

# Candidates for IAAI Foundation Board of Directors

Las Vegas | Voting starts on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.



## Bob Cabral (OH)

### **What is your vision for the IAAI Foundation for the next five years?**

The IAAI Foundation is an essential part of the IAAI organization. By providing a pathway to raise money for the membership's needs as well as the industry, it allows for research, training and support that in this day and age is hard to acquire. I see a Foundation that supports the Fire Investigator on the job. Having been appointed as Director at Large in 2019, I have had the opportunity to be a part of the process for the Foundation and have seen first hand how it helps the IAAI and its Membership. I see a Foundation that is there for the Membership and active in making Training more intensive and accessible for the IAAI Membership. I have run for this position in the recent past and have expressed my vision as such and have worked in the past year to make the vision become a reality.

### **What policies or programs would you propose that you believe would enable the Foundation to progress and accomplish the objectives of "the provision of education, professional development, and research opportunities for all individuals and institutions engaged in the field of fire, arson, and explosives investigation?"**

The Foundations mission directly focuses on education, professional development and research. I recently had interaction with a Member who told me that he had submitted a request for a scholarship to attend an IAAI class that was not the ITC. The Foundation collects applications and has a process to work those applications through the Foundation Board to determine the recipients. The number of applicants was low this year, so the deadline was extended, and the member missed the class. I would like to see a program that allows for a timelier and accessible process for Members who seek help from the Foundation to get an answer that is more in time with their goals and professional development. Although focus us usually on attendance of the ITC, that is not the only training that would benefit a member's education, professional development or research. Submission would be processed more often as needed and the response to the applicants could be timelier. As the industry progresses so should the support to that industry. The Foundation does a good job with attempting to accommodate all requests, the process just need tweaked to make it more members friendly.

I would like to see the Chapters take more of an interest in the Foundation and the good it can do for the Membership. Chapter donations or support is important. Funds that are available to assist members must be replaced or the Foundation will be unable to fulfil its mission. If the Chapters work with the Foundation and the work is recognized by the Membership as important and accessible, contributions will more forth coming and the Foundation can build on its mission.

Being a volunteer organization and relying on the time of busy people can sometimes be a detriment to that organization. A person waiting for an answer to a question or help with a career goal will get discouraged easily. Making the process track able or inform able will help with that. The answer may not be always positive but at least the answer will be given and the person asking can move on to their next plan.

### **What positions have you held in IAAI?**

I am currently a Life Member of the IAAI and serving as a Committee Member for the Constitution and By-Laws Committee since 2018. I currently serve as Director At Large for the IAAI Foundation appointed in 2019.

### **What positions have you held in your local Chapter?**

I have been a member of the Ohio Chapter of the IAAI for over 25 years and have been bestowed a Life Membership for Ohio. I have been on the Board of Directors and held the position as Legislative Committee Chair, Finance Committee Chair, Award Committee Chair and Constitution and By-laws Chair. I have served as Chapter President for three terms. The Ohio Chapter has a session system. So I served in the role as 2nd VP, VP, President and Past President three times. I am currently in the position Parliamentarian.