

# **CURRICULUM VITAE**

**Michael W. Presson, IAAI-CFI**

**January 2010**

**Pyr-Tech, Inc.  
843 St. Louis Road  
Collinsville, Illinois 62234  
(618) 344-1621**

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- I. Personal**
- II. Education**
- III. Fire-Related Experience**
- IV. Professional Society Memberships**
- V. Significant Events**

## Michael W. Presson Curriculum Vitae

### I. PERSONAL

- A. Born April 27, 1973  
Centreville, Illinois

### II. EDUCATION

#### A. Formal Education

1. Gibault Catholic High School  
Waterloo, Illinois
2. Attended Southern Illinois University  
Edwardsville, Illinois

#### B. Continuing Education

<u>Name of Course</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Sponsor/Location</u>	<u>Class Hours</u>
Investigation of Gas and Electric Appliance Fires	1995	Barker and Herbert Analytical Laboratories Indiana	16 Hours
One and One-Half Story Construction-The Silent Killer	1995	John Sanchien, Chief - Mallinckrodt Cahokia Fire Department	4 Hours
Juvenile Firesetters - Intervention and Consequences	1996	St. John's Mercy Medical Center St. Louis, Missouri	8 Hours
Church Arson Prevention	1996	Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms / International Association of Arson Investigators St. Luke's Hospital Chesterfield, Missouri	3 Hours
Hazardous Materials Awareness	1996	Illinois Emergency Management Agency - Cahokia Fire Department	8 Hours
Fire Cause Determination	1997	University of Illinois Second Annual Winter Fire School Champaign, Illinois	12 Hours
Basic Cause and Origin	1997	University of Illinois St. Clair County Fire College Champaign, Illinois	8 Hours
Fire Fighter II Certification Modules A and B	1997	Mike Quint, Captain Prairie DuPont Fire Department Cahokia Fire Department	50 Hours

## Michael W. Presson Curriculum Vitae

### B. Continuing Education (Continued)

<u>Name of Course</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Sponsor/Location</u>	<u>Class Hours</u>
Prevention and Suppression Of Petroleum Fires	1997	Phillips Petroleum Company Sweeney, Texas	40 Hours
It Crashes in your Backyard	1998	University of Illinois 74 <sup>th</sup> Annual Fire College Illinois Fire Service Institute	12 Hours
Basic Fire/Arson Investigation	1998	University of Illinois 74 <sup>th</sup> Annual Fire College Illinois Fire Service Institute	12 Hours
Investigation of Electrical Appliance Related Fires	1998	IAAI and AHAM Adams Mark Hotel St. Louis, Missouri	20 Hours
Firefighters Responsibility in Arson Detection	1999	Pyr-Tech, Inc. Cahokia Fire Department Cahokia, Illinois	4 Hours
Fire and Arson Investigation	1999	IAAI and Cahokia Fire Department Cahokia, Illinois	80 Hours
Annual Seminar	1999	Missouri Chapter, IAAI Lake Ozark, Missouri	16 Hours
Annual Seminar	1999	West Virginia Chapter, IAAI Beckley, West Virginia	20 Hours
Hazardous Materials Operations Level	2000	Marine Fire Department Marine, Illinois	40 Hours
Annual Seminar	2000	Missouri Chapter, IAAI Lake Ozark, Missouri	23.5 Hours
Expert Witness Testimony	2001	National Fire Academy Emmitsburg, Maryland	20 Hours
Certified Firefighter II	2001	Office of the State Fire Marshal	Tested
Fire Service Instructor I	2001	Office of the State Fire Marshal	40 Hours
August F. Mazzone Seminar	2001	Illinois Chapter, IAAI Collinsville, Illinois	18 Hours
Annual Seminar	2001	Missouri Chapter, IAAI Lake Ozark, Missouri	14 Hours
Reid Interview & Interrogation Techniques	2001	Midwest Anti Auto Crime Association St. Louis County Police Academy	8 Hours

