



**P R E S I D E N T ' S
P E R S P E C T I V E
E M P O W E R I N G
M E M B E R S ,
E X P A N D I N G
T R A I N I N G , &
E L E V A T I N G
E X C E L L E N C E .**



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By the time you read this, **National Fire Prevention Week** will have ended in the United States and Canada. Each year, the chosen campaign reminds us of the importance of fire safety and preparation. The International Association of Arson Investigators, Inc.'s ("IAAI") mission and vision align closely with that same purpose. Just as the campaign seeks to increase public awareness of fire safety, the IAAI inspires and equips the international fire and explosion investigation community to achieve excellence. Our mission is to serve as the global resource for professionals dedicated to uncovering the truth, while ensuring our current and prospective members become their best selves –qualified, certified, and competent. **Preparation remains at the center of our work, guiding every step we take.**



That focus is evident in the progress made this past quarter. Under the pillar of **Membership**, your IAAI Board of Directors approved two new IAAI-Member benefits, both effective in early 2026. The new **Ignition Discount IAAI-Member Benefit for Early IAAI-Course Registrations** will provide IAAI-Members with a 10% discount on IAAI course registrations made 45 days or more in advance, rewarding preparation while strengthening course planning and financial stability. At the same time, the new **HAZWOPER & Asbestos Training & Education Benefit**, offered through Safety Unlimited, Inc., will give IAAI-Members 50% discounted access to the vital annual training required to mitigate risks likely to be encountered at hazardous fire and explosion scenes. Together, these IAAI-Member benefits demonstrate the IAAI's commitment to **strengthening member value while advancing safety and readiness.** And as we approach 2026, stay tuned for details on how to apply these new member benefits.



Our investment in members is reinforced by our work in **Training and Certification**. With special thanks to the **CFITrainer.net Steering Committee**, in August, more than 40 fire and explosion investigation professionals from Canada, the United Kingdom, Spain, Guatemala, and the United States joined in New Orleans, Louisiana for a curriculum review of the IAAI's new **Photography and Evidence Identification, Preservation, and Collection** residential courses of instruction. Analysis of the feedback is shaping an upcoming pilot delivery with full course rollout in early 2026. Alongside this, **CFITrainer.net—the IAAI's flagship online**

learning resource for training fire and explosion investigation and litigation professionals—continues to lead the way with new modules on **Lightning Fire Cause Investigation** and **Origin & Cause Hypothesis Testing Fundamentals**, both strengthening the profession's knowledge and application of science and methodology in practice.

Certification milestones further reflect the IAAI's commitment to excellence. An August webinar drew several hundred attendees for updates and question-and-answer session, reinforcing transparency and member engagement. The IAAI-Certifications Committee and IAAI-Staff are preparing for the **Forensic Specialties Accreditation Board ("FSAB") reaccreditation audit** to be held in September, while the **IAAI-Marine Fire Investigation Endorsement** will launch in October, further expanding the IAAI's credentialing portfolio. Through Measure Learning, the IAAI continues to improve access and testing efficiency to IAAI-Certified Fire Investigator ("IAAI-CFI") certification examinations. These training and certification-related achievements were underscored in September as the IAAI-Board of Directors met in Alberta, Canada with **IAAI-Chapter 38, Fire Investigation Association of Alberta**, where nearly 30 attendees completed the **IAAI-Fundamentals of Fire Investigation course**, making them eligible to apply for the **IAAI-Fire Investigation Technician ("IAAI-FIT") designation**—tangible proof of the IAAI's mission and vision in action.

To sustain this momentum, the IAAI is also investing in **Organizational Excellence**. IAAI-Staff is making final preparations to roll out the **IAAI-Mobile Application** for year-round use, bringing resources and benefits closer to current and prospective members than ever before. At the same time, we are laying the foundation for a **leadership training program** that will cultivate emerging leaders and expand opportunities for volunteer engagement across the IAAI and its frontline Chapters. These initiatives ensure that IAAI and its Chapters not only meet today's demands but also prepares the next generation to lead with confidence and integrity.

Just as National Fire Prevention Week calls the public to prepare, the IAAI calls on its members to do the same. Through **new benefits, innovative training, strengthened certifications, and investments in organizational growth**, the IAAI continues to equip fire and explosion investigation and litigation professionals around the world to meet challenges with competence and credibility. **Preparation is our focus—because preparation creates a safer world.**

In truth and service,

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IAAI President 2025-2026

