

# State of Alaska-Division of Fire and Life Safety

## TRAINING AND EDUCATION BUREAU



### **NFA: R0206: Fire/Arson Origin and Cause Investigations**

**Dates:** February: 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25; March: 8, 22, 24; April: 5, 7, 12, 13, 2016 **Time 18:00-22:00**

**Dates:** February: 13, 20, 27; March 26; April 9, 2016 **Time: 09:00 – 17:00**

**Written & Practical Test Date:** April 16, 2016:

**Location:** Palmer FD Training Center, 645 Cope-Industrial Way, Palmer, AK

#### **Course Description**

This 80 hour course, based on NFPA 921 - Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations, addresses the technical and scientific knowledge and skills needed to conduct successful fire/arson investigations. Using a combination of classroom and practical exercises, successful methods are demonstrated for conducting science-based fire investigations that culminate, when appropriate, in prosecution for arson. Upon completion of the course, the students will be equipped to identify the origin and cause of a fire, conduct a technically and legally sound investigation, and pursue the case through the judicial system.

Subjects covered include health and safety, scientific method, fire dynamics, building construction, myths and legends, investigative resources, electrical fire investigations, origin and cause, evidence collection and preservation, documenting the scene, report writing, injury and fatal fire investigation, vehicle fires, case solvability, legal considerations, and motivation, interviewing and interrogation. The course is designed to meet or exceed the applicable sections of NFPA 1033, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigator.

#### **Selection Criteria**

Priority will be reserved fire service, law enforcement personnel, and prosecutors who are primarily responsible for fire/arson and explosion investigation and/or prosecution. These personnel include fire/arson investigators, State fire marshals, law enforcement personnel, criminal investigators, District/State's Attorney's staff, and members of arson task forces. Applicants who are not employed full time in this field are eligible if they can substantiate that their primary duties are fire/arson and explosion investigation and/or prosecution.

#### **Prerequisites**

ICS 100 level and ICS 200 level training. Preferred courses are Q462 and Q463 available through NFA Online at [www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/courses/online.html](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/courses/online.html). **Chief's signature attests that the applicant has completed this required training.**

#### **State Testing Eligibility Requirements**

Successful completion of the following CFI Trainer modules: Fire Investigator Scene Safety; The Scientific Method for Fire/Explosion Investigations; Introduction to Evidence; Documenting the Event; Physical Evidence at the Fire Scene; Investigating Motor Vehicle Fires; Introduction to Fire Dynamics and Modeling; Investigating Fatal Fires; Fundamentals of Residential Building Construction; and Search and Seizure. Access to CFI Trainer is via Web site at [www.CFITrainer.net](http://www.CFITrainer.net). Applicants must provide a copy of their [CFITrainer.Net](http://www.CFITrainer.net) transcript along with their admissions application verifying that they have successfully completed the requisite training modules listed above. Please see the Alaska Fire Standards Council Directive for Eligibility Requirements: <http://dps.alaska.gov/AFSC/docs/Certification/FireInvestigatorDirective.pdf>

**Student Responsibilities** Each student needs to obtain a Student Identification Number (SID) prior to attending a NFA course. Please follow the link for more information <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/about/attend/ftin.shtm>. Student provide coveralls or Tyvek jump suit, work boots and gloves. The student or his/her sponsoring agency is responsible for all costs for transportation, food, and lodging. 100% attendance and participation is required.

<b>Class Size Maximum:</b>	24
<b>Instructor:</b>	Brian Balega
<b>Registration Deadline:</b>	January 15 <sup>th</sup> 2016
<b>Student Tuition:</b>	No Cost

Please fill out the course registration form and fax to 907-269-0102, or email to Jan Mitchell at [jan.mitchell@alaska.gov](mailto:jan.mitchell@alaska.gov)  
Please call the TEB office at 907-269-5789 with questions or concerns.