## Michael W. Presson Curriculum Vitae

### B. Continuing Education (Continued)

<u>Name of Course</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Sponsor/Location</u>	<u>Class Hours</u>
Certified Hazardous Materials Operations	2001	Office of the State Fire Marshal	Tested
August F. Mazzone Seminar	2002	Illinois Chapter, IAAI Collinsville, Illinois	16 Hours
Fire and Arson Investigation Modules 1, 2 and 3	2004	Office of the State Fire Marshal Illinois Fire Service Institute National Fire Academy Fairview Heights, Illinois	80 Hours
Insurance and the Fire Investigation	2006	CFITrainer.net IAAI	4 Hours
Advanced Insurance Seminar	2007	The Greater St. Louis County Academy; Wellston, Missouri	7.2 Hours
The Scientific Method for Fire Explosion Investigation	2007	CFITrainer.net IAAI	3 Hours
Documenting the Event	2008	CFITrainer.net International Association of Arson Investigators	4 Hours
Fire Investigation Training Program	2008	Missouri Chapter of IAAI Lake Ozark, Missouri	17.5 Hours
Introduction to Fire Dynamics and Modeling	2009	CFITrainer.net and IAAI	4 Hours
Fire Investigation Training Program	2009	Missouri Chapter of IAAI Lake Ozark, Missouri	17.5 Hours

Attend Pyr-Tech in-house training on various subjects such as electrical fires, vehicle research data, digital cameras, mechanical engineering assistance, various evidence procedures, and content inventories, two to three times a year.

### III. FIRE RELATED EXPERIENCE

- A. 1994 to Present – Cahokia Volunteer Fire Department. A department of 30 volunteer firefighters with two engine houses, serving a population of 15,000 residents with varied occupancies. The occupancies include two major highways, an airport, schools, residential, and light to medium commercial/industrial within twenty-five square miles.

**Positions Held:**

Appointed to Fire Investigation Unit – 1995  
Recording Secretary – 1995

## Michael W. Presson Curriculum Vitae

### III. FIRE RELATED EXPERIENCE (Continued)

Director, Personnel Equipment and Radios – 1995 to 1997  
Promoted to Lieutenant – 1996  
Promoted to Training Officer – 1996  
Appointed to Chief Fire Investigator – 1997  
Promoted to Captain – 1997  
President, Board of Directors – Jan. 1998 through Dec. 1999  
Director, Personnel Equipment and Radios – 2000  
Appointed to Chief Training Officer – 2000  
Promoted to Assistant Chief – 2001

**Note:** 1996, named “Firefighter of the Year” by Chief Michael DeFlurin, Cahokia Volunteer Fire Department.

**Note:** 1998, the Cahokia Fire Investigation Unit received an “Award of Recognition” from the International Association of Arson Investigators for excellent origin and cause investigation resulting in the arrest of a criminal who was convicted of burglary and arson.

- B.** 1995 to 2002 – Pyr-Tech, Inc. An origin and cause investigation firm investigating fires in several states including Illinois, Missouri, Kentucky, West Virginia, Indiana, Tennessee, Iowa, Nevada, and Colorado.

**Positions Held:**

Intern Investigator – assisted investigators with over 400 fires through June 2001.  
Evidence Technician  
Fire Investigator

- C.** 2002 to 2005 – ACS Investigative Services, Inc. An origin and cause investigation firm investigating fires in Illinois and Missouri.

**Positions Held:**

Fire Investigator

- D.** 2006 to Present – Pyr-Tech, Inc. An origin and cause investigation firm investigating fires in several states including Illinois, Missouri, Kentucky, West Virginia, Indiana, Tennessee, Iowa, Nevada, and Colorado.

**Positions Held:**

Fire Investigator

### IV. PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

- A.** 1994 to Present  
Member of the Illinois Firefighters Association
- B.** 1996 to Present  
Member of the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI)

## **Michael W. Presson Curriculum Vitae**

### **IV. PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (Continued)**

- C.** 1998  
Member of the West Virginia Chapter of the IAAI  
Associate Member of the Illinois Sheriff's Association  
Member of the Midwest Anti-Auto Crime Association  
Associate Member of the Fraternal Order of Police, Cahokia Lodge 216
- D.** 1998 to 2005  
Member of the Illinois Chapter of the IAAI  
Member of the Missouri Chapter of the IAAI
- E.** 2008 to Present  
Member of the Missouri Chapter of the IAAI  
Member of the Honorable Order of Blue Goose International, St. Louis Pond  
Member of the National Society of Professional Insurance Investigators

### **V. SIGNIFICANT EVENTS**

- A.** 1991 - Achieved the Rank of Eagle Scout in  
The Boy Scouts of America
- B.** 1993 - Joined the United States Marine Corps Reserve
- C.** 1994 – Joined the Cahokia Volunteer Fire Department
- D.** 1996 – Firefighter of the Year  
Cahokia Fire Department
- E.** 2001 – Honorably Discharged from the United States Marine Corps Reserve
- F.** 2002 – Certified Fire Investigator  
International Association of Arson Investigators, Inc.
- G.** 2004 – Certified Fire Investigator  
Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal
- H.** 2006 – Recertified Fire Investigator  
International Association of Arson Investigators, Inc.