

Lonn R. Abeltins
President/Senior Fire Investigator
Licensed Private Investigator-Iowa #94573
Independent Forensic Investigations Corporation
3057 99th Street
P.O. Box 7839
Urbandale, Iowa 50323
Office: 515-278-0771
Mobile: 515-473-4607

Experience – Fire and explosion investigations

1983 to Present – Approximately 5,000 fire cause investigations.

Work Experience

Independent Forensic Investigations Corporation – President/Fire Investigator 2006-Present.

- President of the company. Responsible for administrative functions for the organization.
- Supervise all origin and cause investigations.
- Conduct origin and cause investigations.

Leuwerke & Associates – Director of Investigation Division/Fire Investigator 1986-2006.

- Supervised all investigative files for the corporation.
- Conducted origin and cause investigations.
- Conducted background investigations on fire losses related to incendiary fires, as well as subrogation files and liability exposures.

DMACC – Fire Science Instructor/Program Chair, 1987-1997
Fire Science Technology Degree Program.

- Served as program chair for approximately three years.
- Taught fire investigation class for approximately ten years.
- Taught fire behavior class for four years.

Honderd Corporation – Fire Investigator 1983-1986.

- Conducted origin and cause investigations for the corporation, as well as background investigations related to those files.

Protex Systems – Fire Systems Designer/Consultant 1981-1983.

- Designed fire alarm and extinguishing systems for commercial and residential occupancies. Included dry chemical, halon and multi-faceted alarm systems.

Ankeny Fire Department – Firefighter 1980-1984. Initial fire O&C training under assistant fire chief

Lecturing/Teaching

Iowa State Fire Marshal's Office – Annual two week school. Teach civil fire investigation class with an emphasis on NFPA 921 and evidence spoliation.

DMACC – Fire Science Instructor 1987-1997 (approximately).

Lectures – Frequent lecturer on fire investigation topics for the fire service, insurance industry and legal entities.

Certifications

Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator – National Association of Fire Investigators.

Certified Fire Specialist – Iowa State University Fire Service Institute.

Education and Specialized Training

Associate of Science Fire Science Degree – DMACC/ISU Fire Service Extension.

Fire Scene Training – 1983 - 1984. (Two year period) Allied Insurance Group's Special Investigation Unit.

- Trained directly under unit's chief investigator on how to conduct origin and cause investigations, background investigations, and on insurance related issues.

Advanced Origin & Cause Class work - National Fire Academy
ISU Fire Service Extension
Western Illinois University
IAAI – Nebraska chapter
NAFI – 921 course 2012
NAFI – 1033 course 2018

Memberships

International Association of Arson Investigators

International Association of Arson Investigators – Iowa Chapter

National Association of Fire Investigators

National Fire Protection Association

MAFIT – Metro Area Fire Investigation Taskforce

Testimony

Court Qualified Fire Expert in the following jurisdictions:

State Courts: Iowa – Criminal and Civil
Nebraska – Civil
Missouri – Civil
Kansas – Civil

Federal: Civil
Criminal