

**Practical Fire/Arson Scene Search and Evidence Recovery**  
**Tactics, Techniques, Procedures Used in Processing the Fire/Arson**  
**Crime Scene and Collection of Evidence**

**Course Objectives:**

The scene of any fire itself is evidence, and the testimony of trained Fire Investigators, Law Enforcement Officers, Prosecutors, solicitors, U.S Attorney’s, Insurance Investigators, or Private Investigators concerning observations and findings at an unchanged fire scene is vitally important to the successful clearance of the case and when necessary, the prosecution of the case. Improper protection of the fire scene could result in the contamination, loss, or unnecessary movement of physical evidence.

The First Law Enforcement Officer or Firefighter to arrive at the scene of the fire automatically incurs the serious and critical responsibility of securing the fire scene and must take precautions to protect its remains unchanged. Physical evidence in and about the fire scene is highly fragile in the sense that the elements, time, inadvertent movement, improper handling and packaging, and numerous other influences can reduce or destroy its evidentiary value. The Legal and Scientific Standards concerning the collection and processing of physical evidence are rigid. Thus, mistakes can easily be made in processing the fire or crime scene, however, the more important fact is that mistakes can be easily avoided if sound procedures and guidelines are followed.

The proper means of processing a fire scene, photographing, marking, tagging and packaging evidence and evidence transportation requires specialized training. However, this is of a nature that is within every investigators ability to acquire. What is required in addition to procedural knowledge is an appreciation of what could potentially be evidence and what types of information the investigator might obtain from different physical material.

A competent search of a fire scene demands an understanding of basic procedures and appreciation of the “Why” of certain actions, and close attention to detail in carrying out proper tasks.

This training deals with the considerations, guidelines, and procedures that will help avoid an oversight, insure thoroughness of the search, and to comply with both legal and scientific requirements that always bear on the use of physical evidence.

Understanding the tasks involved while following NFPA 921, 1033, and the Fire Scene Process Map from NIST.

The purpose of this course of training is to provide Fire Investigators, Law Enforcement Officers, Insurance Investigators, and D.A. Prosecutors with an in-depth course on Fire Scene Investigation and Evidence Collection Procedures.

**Instructor Bio**

Steve Riggs retired after twenty-two years of Law Enforcement, and Fire Service Experience in Oklahoma. Steve has been examining fire scenes for 40 years. Steve holds a Bachelors Degree in Emergency Management, and has extensive training in Fire Cause Determination, Criminal Investigation, Arson Investigation, Evidence Processing, Interviewing Techniques, and Case Management. He is a Certified Police and Fire Instructor and a Certified Fire Investigator Instructor. Mr. Riggs has successfully been involved in many Fire/Arson Prosecutions in Oklahoma and was involved in a Federal Prosecution. To date, he has never lost an Arson Case. Steve has authored and co-authored several fire training manuals and written “A Critical Analysis of NFPA 921 User’s Manual 2nd Edition”. Steve lectures nationally to Local, State, Federal Agencies, Insurance Companies, Private, and Military Investigators, Prosecutors, Vehicle Manufacture Representatives and their Engineers. Steve is on the Board of Directors for the National Association of Fire Investigators.

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Plainfield, IN 46168

Phone: 317-386-8325  
FAX: 317-386-8228  
www.llrmi.com

December 7 & 8, 2026 • Lansdale, Pennsylvania

TRAINING SEMINAR

Practical Fire/Arson Scene Search  
and Evidence Recovery

Tactics, Techniques, Procedures  
Used in Processing the Fire/Arson Crime Scene  
and Collection of Evidence

Securing and Protecting the Scene | Search Warrants  
Processing the Fire Scene | Evidence Collection Methods  
Documenting the Fire Scene

December 7 & 8, 2026  
Lansdale, Pennsylvania

SPONSORED BY:  
Lansdale Borough Fire Marshal’s Office  
Lansdale, Pennsylvania

★ LLRMI Experienced Instructors ★  
Make the Difference

Instructor  
Steve Riggs, IAAI-CFI, CFEL, CVFI & CFII Certified  
*State of Oklahoma (Retired)*

Register On-Line at: [www.llrmi.com](http://www.llrmi.com)



National Fire Arson Investigation Training Institute

A Division of Legal and Liability Risk Management Institute

Steve Riggs, Director

[www.llrmi.com](http://www.llrmi.com)

