

Mark J. Sloup
IAAI-CFI, NAFI-CFEI, IAAI-ECT
Independent Forensic Investigation Corporation

3057 99th Street

P.O. Box 7839

Urbandale, IA 50323

Office: (515)278-0771

Mobile: 402-367-9112

mssloup@independentforensics.com

FIRE INVESTIGATION EXPERIENCE

- ◆ **2003 to Present** - Investigative experience includes more than 1,709 investigations: including accidental, incendiary and undetermined fires, fire deaths, and explosion incidents.

- ◆ **Licenses:**
 - Licensed Private Investigator – Iowa # 107727
 - Licensed Private Investigator – Kansas # D-6107
 - Licensed Fire Investigator – Missouri # 2023007260
 - Private Detective License – Minnesota # 2085

EDUCATION

- ◆ Associate Applied Science Degree in Fire Protection Technology
Southeast Community College, Lincoln NE, 2003
 - Hazardous-Materials Awareness and Operations Certification - 2003

- ◆ Law Enforcement Certification
Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center, Grand Island NE, 2006
 - Member of Outstanding Basic Team

- ◆ High School Diploma, David City High School, 2001
 - Fire Fighter I Certification, 2001

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- ◆ Independent Forensic Investigation Corporation (IFIC)
 - Fire Investigator, June 2016 - Present

- ◆ Nebraska State Fire Marshal, December 2003 – June 2016
 - Deputy State Fire Marshal, Investigator, August 2005 – June 2016
 - Deputy State Fire Marshal, Inspector, December 2003 – August 2005
 - DUTIES: Under general supervision, enforces all state laws relating to the suppression of arson and investigation of cause, origin, and circumstances of fires; promotes fire safety;

investigates for fire safety in various facilities and premises; performs related work as required.

- EXPERIENCE:
 - Fire origin and cause investigator of structure fires, vehicle fires, wildland fires, and post blast investigations.
 - Coordination of incidents with multiple agencies.
 - Continuous use of Incident Command System.
 - Sole responsibility of final decisions about disposition of cases.

- ◆ Sloup Lawn Care, David City NE, April 2008 – Present
 - Owner - Applicator
 - DUTIES: Provide service to residential or commercial customers by making timely lawn applications, diagnosing and correcting lawn problems through service calls and other customer communication, and selling/upselling services to new and/or exciting customers, resulting in growth of the customer base. Apply fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides to lawns according to schedule, safety procedures, and label instructions.

- ◆ Foral Landscaping & Construction, Brainard NE, July 2003 – December 2003
 - Laborer
 - DUTIES: Perform tasks involving physical labor at building, heavy construction projects, and demolition sites. Operated hand and power tools of all types: air hammers, earth tampers, cement mixers, small mechanical hoists, measuring equipment, and a variety of other equipment and instruments. May clean and prepare sites, dig trenches, set braces to support the sides of excavations, erect scaffolding, and clean up rubble and debris.

- ◆ Schmale Lawn Care, Beatrice NE, March 2002 – July 2003
 - Crew Leader/Laborer
 - DUTIES: Provide service to residential or commercial customers by making timely lawn applications, diagnosing and correcting lawn problems through service calls and other customer communication, and selling/upselling services to new and/or exciting customers, resulting in growth of the customer base. Apply fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides to lawns according to schedule, safety procedures, and label instructions.

VOLUNTEER FIRE / EMS SERVICE EXPERIENCE

- ◆ David City Fire Department, David City NE, July 2000 – Present
 - Fire Chief January 2021 - Present
 - Assistant Chief January 2012 – December 2020
 - Incident Commander on numerous incidents.
 - Responsible for maintaining personnel, fire station, and equipment.
 - Command officer on many scenes.
 - Use and refine knowledge of fire behavior and suppression techniques.
 - Ongoing training and use of medical procedure.
 - Training Officer January 2010 – January 2012
 - Responsible for coordinating monthly training programs for the department of 40 volunteer members.
 - Responsible for initiating and administrating the record management program, Fire Station Software, L.L.C.
 - Responsible for initiating and administrating the billing system for the fire department.
 - Responsible for initiating and administrating the “I am responding” notification system.

