



**Forensic Fire Services, LLC**

777 W. Church St. Suite M  
Lexington, TN  
38351

**Ben Benfield, MS, CFI(v), CFEI, CFII**

Forensicfireservices@outlook.com  
www.forensicfireservices.com  
(731)-616-9822

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

### **FORENSIC FIRE INVESTIGATOR BENJAMIN B. BENFIELD, IAAI-CFI(V), ECT, FIT, NAFI- CFEI, CFII, AEMT, P.I., MIFireE, B.S. FSA**

#### **Education**

- Liberty University, Lynchburg, Virginia. Ph.D., Psychology (currently active Doctoral student)
- Liberty University, Lynchburg, Virginia. M.S. Criminal Justice/Forensic Psychology
- Waldorf University, Forrest City, Iowa. B.S. Fire Science Administration. 2015.
- University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), Crisis Intervention, 2011.
- Southwest Community College, Memphis, TN. Emergency Medical Services. 2009.

#### **Professional Experience**

- 2023 – Present  
President, Principal Investigator/Fire Loss Consultant, Forensic Fire Services LLC, Lexington, TN.
- 2019- 2023  
(Part-Time) Fire Investigator, Donan Engineering, Louisville, KY.
- 2001 – Present  
Captain-AEMT, Fire Investigator, City of Jackson Fire Department, Jackson, TN.
- 2015-2017  
(Part-Time) Fire Chief, Fire Marshal, (Rebuilding) Town of Mason Fire Department, Mason TN

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- 2009-2011  
(Part-Time) Lieutenant, Henderson Fire Department, Henderson, TN.
- 2004-2006  
(Reserve) Deputy Sheriff, Crocket County Sheriff's Department, Alamo, TN.

**Professional Development**

- National Association of Fire Investigators, Certified Fire Investigator Instructor, (8 Hrs. Tested), 2025
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Forensic Photography Basic/Advanced, (16 Hrs. Tested), 2024.
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Expert Witness Courtroom Testimony, (40 Hrs. Tested), 2023.
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Motor Vehicle Fire Investigation, (24 Hrs. Tested), 2023.
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Knowledge 1 Motor Vehicle Fires Tier 1, (8 Hrs. Tested), 2023.
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Fire Investigation Technician Program Accreditation and Testing, (Tested), 2023.
- State of Tennessee, Risk Reduction for Fire Officials, (7 Hrs. Tested), 2019.
- Alabama Fire College, Fire Investigator 1, (40 Hrs. Tested), 2018.
- Alabama Fire College, Public Fire & Life Safety Educator I, (40 Hrs. Tested), 2018.
- State of Tennessee, Reading Smoke, (Tested), 2015.
- State of Tennessee, Fire Chief Orientation, (18 Hrs. Tested), 2015.
- New Mexico Tech, Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings, (Tested), 2013.
- State of Tennessee, Arson Detection for the First Responder, (16 Hrs. Tested), 2013.



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- Federal Emergency Management Agency, Leadership I, II, III, (45 Hrs. Tested), 2012.
- National Fire Academy, Command & Control of Incident Operations, (48 Hrs. Tested), 2012.
- State of Tennessee, Fire Officer II, (40 Hrs. Tested), 2012.
- State of Tennessee, Fire Officer I, (40 Hrs. Tested), 2009.
- United States Air Force, Security Forces, Military Police Training, (Tested), 2006.
- Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, Emergency Response to Terrorism (16 Hrs. Tested), 2006.
- State of Tennessee, Fire Instructor 1, (40 Hrs. Tested), 2005.
- Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, Hazardous Materials Technician, (80 Hrs. Tested), 2005.
- Homeland Security, WMD Response, (Tested), 2004.
- Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads, Vehicle Extrication Technician, (20 Hrs. Tested), 2002
- State of Tennessee, Fire Fighter II, (Tested), 2002.
- State of Tennessee, Fire Fighter I (Tested), 2001.
- City of Jackson, Tennessee, Basic Fire Training, Academy, (400 Hrs. Tested), 2001.

**Continued Education & Training**

- Introduction to appliances, IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 1-27-2026.
- Critical Evaluation and Testing of Commonly Reported Accidental Causes, IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 1-26-2026.
- Fire Flow Analysis, IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 1-9-2026.
- National Association of Fire Investigators, Certified Fire Investigator Instructor, (8 Hrs. Tested) 2-14-2025.
- TN Chapter IAAI 2024 ATC:
  - Fatal Fire Investigation, (6) hrs. (tested) 8-19-24
  - Fire Patterns/Dynamics (8) hrs. (tested) 8-20-24 / Live Fire Evolutions (4) hrs. (tested) 8-22-24
  - Motor Vehicle Fires (4) hrs. (tested) 8-21-24
  - Electric Vehicle Fires (4) hrs. (tested) 8-21-24
  - Photovoltaic/Solar Farm Fires (3) hrs. (tested) 8-22-24
  - Photovoltaic/Solar Farm Fires Case Studies (4) hrs. (tested) 8-23-24.

