



Quick Notes is an ICAC communication that will give you quick, timely links to recent news items impacting arson prevention, investigations, litigation and training. We trust that Quick Notes will be an easy way for you to remain current in news concerning arson control.

Events

2014 ICAC Webinar Series: Top 5 Arson Cases



An ICAC Event | July 22, 2014 | 11:00 am EST

Arson Cases in 2014: The Top 5 Critical Cases Claims Personnel Should Know

Presented by Gerald T. Albrecht

There are a plethora of arson cases decided every year and it can be time consuming to follow each ruling. These cases can contradict others and may be decided based on the specifics of a particular jurisdiction. But, there are 5 Critical Cases claims personnel should know. These cases are the basics and the building blocks for all the others.

- The basic elements of the intentional burning defense in civil litigation.
• The basic evidentiary standards for the admissibility of expert testimony in an arson case.
• The standards for the Concealment and Fraud defense.
• The courts' treatment of NFPA 921 and;
• The interplay of criminal and civil arson cases.

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Fire Investigations

Trial by Fire: Junk Science Sent Dad to Prison for Killing Wife, Kids

The National Registry of Exonerations shows at least 17 arson convictions have been overturned in the past 24 years, in part on findings that the fire investigations were flawed.

www.nbcnews.com

Analytic technique offers arson investigators faster, more accurate results

A research group at NIST has demonstrated a new method for detecting ignitable liquids that could change the way arson fires are investigated. The new process for analyzing debris for traces of fire accelerants is faster and more accurate than conventional methods and produces less waste.

www.rdmag.com

Arson Trials

Trial set for Gloria Lee in pet store arson case

A trial date was set for Las Vegas pet store owner Gloria Lee, who faces charges of arson and attempted animal cruelty.

www.8newsnow.com

Case Law

CITY GRILL HOSPITALITY GROUP v. NATIONWIDE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

City Grill's motion for summary judgment is predicated solely on its allegation of spoliation of the PCBs (printed circuit boards). City Grill alleges that Martini and Lacy had a duty to preserve the PCBs once they were identified as potential ignition sources and that the failure to preserve this evidence deprives City Grill of any opportunity to prove its case. The court also addresses allegations of unfair claims practices, breach of contract, and a breach of an implied duty of good faith in this case.

http://scholar.google.com

Associate Member Profile

Jack Ward Fire Consultants, LLC - With over two hundred combined years of fire investigation, fire analysis, special investigation and courtroom testimony experience, Jack Ward Fire Consultants, LLC has the resources to offer you and your clients a quality, professional investigation. From the fire origin and cause determination, to the detailed actions of our special investigators, to providing expert testimony, our consultants utilize state of the art technology, expert techniques, and our proven systematic approach to investigations.

www.jackwardfire.com

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