FIRE SUPPRESSION / INSPECTION / INVESTIGATION TRAINING

- ◆ IAAI-Nebraska Challenges to Expert Qualifications, Methodology & Opinions (March 22, 2023)
- ◆ IAAI Certified Fire Investigator (CFI) International Association of Arson Investigators (Dec. 2022)
- ◆ Nebraska Fire Investigations Nebraska State Fire School (May 2021, 2022)
- ◆ Certified Ice Rescue Technician Level I & II Public Safety Dive Supply (January 2021)
- ◆ Arson Investigation Learning Shop USA, John J. Fay (November 2020)
- ◆ Certified Fire & Explosion Investigator (CFEI) National Assoc. of Fire Investigators (July 8, 2019)
- ◆ NFPA 1033 and Your Career (CFITrainer.Net 2019)
- ◆ The Practical Application & Relationship Between NFPA 1033 & NFPA 921 (CFITrainer.Net 2019)
- ◆ Iowa IAAI Annual Seminar (Iowa Chapter IAAI, Ames, Iowa, 2018)
- ◆ Expert Report Writing for Fire Investigators (David Icove & Robert Toth – Manhattan, KS 2015)
- ◆ On the subject of "Fire Fatality" (Elayne Pope, Ph. D. – Manhattan, KS 2015)
- ◆ Explosives Awareness Training (Nebraska State Patrol – Grand Island, NE 2015)
- ◆ NE Information Analysis Liaison Officer Program (NE Information Analysis Center – Lincoln, NE 2014)
- ◆ The Reid Technique of Interviewing & Interrogation (John E. Reid & Associates – Omaha, NE 2013)
- ◆ The Advance Reid Technique of Interviewing (John E. Reid & Associates – Omaha, NE 2013)
- ◆ Fire & Arson w/ Evidence Collection Techniques (FBI Training – David City & Omaha, NE 2013)
- ◆ Improvised Explosives/Current Terrorism Trends (FBI Sponsored – Lincoln, NE July-2013)
- ◆ Arc Mapping & Common Appliance Failure (Omaha 2011)
- ◆ Investigating Motor Vehicle Fires (CFITrainer.Net 2011)
- ◆ Ventilation-Focused Approach to Buildings (CFITrainer.Net 2011)
- ◆ Documenting the Event (CFITrainer.Net 2011)
- ◆ Fire & Explosion Utilizing NFPA 1033 & 921 (CFITrainer.Net 2011)
- ◆ Effective Investigation and Testimony (CFITrainer.Net 2010)
- ◆ Scientific Method of Fire & Explosion Investigation (CFITrainer.Net 2010)
- ◆ Ethics and the Fire Investigator (CFITrainer.Net 2010)
- ◆ Basic Rope Rescue (NE State Fire Marshal's Office 2010)
- ◆ Winning Courtroom Confrontations (Omaha 2010)
- ◆ Canine Recertification (Maine State Police)
(2013,2012,2011,2010,2009,2008,2007,2006)
- ◆ Cell Phone Technology (Ralston 2009)
- ◆ Post Blast Investigative Techniques I (Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms 2009)
- ◆ NFPA 96 (Kearney 2007)
- ◆ NFPA 58 (Lincoln 2005)
- ◆ Electrical Fire Cause Workshop (Omaha 2004)
- ◆ Fire Safety Evaluation System/Health Care (Kansas City, MO 2004)
- ◆ Courtroom Preparation & Testimony (Grand Island 2004)
- ◆ Propane Emergencies-Operations (NE State Fire Marshal Office, Columbus 2004)
- ◆ Basic Life Safety Code Training (Chicago, IL 2004)
- ◆ Defensive Driving Course (Lincoln 2003)
- ◆ Fire Investigation (Butler County Mini Fire School 2003)
- ◆ Trench Rescue Emergencies Awareness Level (NE Society of Fire Service Instructors 2003)
- ◆ Interior Fire Attack & Principals (Butler County Mini Fire School 2002)
- ◆ Fire and Arson Investigation Course (NE Chapter International Association Arson)

