



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.

Upcoming Webinar

2014 ICAC Webinar Series:
NFA 1033/921



An ICAC Event | December 10, 2014 | 3:00 pm EST

IMPROVING FIRE INVESTIGATIONS WHILE GIVING MORE AMMUNITION TO TRIAL ATTORNEYS: A FRESH LOOK AT THE 2014 EDITIONS OF NFA 1033 AND 921

Presented by Rick Hammond & Terry-Dawn Hewitt



In 2014, and for the first time in sixteen years, the NFPA published in the same year new editions of both NFPA 1033 Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigator and NFPA 921 Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations. While the changes in the new editions of these industry standards have tremendous potential to improve the quality of fire investigations, they also provide additional ammunition to attorneys wanting to challenge investigators in court. In this webinar, two fire attorneys will share their insights into the most significant of these changes from a litigation perspective.

In this webinar, you will learn:

- How NFPA 1033 and NFPA 921 are directly relevant in challenging the qualifications and reliability of expert evidence under Daubert and state equivalents;
• Revisions in the 2014 editions that effectively merge NFPA 1033 and NFPA 921, together making them more powerful than ever in the hands of skilled trial attorneys;
• Implications of the expansion of NFPA 1033's infamous "list of 13" minimum knowledge requirements to a "list of 16;" and the correlation between this "list of 16" and NFPA 921, which together raise the bar for fire investigators;
• The heightened standing that both NFPA 1033 and NFPA 921 give to ASTM standards, making these standards mandatory for a reliable investigation.

Table with 2 columns: Register (button), \$40.00 ICAC Member | \$60.00 Non-Member

Fire/Arson Investigations

Woman accused of Tacoma arson faced big bill for back taxes, fraud penalty

A woman accused by her family and Pierce County prosecutors of setting her Tacoma grocery store ablaze for insurance money owed \$129,000 in back taxes and as a penalty for food stamp fraud, according to charging papers.

www.thenewstribune.com

Portland Police find video on social media, start arson investigation

Portland police have started an arson investigation because of a video someone shot and put on social media. They're looking for whoever started a fire on the Springwater Trail, and want to talk to the man behind the camera.

www.katu.com

Arson Trials

Former fire company official faces trial on arson charges

A defunct fire company treasurer and former president — accused of attempting to burn down the residence of another firefighter and friend — was a scapegoat for a vengeful neighbor, the defense claimed at a hearing Tuesday.

citizensvoice.com

Commissioner arrested, rejects arson charge

Law enforcers arrested Johnson County Commissioner Scott Sader, who disputes the charge, alleges "politics" and is in bankruptcy.

lakeexpo.com

MO CaseNet filings on case: www.courts.mo.gov

Case Law

BANK OF AMERICA v. GEORGIA FARM BUREAU MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

The Court recognizes that the discovery sought is the deposition of an attorney; therefore, this case calls attention to the discreet and delicate issues of attorney-client privilege, the work product doctrine, and the general needs of thorough discovery. In considering the present Motions, the Court has a duty to balance the interests of the parties.

scholar.google.com

News/Interest

Japan: Computer role-playing game helps potential lay judges prepare for trial

It puts the player in the role of lay judge for an arson trial. Evidence is presented and the player must form a judgment in cooperation with other characters on the panel — whose opinions may differ.

www.japantimes.co.jp

Windows version is available for free at: www.osakaben.or.jp/web/saibangame(Japanese language).

Phoenix arson investigators named in civil-rights lawsuit

A 44-year-old man has filed a lawsuit against Phoenix alleging that Fire Department investigators violated his constitutional and civil rights in 2009 when he was indicted on suspicion of arson.

www.azcentral.com

Associate Member Profile

Forensic and Scientific Testing, Inc. Forensic and Scientific Testing, Inc. is an ISO Accredited and independent Forensic engineering laboratory specializing in Fire Debris Analysis, Electrical Failure Analysis, Vehicular Fluid Analysis, Vehicle Analysis, Mechanical Analysis, and Fire Investigation support.

www.fast-lab.com

The ICAC Quick Notes e-Newsletter is published for those who would like the latest arson news updates. If you wish to unsubscribe from our e-Newsletter mailing list, simply reply to this message with the word "unsubscribe" (and nothing else) in the subject line.

Click here to be added to the e-newsletter mailing list.

Please direct all requests or comments to webmaster@arsoncontrol.org.