

CURRICULUM VITAE
JON SAMARDZICH
engine38@gmail.com

CURRENT POSITION

Master Certified Fire Investigator
Arson Investigator, Retired, City of Pasadena Fire Department

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

I am responsible for investigating and analyzing fire and explosion incidents, rendering opinions as to origin and cause, development, responsibility, and prevention of such incidents

INVESTIGATIVE EXPERIENCE

I have been involved in the suppression of approximately 1800 fires and led or assisted in the investigation of approximately 1825 fires. During my assignment as an Arson Investigator for the Pasadena Fire Department, I was involved in the arrest and conviction of persons criminally liable for incendiary fires and fraudulent activities related to the enforcement of fire regulations. I was responsible for all origin and cause determinations when assigned by on duty fire operations personnel. Additionally, I was responsible for the enforcement of fireworks restrictions, special assigned complaint inspections, and issuance of citations for violations of the California Penal Code, California Fire Code, Health and Safety Code, and Pasadena Municipal Code.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Pasadena Fire Department - 2005- 2008
Arson Investigator

Pasadena Fire Department - 1981- 2005
Fire Engineer

Pasadena Fire Department - 1977- 1981
Firefighter

Montebello Fire Department - 1974-1977
Firefighter

PRIVATE INVESTIGATION EXPERIENCE

Larry Rohrer Investigations, Inc. 2006 – Present
Investigation of residential, commercial, vegetation, and vehicle fires for origin and cause determination.

CA License # PI 24929
AZ License #1718533

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FORMAL EDUCATION

Graduate of Montebello High School in 1972. Completion of 40 units of Fire Science courses attended through East Los Angeles College 1976, Rio Hondo College 1975, Pasadena City College 1978, Monterey Peninsula College 2006, and Santa Ana College 2006.

VOCATIONAL CERTIFICATES

CCAI Master Certified Fire Investigator
Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator
Certified Vehicle Fire Investigator
Firefighter I
Firefighter II

PC 832 Peace Officer Standards and Training Certificate

VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND EDUCATION

1003 hrs. of tested training

5 Day Fire Inv. Academy NFPA 921	PATC Conference 2005	40 hrs.
Interview & Interrogation	Southwest Border HIDTA 2005	24 hrs.
Fire Pattern Recognition	CCAI Winter Conference 2006	24 hrs.
3 day Origin and Cause NFPA 921	PATC Conference 2005	24 hrs.
Fire Investigation I	East Los Angeles College 1975	40 hrs.
Fire Investigation 1A	Santa Ana College 2005	40 hrs.
Fire Investigation 1B	Santa Ana College 2006	40 hrs.
Fire Investigation 2A	Santa Ana College 2006	40 hrs.
Fire Investigation 2B	Monterey Peninsula College 2006	40 hrs.
PC832 Firearms/Arrest & Control	SBSD Sheriff's Academy 2005	76 hrs.
Evidence Collection to Correction	Santa Clara Co. ATF 2005	16 hrs.
Reid Interview & Interrogation	Anaheim 2006	32 hrs.
Firearms Instruction and Training	Pasadena Police Range (bi-monthly)	130 hrs.