- 2004,2005,2006,2007,2008,2009,2010,2011,2012, 2013,2014, 2015, 2017 & 2019)
- ◆ Firefighter I – #169134 (National Board on Fire Service Qualifications/2001)
- ◆ Firefighter I #011002572 (State Fire Marshal Training Division/2001)
- ◆ Juvenile Fire Starters Conference (Central Community College Hastings 2001)
- ◆ Ventilation and Forcible Entry (Mid-Winter Fire School 2001)

- ◆ **SCC Associate of Applied Science Degree in Fire Protection Technology Includes:**
 - ◆ Introduction to Fire Investigation
 - ◆ Firefighter I
 - ◆ Hazardous Materials
 - ◆ Fire Detection/Suppression Systems
 - ◆ Firefighting Tactics and Strategies
 - ◆ Fire Department Management
 - ◆ Training Methods & Procedures
 - ◆ Building Construction
 - ◆ Public Fire Education
 - ◆ Fire Protection Hydraulics
 - ◆ Fundamentals of Fire Prevention
 - ◆ Career Development
 - ◆ Interpersonal Relationships
 - ◆ Public Speaking
 - ◆ College Algebra
 - ◆ Introduction to Business
 - ◆ Business English
 - ◆ Composition I
 - ◆ Intermediate Algebra
 - ◆ Microcomputer Concepts
 - ◆ Introduction to Sociology

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TRAINING

- ◆ Hazardous Materials Awareness & Operations (NE State Fire Marshal Office)
- ◆ Clandestine Drug Lab Safety (NE State Fire Marshal Office 2000)
- ◆ Emergency Response to Terrorism (FEMA 2000)
- ◆ Member Nebraska State Emergency Response HazMat Team 2004-2006

LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING

- ◆ Nebraska State Firearms Qualification (2006 - 2014)
- ◆ Nebraska Law Enforcement Intelligence Network Course (NeLEIN / June 2009)
- ◆ Range 2000 Training (NLETC /2006)
- ◆ NCJIS NE Criminal Justice Information System (North Platte 2007)
- ◆ SCAN & Homicide Training (Norfolk 2006)
- ◆ Interview & Interrogation Class (Wilber 2006)
- ◆ Criminal Justice Class (NE Fire School 2001)

- ◆ **Nebraska Law Enforcement Basic Certification Training Includes:**
 - ◆ Criminal Justice System
 - ◆ Use of Force
 - ◆ Constitutional Law
 - ◆ Rules of Evidence
 - ◆ Civil; Rights & Liabilities
 - ◆ Arrest, Search & Seizure
 - ◆ Miranda & Confessions
 - ◆ Courtroom Performance
 - ◆ Criminal Elements
 - ◆ Introduction to Juvenile Justice
 - ◆ Evidentiary Aspects of Victimless Prosecution
 - ◆ Radio Communications
 - ◆ Report Writing

