



# 19 Meet the CANDIDATES



## Lloyd Mathis Candidate for IAAI Board of Directors

How long have you been a member of the IAAI? 19 years 1996-2009 & 2014-2018

How many IAAI annual meetings have you attended? 12 Which years? 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2014, 2016, 2017 & 2018

What IAAI Committees have you served on; Which years? Chapters Committee, 2005 and 2006, Election Committee 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 (Sgt. at Arms assigned to the election)

Do you regularly attend your State/Provincial Chapter meetings and activities? Yes, I have allowed Det. Sergeant Gary Wasko IAAI-CFI to attend the state Conferences as a Chapter T & E Committee Member. One of us had to stay back to run our arson investigation unit. During my time on the NJ Chapter Board as Sergeant at Arms, I attended all meetings.

List any offices held in your State Chapter. I was Sergeant at Arms for the New Jersey Chapter in 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004

Please list any International offices held, special projects or Committee work, indicating years of service. International Sergeant-At-Arms from 2001 to 2008, The Foundation Board from 2003 to 2005; IAAI outstanding accomplishment award 2002; I was a subject matter expert on a CFITrainer.Net module, "Ethical Duties Beyond the Fire Scene"

If you are elected, will you take an active role in the IAAI, and with your present position, attend all annual meetings and board meetings during your term of office? Yes, I will be retiring from active law enforcement on March 1, 2019 in anticipation of running for the Board of Directors, so the IAAI and the business at hand will have my undivided attention.

Describe, in 100 words or less, why you feel you are qualified for this position. Serving as Sergeant of Arms for 8 years, I have a very unique advantage over other candidates for Director. I have observed Board of Director meetings during watershed moments for the IAAI such as the move of the IAAI Headquarters to Crofton, Maryland and the creation of CFITrainer.net. Having an understanding of the past, both triumphs and failures are good foundations for effective leadership. Attaining my IAAI-CFI® in 1999 I have maintained a level of professional excellence.

In the Capital County of New Jersey, I am responsible for prevention, detection and deterrence of terror attacks and to facilitate information sharing across multiple disciplines. That cannot happen without communication and cooperation. In my 28 year law enforcement career and my 32 years as a volunteer firefighter with 7 years as Fire Chief, I have built relationships with partners and embraced technology and new methods to conduct operations.

Why do you want to become a Director or Officer of the IAAI? I believe that I have the qualities that the membership is seeking in a member of their Board of Directors. I am hard working, adaptive to new technologies and techniques, a good listener and communicator. I push for excellence from myself and inspire others to do so.

What do you believe are your best leadership traits and how would you use them as a Director or Officer of the IAAI? Integrity & Character. I believe I possess both which is why I was asked by this organization to be a subject matter expert on CFITrainer.Net for "Ethical Duties Beyond the Fire Scene". Throughout my career, I have been able to illicit the best work product from personnel by fostering a positive work environment that encourages personal and professional development. By having a vested interest in those that you work with and for, those people who work diligently towards the organization's goals. I have been very successful in using these traits and feel that they carry over well in the role of Director.

What steps do you believe should be taken to grow membership? I believe that we grow the organization by looking inward towards recruiting less represented groups in the countries we already have chapters and by continuing to develop new chapters across the globe. From the NFPA 2016 data, 22% of career firefighters in the United States were of Hispanic Origin, 7.9% Black and 4.1 % female. We should seek dialogue to recruit from these resources. I believe in our enhanced chapter program and would continue to support it.

How would you propose to improve relationships and communications between the International and Chapters? I would continue to improve and support our chapters committee and find ways to help the chapter liaisons maintain the communications with their chapters. Engage in discussions with the chapters about growing their membership and continue to encourage using the enhanced chapter program.

What are your recommendations for future funding of CFITrainer.Net? I would continue to work with our strategic partners at the Department of Justice grants programs, the United States Fire Administration, the Congressional Fire Service Institute, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives and others to keep this a federally funded grant program for as long as we can do so. As a volunteer Fire Chief, I successfully applied for and received Assistance to Firefighter Grant funding for my Department in 2003. If this option is no longer available, we may have to investigate teaming up with an educational institution that does fire science research or teaches fire investigation to continue funding this very important asset to our organization.

Other than training fire investigators, what two or three other elements do you consider as critical to the mission of the IAAI? I believe it is critical for the IAAI to continue to be on the cutting edge of Fire Dynamics Research. With the continuing development of new technologies and the greater computing power, we are getting data at much faster paces than when I started fire investigation in 1993. This will be an ongoing challenge for our organization and its membership but I believe it to be a priority.

I believe it is critical for the IAAI to continue to fairly and firmly enforce our Code of Ethics to maintain the high standards and professional image and I believe that it has done so. Going forward I believe that this will continue to be an important issue.

I believe it is critical for the IAAI to grow the organization through the diversification of its membership which will help increase revenue and broaden our networking base.