

SERIAL/WILDLAND ARSON INVESTIGATION CONFERENCE 2015

WHEN
February 9-11, 2015
COST: \$275

WHERE
Reno, Nevada
Silver Legacy Hotel

For more information about the conference or to register, visit WWW.SWAIC2015.COM



Consider this...

There are tens of thousands of wildland fires in North America and across the globe each year. An overwhelming number of these fires are accidental in nature or even acts of God, such as lightning strikes. However, approximately ten to twenty percent of these fires are deliberate criminal acts. The motives for these arson attacks are as varied as any other type of arson. They include: financial gain, juvenile activity, excitement, recognition, and the most common motive of all – revenge. Recently, there has been much speculation and prediction that wildfire could become a ready tool for international terrorism. The specter of this type of terrorist attack is bone chilling. With very little effort and almost no cost, any would-be terrorist or extremist could create a near-apocalyptic event if he chose to set a fire in specific conditions. A fire set in a wildland/urban interface area on the wrong day could cause hundreds of millions of dollars in damage and endanger thousands of people.

Wildland arson investigation is a small niche within the arson investigation world. Precious little training, analysis and instruction is available within this specialized field, despite the fact that wildland fires cause much more destruction than all other types of arson attacks.

The goal of every wildland arson investigation is to identify the suspect who lit the fire, positively and legally link that person to the fire scene, and to prosecute that person for that fire and every other fire he may have lit. To properly undertake a wildland arson investigation, the investigator needs to understand the offender subtypes, their methods of attack, the modes of transportation to the fire scene, target analysis, and the sophistication of the ignition scenario. With this understanding, the investigator can employ time tested investigative strategies, and focus assets and energy in the manner most likely to achieve positive results.

The best way to understand investigative strategies is to review real case studies by the investigators, prosecutors, analysts, and profilers who helped bring those cases to successful conclusions. Any honest look at an investigation will include a frank discussion of both successful and unsuccessful tactics and strategies. No investigation is perfect and lessons can be learned from all of the case histories presented at this conference.

To give attendees a wide spectrum of training, this conference will present cases from throughout the American West, Canada, and Australia. Experts will present case studies and analysis of major wildland arson cases, the investigations and the prosecutions. The attendees will gain much valuable training and knowledge from these first-hand accounts of unique, technical, and major case investigations.

CLASS SCHEDULE

DAY 1 – Monday, February 9th

- 07:45-11:45 Detective
Ed Nordskog
Investigating/Profiling the Serial Arsonist;
Analyzing the Ignition Scenario
- 12:45-14:45 Senior Investigator
Ken Ness
Canadian Wildland Arson Investigations
- 15:00-17:00 Author
Mr. John Maclean
The Esperanza Fire Case - Serial
Arson/Murder/Death Penalty

DAY 2 – Tuesday, February 10th

- 07:45-11:45 Investigator
Richard Woods
Australia, Black Saturday Bushfires
- 12:45-14:45 Chief Investigators
Jim Iammatteo & Keith McAuliffe
Minnesota Serial Arson Case
- 15:00-17:00 Detective
Josh Chappell
Female Arson Case Study

DAY 3 – Wednesday, February 11th

- 08:00-12:00 Investigator
Paul Steensland
National Forest Arson Cases
- 13:00-17:00 DDA
Mike Cabral
John Orr Serial Arson Case