- ◆ Patrol Procedures
- ◆ Unknown Vehicle Stops
- ◆ Civil Process
- ◆ Traffic Direction & Control
- ◆ Drug Interdiction
- ◆ Infection Control
- ◆ High Risk Vehicle Stops
- ◆ Explosive Recognition
- ◆ Hazardous Materials
- ◆ Techniques of Arrest
- ◆ Firearms
- ◆ Physical Fitness
- ◆ Domestic Violence
- ◆ Survival Techniques & Tactics
- ◆ Straight Baton
- ◆ Spontaneous Knife
- ◆ Dynamic Stress Training
- ◆ Survival Concepts
- ◆ Basic Investigation
- ◆ Legal & Practical Significance of Evidence
- ◆ Crime Scene & Associated Procedures
- ◆ Evidence Collection & Utility
- ◆ Crime Scene Practical
- ◆ Burglary
- ◆ Robbery
- ◆ Interview & Interrogation
- ◆ Gang Awareness
- ◆ Basic Drugs
- ◆ Fingerprinting
- ◆ Checks & Fraud Investigation
- ◆ Vehicle Theft Investigation
- ◆ Sudden Infant Death Syndrome
- ◆ Shaken Baby Syndrome
- ◆ Suicide Investigation
- ◆ Arson Investigation
- ◆ Death Investigations & Wound Recognition
- ◆ Child & Elder Abuse Investigations
- ◆ Sexual Assault Investigation
- ◆ Community Relations
- ◆ Stress
- ◆ Verbal Judo
- ◆ Accident Investigation
- ◆ Nebraska Motor Vehicle Law
- ◆ D.U.I.
- ◆ Defensive Vehicle Operations
- ◆ Emergency Vehicle Operations
- ◆ Driving Course – Law Enforcement Driving Skills
- ◆ Comprehensive Practical Examination
- ◆ Mini Scenarios

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TRAINING

- ◆ Pediatric Emergencies (Central Community College 2013)
- ◆ ATV Trauma (Central Community College 2012)
- ◆ Trauma Resuscitation (BryanLGH Lincoln 2012)
- ◆ E-Narsis Training (NE Department of HHS 2012)
- ◆ Gunshot Trauma (Central Community College 2012)
- ◆ Autism 911 (Central Community College 2011)
- ◆ Fire Rehab (Central Community College 2011)
- ◆ Farm Extrication (Central Community College 2010)
- ◆ EMS Skills Night (Central Community College 2010)
- ◆ Trauma Management (StarCare Lincoln, Nebraska 2010)
- ◆ Roles of EMS on the Fire Scene (Central Community College 2010)
- ◆ Improving Stroke Care in Nebraska (NE Department of HHS 2009)
- ◆ Diabetes- What the EMT Needs to Know (Central Community College 2009)
- ◆ Rescue Systems I (FEMA National Fire Academy 2009)
- ◆ EMT Skills Night (Central Community College 2009)
- ◆ Patient Transport (Central Community College 2008)
- ◆ Emergency Medical Technician Training (EMT) (Central Community College 2008)

- ◆ Trauma Assessment (Central Community College 2005)

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TRAINING

- ◆ National Incident Management System (IS200) (FEMA / 2005)
- ◆ National Incident Management System (IS800) (FEMA / 2005)
- ◆ National Incident Management System (IS200) (FEMA / 2007)
- ◆ National Incident Management System (IS800) (FEMA / 2007)
- ◆ Severe Weather Awareness Training (National Weather Service 2010,2011,2012, 2014)

APPOINTMENTS AND AWARDS

- ◆ Deputy State Sheriff Appointment Governor Pete Ricketts 2015-2019
Governor David Heineman 2011-2015
Governor David Heineman 2011-2007
Governor David Heineman 2006-2007
- ◆ Meritorious Service Award
 - Fire Investigation Instructor 2009 (Nebraska State Fire School Committee)
 - Fire Investigation Instructor 2010 (Nebraska State Fire School Committee)
- ◆ Outstanding Firemanship (Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighters Assoc. 2012)
- ◆ Law Enforcement Officer of the Year (Capitol City Footprint Association 2011)
- ◆ President's Award (Nebraska Chapter IAAI 2010)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- ◆ Jail Basic Course/ Fire Extinguisher Training
- ◆ Nebraska State Fire School / Mini Fire School's
- ◆ Mutual Aid Fire Department Programs
- ◆ Elementary School Fire Safety Programs
- ◆ Fire Department Programs / Fire Prevention Programs
- ◆ Nebraska Wesleyan / Fire Investigation Course