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- Evidence Collection and Complex Fire Investigations, IAAI-IL, (8) hrs. (tested) 7-2024.
- Evidence Examination. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 6-2024.
- Introduction to Evidence. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 6-2024.
- Physical Evidence at the Fire Scene. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 6-2024.
- Legal & Ethical Issues for Fire Investigators, Tennessee Advisory Committee on Arson, (20) hrs.(tested) 5-2024.
- The Scientific Method for Fire and Explosion Investigation. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 11-2023.
- Motor Vehicles: Transmission, Exhaust, Brake, and Accessory Systems. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 10-2023.
- The Deposition Part 2: Questioning Tactics and Effective Responses. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 9-2023.
- The Practical Application of the Relationship Between NFPA 1033 & NFPA 921. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (2) hrs. (tested) 9-2023.
- NFPA 1033 & Your Career. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (2) hrs. (tested) 9-2023.
- Magna Tek: A Case Study in the Daubert Challenge. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (2) hrs. (tested) 9-2023.
- Discovery in Civil Cases. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 9-2023.
- Ethical Duties Beyond the Fire Scene. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 9-2023.
- Motor Vehicles: The Engine and the Ignition, Electrical, and Fuel Systems. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 9-2023.
- Wildland Fires Investigation. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (5) hrs. (tested) 5-2023.
- Insurance and the Fire Investigation. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 4-2023.
- Fire Chemistry. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 4-2023.
- Process of Elimination. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 4-2023.
- Alternative Fuel Vehicles. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 4-2023.



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- Electric & Hybrid Vehicle Design Basics. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 4-2023.
- The Deposition Part 1: Format, Content, and Preparation. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 4-2023.
- Electric & Hybrid Vehicle Fires. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 6-2021.
- Discovery in Criminal Cases. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 4-2021.
- Motive, Means, and Opportunity. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 4-2021.
- Investigating Motor Vehicle Fires. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 4-2021.
- The Impact of Ventilation in Building Structures on Fire Department. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 4-2021.
- Managing Complex Fire Scene Investigations. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 3-2012.
- DNA. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 3-2012.
- Electrical Safety. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 3-2012.
- Arc Mapping Basics. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 3-2012.
- How First Responders Impact the Fire Investigation. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (2) hrs. (tested) 3-2012.
- Search and Seizure. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 3-2012.
- Ethics and the Fire Investigator. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 3-2012.
- Vacant and Abandoned Buildings. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 3-2012.
- Documenting the Event. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 3-2012.
- Critical Thinking Solves Cases. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 3-2012.
- Effective Investigation and Testimony. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 3-2012.
- Fundamentals of Residential Building Construction. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 3-2012.
- Fundamentals of Interviewing. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 3-2012.
- Fire Investigator Scene Safety. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (3) hrs. (tested) 3-2012.
- Explosion Dynamics. IAAI, CFITrainer.Net (4) hrs. (tested) 3-2012.



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- State of Tennessee, Fire & Emergency Services Train-the-Trainer, (4 Hrs. Tested course), 2012.

## **Professional Associations,**

- International Association of Arson Investigators-IAAI, Member, Certified Fire Investigator, IAAI-CFI, #04-053076, Vehicle Fire Investigator Endorsement, IAAI-CFI(V) #04-053076, Evidence Collection Technician, #1355 & Fire Investigation Technician, IAAI- FIT #1415887.
- National Association of Fire Investigators-NAFI Member (NAFI- CFEI) #17448-9533, Certified Fire & Explosion Investigator & Certified Fire Investigation Instructor
- International Fire Fighters Association-IAFF (Member).
- Institution of Fire Engineers (Member) #89889.
- TN Chapter IAAI Member
- Member of the Tennessee Advisory Committee on Arson.

## **Classes Taught**

- Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) – “Arson Investigation for First Responders.” (16 Hrs), Assistant Instructor, November 2-3, 2024.
- Jackson Fire Department (JFD) – “Fire Cause and Safety.” (4 Hrs.), Assistant Instructor, December 16, 2019.

## **Licensure**

- Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance, Private Investigator #8608.
- Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance, Private Investigation Company #2407.
- Arkansas State Police, Private Investigation Company #6523.
- Alabama Private Investigation Board (APIB), Private Investigator #1157.
- Kentucky Private Investigation Board, Private Investigator #297247.
- Mississippi Private Investigator has no requirement for licensure.

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**Awards and Recognition**

- State of Tennessee Senator's Office- Certificate of Appreciation in response to Natural Disaster Response, by Senator Don McLeary, 2003.

**Litigation/Expert Witness Experience.**

I have consulted many Law Firms regarding the Origin and Cause.

I served as a deponent in the Deposition for Ortale Kelly, Travelers v. AAC, on June 17, 2024.

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*I have been involved in fire suppression on over 800 Fires of various types, including structures, vegetation, vehicles, rubbish, and petroleum.*

*I have served as the Lead Investigator on over 700 Fire Investigations, including those involving residential, commercial, vehicle, industrial, agricultural, and marine premises. The largest claim as lead investigator to date was a 50,000,000.00 Industrial Loss.*

Benjamin B. Benfield, MS, BSc, IAAI-CFI(V), ECT, FIT, NAFI-CFEI, CFII, AEMT, MIFireE,  
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