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HIDTA Interview/Interrogations.	San Diego 2006	24 hrs.
Moving Surveillance Training	CCAI Region 9 2006	08 hrs.
Insurance Fraud/Arson for Hire	CCAI Roundtable 2006	03 hrs.
Origin and Cause Determination	FDIC West Conference 2005	03 hrs.
Arson Investigation Orientation	Burbank Fire Dept. 2005	03 hrs.
Scene Photography	Pasadena Police Photo Lab 2005	03 hrs.
Fire Scene Photography	CCAI Roundtable 2005	03 hrs.
Identity Theft Class	Pasadena PD Det. Joe Allard '05	02 hrs.
Tactical Firearms Combat Course	TFTT Instructors – L.A. Area Arson'06	08 hrs.
Digital Photography Course	IAAI Online Tested Course 2005	04 hrs.
CSFM Fireworks Training	CCAI Roundtable 2006	03 hrs.
Juvenile Firesetters Conference	L.A. Co. Dept. of Mental Health 2006	16 hrs.
Understanding the Arsonist	SBFD Dian Williams '06	08 hrs.
Proposition 115 Hearsay Evidence	L.A. City Fire Arson Section 2006	03 hrs.
Incident Resp. to Terrorist Bombings Energetic Materials Research & Test Center	New Mexico Tech '06	32 hrs.
Investigation of Gas & Electric Appliance Fires	FireFindings Laboratory- Michigan '06	30 hrs.
Vehicle Fire Investigation	PATC-Nevada '06	21hrs.
Hands-On Electrical Fire/Arson Investigation	PATC- El Cajon '06	21hrs.
Insurance Fraud/Arson for Hire	CCAI Spring '07	08 hrs.
CSFM Fireworks Training	CCAI Roundtable 2007-Ontario	03hrs.
Fire Pattern Certification	PATC-Nevada '07	22 hrs.

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Live Fire Burn Tests of Cigarettes And Spalling of Concrete	CCAI Fall '07	21hrs.
Live Fire Burn Tests of Electrical Fires	CCAI Spring '08	21hrs.
Hands-On Electrical Fire/Arson Investigation	PATC-LA City '08	21hrs.
Origin and Cause Training with Live Burn Tests in Structures	CCAI Spring '09	21hrs.
Fire and Arson Investigation	CCAI Fall '10	21hrs.
Arson Murders & Fire Death Investigations- Ed Nordskog	CCAI Roundtable 9 January '13	4 hrs.
Advanced Fire & Arson Investigation	CCAI Spring '13	20 hrs.
Anatomy of a Wrongful Arson Conviction	IAFI/NAFI Webinar August '14	2 hrs.
Thermodynamics, Fire Chemistry & Hash Oil Lab Fires	CCAI Fall '14	20 hrs.
NFPA 921/Solid Fuel & Gas Burning Appliances	February 5, 2015	8 hrs.
NFPA 1033 Educational Requirements CCAI	March 30, 2015	40 hrs.
Accreditation, Certification, & Certificates	July 21, 2018	3 hrs.
Analysis of the Station Nightclub Fire	July 21, 2018	4 hrs.
The Practical Application of the Relationship Between NFPA 1033 and NFPA 921	July 21, 2018	2 hrs.
Fire Death Investigation, Field Burn Exercise, Solar Equipment Fires, Unmanned Aircraft Systems for Fire Investigations	CCAI September 24-27, 2018	28 hrs.
Marine Investigations for Fire Investigators	AZIAAI February 10, 2020	8 hrs.
CCAI Fall Conference	Sept. 28- Oct.1, 2020	28 hrs.

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Advanced Fire Investigation AZIAAI July 21,22,23, 2021

22 hrs.

I have participated in the deliberate ignition of dwellings to observe fire behavior and understand movement and intensity in the spread of fire. These live burns were representations of accidental and incendiary fires.

I have participated in the deliberate ignition of household appliances to observe fire patterns when the device was externally attacked by fire, and when the fire originated from a failure within the device.

I have participated in the deliberate ignition of motor vehicles to observe fire behavior and understand the movement and intensity patterns within the engine, passenger, and cargo compartments, as well as the vehicle exterior.

I have instructed firefighters in classes on Origin and Cause Determination, Fire Scene Preservation and Arson Investigation.

I have instructed Police Officers on Fire Behavior, Fire Scene Preservation, and Arson Investigation.

I have participated in the detonation of Improvised Explosive Devices in buildings, vehicles, and on simulated suicide bombers to observe the destruction from the materials utilized in the devices and the effect on the immediate environment.

MEMBERSHIPS

I am a member of the California Conference of Arson Investigators, the International Association of Arson Investigators, the National Association of Fire Investigators, and a retired member in good standing with the International Association of Firefighters and the California Professional Firefighters.