Seminar Agenda

Monday, December 7, 2026

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00 – 8:30 am      | Registration                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 8:30 – 9:30 am      | Orientation and Course Objectives<br>Admissibility Of Evidence <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Case Law: Including Daubert, and Kumho</li><li>• First Responders</li><li>• Securing The Fire Scene</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 9:30 – 10:30 am     | Types of Potential Evidence at the Scene <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Types of Evidence to Look For</li><li>• Chemicals That May Be Used in Fire-Setting</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 10:30 am – 12:00 pm | Fire Evidence Collection Methods <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use of Clean Unused Cans</li><li>• Use of Glass Vials If Applicable</li><li>• Use of Tools For Collection</li><li>• Proper Cleaning Methods of Equipment</li><li>• Types of Lab Test Available</li><li>• Methods of Identifying, Securing, Marking, Photographing, Evidence Packaging and Evidence Labeling</li></ul> |
| 12:00 – 1:00 pm     | Lunch (On Your Own)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1:00 – 2:30 pm      | Example of Case Review and Demonstration of Various Evidence Collection Procedures                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 2:30 – 3:45 pm      | Case Law <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Search Warrants, Exceptions, Consent</li><li>• Problems Arising From Consent</li><li>• What to Include in Search Warrants</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 3:45 – 4:30 pm      | Fire Scene Diagrams/Sketching and New Methods                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

Tuesday, December 8, 2026

|                     |                                                              |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00 – 9:00 am      | Internet Resources For Investigators                         |
| 9:00 – 10:30 am     | Photographing/Video/Digital Image Documentation of the Scene |
| 10:30 am – 12:00 pm | Tool Mark and Electrical Evidence                            |
| 12:00 – 1:00 pm     | Lunch (On Your Own)                                          |

|                                                                                                                |                                                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1:00 – 1:30 pm                                                                                                 | Storage and Packaging of Evidence                                                |
| 1:30 – 2:00 pm                                                                                                 | Spoliation/Destruction of Evidence<br>Ink Analysis and Charred Documents         |
| 2:00 – 3:00 pm                                                                                                 | Courtroom Testimony and Preparing the Case with your Prosecution/Trial Notebooks |
| 3:00 – 4:30 pm                                                                                                 | Questions and Answers<br>Final Test                                              |
| 4:30 pm                                                                                                        | Certificate Presentation                                                         |
| An extensive download resource password for additional resource information will be provided to each attendee. |                                                                                  |
| All times are approximate and may vary according to questions, case study times etc.                           |                                                                                  |

The Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator (C.F.E.I.) Examination  
(National Association of Fire Investigators)

Certifications will be granted to those whose applications are accepted and pass the examination.

Applications for membership must be completed on the NAFI Website at [www.nafi.org](http://www.nafi.org).

For additional information, call the NAFI office (877) 506-NAFI or visit the Website at [www.nafi.org](http://www.nafi.org).

- Membership Requirement: You must be a member of NAFI to be eligible for certification.
- Membership fees: \$70 for one year.
- Certification fee: \$135 (separate from membership). \* You must remain an active NAFI member to maintain your certification status.
- Application: Complete your membership and certification applications on the NAFI website: [www.nafi.org](http://www.nafi.org).
- Download the CFEI application from the website, complete it before the class, and bring it to the class (do not mail it to NAFI).

Certification testing will be offered immediately following the first or second day of training.

3 Ways to Register

Register Online at [www.llrmi.com](http://www.llrmi.com)

Fax Form to:

317-386-8228

Mail Form to:

Legal and Liability Risk Management  
700 N. Carr Rd., #595  
Plainfield, Indiana 46168  
Federal ID: 81-0692135

VISA

AMERICAN EXPRESS

MasterCard

If you have any questions please call: 317-386-8325

❖PREPAYMENT IS NOT REQUIRED TO REGISTER❖

Upon receiving your registration we will send an Invoice to your department or agency. Checks, claim forms, purchase orders should be made payable to LLRMI.

|                     |                                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Seminar Title:      | Practical Fire Arson Scene Search and Evidence Recovery                                                                                    |
| Seminar ID:         | #17386                                                                                                                                     |
| Dates:              | December 7 & 8, 2026                                                                                                                       |
| Registration Time:  | December 7, 2026, 8am                                                                                                                      |
| Instructor:         | Steve Riggs                                                                                                                                |
| Seminar Location:   | Lansdale Borough Fire Marshal’s Office<br>1 Vine Street<br>Lansdale, Pennsylvania 19446                                                    |
| Hotel Reservations: | Homewood Suites by Hilton Lansdale<br>1200 Pennbrook Parkway<br>Lansdale, Pennsylvania 19446<br>1-215-362-6400<br>State Gov’t Rate         |
| Group Code:         | State Gov’t Rate - Must show State Gov’t ID at check in to receive rate                                                                    |
| Registration Fee:   | \$325.00<br>Includes Practical Fire/Arson Scene Search and Evidence Recovery, <b>Printed Training Manual</b> and Certificate of Completion |



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A Division of  
Legal and Liability Risk Management Institute

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Registration Form – Practical Fire Arson Scene Search and Evidence Recovery #17386

Names of Attendees

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Agency \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

Invoice To Attention of: (Must be completed.) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_