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS / MEMBERSHIPS

- ◆ Nebraska State Fire Marshal Association
 - February 2004 – June 2016
- ◆ State Law Enforcement Bargaining Council
 - February 2004 – June 2016
- ◆ Nebraska Law Enforcement Intelligence Network, Member
- ◆ Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighters Association, Member
- ◆ International Association of Arson Investigators – International & Nebraska Chapter, Member # 123955
- ◆ National Association of Fire Investigators – Member # 21722

- ◆ State Troopers Association of Nebraska, Member

WITNESS TESTIMONY

- ◆ Deposition – April 20, 2022 (Civil Case) High Rise Building Fire – Lincoln, Nebraska
 - State of Nebraska, General Casualty Company of Wisconsin, AMCO Insurance Company and Sentinel Insurance Company vs. Legal Aid of Nebraska, Inc. vs. China Wholesale, INC. d/b/a Deluxe Import, Hartland Cleaning Services and Associates and Amazon.com
 - Case ID: CI 20-2602
- ◆ Deposition – October 16, 2019 (Civil Case) Single-Family Dwelling Fire --- Malcolm, Nebraska
 - AMCO Insurance Company vs. California Acrylic Industries, INC. , a California Corporation; and Home Innovations, INC. , a Nebraska corporation.
 - Case ID: CI 18-3345
- ◆ Deposition – February 2, 2018 (Civil Case) ---- Explosion – Fire near Gretna, Nebraska
 - Betsy Newman vs. SAPP BROS. Inc., SAPP BROS. PETROLEUM, INC., AND Tom Graskowiak vs. Jay Smith Enterprise Products Operating L.L.C. and Plains Marketing L.P.
 - Case ID: D01CI170002616
- ◆ Guilty Plea – March 30, 2015 (Criminal Case)
 - State of Nebraska vs. Elizabeth A. Morales
 - Saunders County District Court
 - Case ID: CR14-48 & CR14-50
- ◆ Guilty Plea – May 12, 2015 (Criminal Case)
 - State of Nebraska vs. David J. Rech, Sr.
 - Butler County District Court
 - Case ID: CR14-24
- ◆ Guilty Plea – May 12, 2015 (Criminal Case)
 - State of Nebraska vs. Ronald D. Pelan
 - Butler County District Court
 - Case ID: CR14-34
- ◆ Guilty Plea – June 2, 2015 (Criminal Case)
 - State of Nebraska vs. Dwayne A. Pelan
 - Butler County District Court
 - Case ID: CR14-35
- ◆ Guilty Plea – September 3, 2014 (Criminal Case)
 - State of Nebraska vs. Russell Hilger
 - Polk County District Court
 - Case ID: CR14-2
- ◆ Jury Trial – March 20-22, 2013 (Criminal Case)
 - State of Nebraska vs. Ahmed Diif
 - Colfax County District Court
 - Case ID: CR11-032

- State Fire Marshal Case –110242

- ◆ Deposition – June 12, 2012 (Civil Case) ---- RV Fire –Beaver Crossing
 - Michael Campfield vs. Gottula Propane Service Inc.;
 - vs. State Industries Inc,
 - vs. Richard Ely
 - vs. Tempstar and/or Tempstar Corporation
 - vs. International Comfort Products
 - vs. Carrier Corporation
 - State Fire Marshal Case – Fire #100248

- ◆ Bench Trial – March 16, 2010 (Criminal Case)
 - State of Nebraska vs. James Glassburner
 - York County, Nebraska County Court
 - Case ID: CR 08-030
 - State Fire Marshal Case – Fire #08-214

- ◆ Bench Trial – November 18,2008 (Criminal Case)
 - State of Nebraska vs. Robert Juranek
 - Saunders County, Nebraska District Court
 - Case ID: CR 08-56
 - State Fire Marshal Case – Fire #08-287

- ◆ Bench Trial – August 17, 2007 (Criminal Case)
 - State of Nebraska vs. Harley McDowell
 - Platte County, Nebraska District Court
 - Case ID: CR 07-048
 - State Fire Marshal Case – Fire #07-092