonville, FL	2019
▪ CT IAAI Annual Seminar, Rocky Hill CT	2018
▪ IAAI, Tablets and Tools of the Trade, Scarborough, Maine	2018
▪ NFPA Hot Works Training NFPA HQ Quincy, MA	2018
▪ MAIAAI, Investigation of Motor Vehicle Fires, South Yarmouth, MA	2018
▪ IAAI, ITC General Session, Frisco, Texas	2018
▪ National Chimney Sweep Training School (CSIA - Plainfield, Indiana)	2018
▪ NASP Webinar : The Investigation and Litigation of Fan Fires	2018
▪ NASP Subro College 100 (Liberty Mutual, Weston, MA)	2018
▪ NFPA 25 Hands on ITM of Water Based Fire Protection Systems (Johnson Controls Lab)	2018
▪ NFPA 241Safeguarding Construction, NFPA online	2017
▪ A Systematic Approach to Investigating Post Flash-Over Fires, MAIAAI	2017
▪ Dart Drones Part 107 Drone Pilot Test Prep	2017
▪ Reality Rope Access, Roof Specific Rope Access Training	2017
▪ Fire Findings, Investigating Solid Fuel-Burning Appliance Fires	2017
▪ NASP Webinar Subrogation and the Fire Expert	2017
▪ IAAI, ITC General Session, Las Vegas, NV	2017
▪ Foam Plastic Provisions of building code ICC Course #11603 Manchester, NH	2017
▪ Fire Investigations HPB Foundation	2017
▪ Relining For Fireplace Inserts HPB Foundation	2017
▪ Chimney Physics BPH Foundation	2017
▪ NFI Gas Hearth Systems review class	2017
▪ NFI Wood Burning review class	2017
▪ IAAI Knowledge 1 Motor Vehicles	2017
▪ Phil Ackland's Inspecting Commercial Kitchens Online Learning Center	2016
▪ Lithium Ion Batteries Failures MAIAAI	2016
▪ Fire Findings, Investigation of Gas and Electric Appliance Fires	2016
▪ Spray Foam Applicator Training Spray Foam Distributors of New England	2016
▪ High Pressure SPF- Safety Training- American Chemistry Council	2016
▪ Current Trends in Fire Investigations Resulting from Civil Unrest MAIAAI	2016
▪ Fire Pattern Certification Public Agency Training Council New Jersey	2016
▪ Fireplace Investigation, Research and Education Service CFI certification	2016
▪ John D. Dehann Fatal Fires, University of New Haven	2016
▪ IAMI, Marine Fire Investigations, Knoxville TN	2016
▪ Fire Findings, Investigating Residential Dryer Fires, Michigan	2015
▪ Fire Findings, Residential Electricity, Michigan	2015
▪ Fire Investigation in the Digital Age, MAIAAI	2015
▪ NFPA 72 NFPA Quincy, MA	2014
▪ National Grid Distribution, MAIAAI	2014
▪ Hazard and Risk Assessment at Fire Scenes Webinar, IAFI	2014
▪ Marine Fire Investigations, NJIAAI	2014
▪ Writing and Defending Your Expert Report, PATC	2014
▪ Fire and Explosive Evidence, MAIAAI	2014

- Investigating Fire Fatalities, PATC 2013
- Vehicle Fire Investigations, NAFI 2013
- Documenting the Fire Scene, RIIAAI 2013
- Investigative Analysis of the Springfield Explosion, MAIAAI 2013
- Digital Forensics for Arson Investigation, IAAI 2013
- Solar Photovoltaic Systems, MAIAAI 2013
- Fire Investigation course, RIIAAI 2013
- Pellet Stoves and Chimneys, The Institute of Fire Science 2012
- Bomb and Arson Tracking, ATF 2012
- Investigation of Electrical and Appliance Fires, IAAI 2012
- Impacts of 1033, MAIAAI 2012
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