



Joe Toscano (CT)

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A MEMBER OF THE IAAI?
37 Years

HOW MANY ANNUAL MEETINGS HAVE YOU ATTENDED; WHICH YEARS?

I have attended approximately twenty IAAI Annual Meetings

that includes having made a presentation at approximately six.

WHAT IAAI COMMITTEES HAVE YOU SERVED ON; WHICH YEARS? I have Served on the CFITrainer.net Committee from inception to 2019, Currently serve on the Fire Investigator Standards Committee (FISC) from 2004 to Present, Insurance Advisory Committee from inception to Present, served for approximately twenty five years to the current date in various capacities on the Training and Education Committee from 1994 to Present.

DO YOU REGULARLY ATTEND YOUR STATE/PROVINCIAL CHAPTER MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES? YES

OFFICES HELD STATE/PROVINCE CHAPTER? President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President and Director of Connecticut Chapter

PLEASE LIST ANY INTERNATIONAL OFFICES HELD, SPECIAL PROJECTS OR COMMITTEE WORK, INDICATING YEARS OF SERVICE. Served as the IAAI representative on the NFPA 921 committee as both a primary and alternate member from 1992 – 2009, served as an alternate member of the NFPA 1033 committee from 1989 – 1993, participated in the development and delivery of several modules on CFITrainer.net including Effective Investigation and Testimony, Expert Witness, Fire and Explosion Investigations: utilizing NFPA 1033 and 921, Insurance and Fire Investigation, what the insurance professional needs to know about fire investigation, & Motive, Means and Opportunity: determining responsibility in an arson case, served on the iaai/usfa abandoned building project technical advisory committee on managing vacant and abandoned properties in your community from 2000 until completion and delivery of the “vacant building tool box”

DESCRIBE, IN 100 WORDS OR LESS, WHY YOU FEEL YOU ARE QUALIFIED FOR THIS POSITION: I have been a very active & contributing member of this organization for more than thirty five years. I have been an innovator and contributor to the high standards and educational opportunities this organization is providing our members today and I want to devote my time and energy as an IAAI Director toward moving our organization's value to our members and our profession even higher in the future.

My collective skillsets and experience in both the public and private sector will be an important asset to our board and our members. I have developed many valuable relationships and professional contacts throughout my career as well as a reputation as an educator, innovator and trusted partner in the many collaborative projects I have participated in from concept to completion. I intend to utilize and maximize those assets as a board member to the fullest.

WHY DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A DIRECTOR OR OFFICER OF THE IAAI? I have been an active & contributing member of this organization for more than thirty five years. I have been an innovator and contributor to the high standards and educational opportunities this organization is providing our members today and I want to devote my time and energy as an IAAI Director toward advancing our organization's value to our members and our profession.

WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE ARE YOUR BEST LEADERSHIP TRAITS, AND HOW WOULD YOU USE THEM AS A DIRECTOR OR OFFICER OF THE IAAI? I have served in a leadership capacity as a police officer, insurance claim executive and private sector investigator. During my professional career I have been an **innovator** involved with several programs and products that have made a significant contribution to our profession. I am a **“team player”** with **strong organizational and presentation skills**.

My collective skill sets and **experience** in both the public and private sector will be an important asset to our board and our members. I have developed many valuable relationships and professional contacts throughout my career as well as a reputation as a trusted partner in the many collaborative projects I have participated in from concept to completion. I intend to utilize those assets to the fullest.

WHAT STEPS DO YOU BELIEVE SHOULD BE TAKEN TO GROW MEMBERSHIP?

Broaden our collaboration with other organizations that share our common interests and encourage their support.

Offer free membership for one year to any graduating senior from any institution of higher education globally who has earned a degree in a fire investigation related field of study.

Examine the reasons we are not attracting members from certain segments of our profession. During my entire professional career I have learned a proven method to improve an organization is to identify its weaknesses and make them strengths.

Continue to provide a career path for members to attain certifications and designations.

Continue our efforts through CFITrainer to provide our members with the very best on-line training and maximizing CFITrainer as a platform to encourage others to join.

HOW WOULD YOU PROPOSE TO IMPROVE RELATIONSHIPS AND COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE INTERNATIONAL AND CHAPTERS? Consider a monthly report to our members using a YouTube type medium having our executive director or member of our executive team deliver a no longer than ten minute video to our members throughout the world. The message can include what we have accomplished in the previous month as well as what we intend to accomplish in the month(s) ahead.

Continue the quarterly chapter president conference call.

Create a system for members & chapters to convey suggestions and encourage them to do so. Attend & contribute to the success of chapter conferences.

WHAT ARE YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE FUNDING OF CFITRAINER.NET? I have been a proud and dedicated member of the CFITrainer Steering Committee since its inception until 2019.

I believe the answer is to combine several initiatives that collectively can move the program toward sustainability. They include the following:

- Advertising
- Challenge chapters to collaborate and fund modules that may be of interest to their geographic areas of the country or world.
- Charge a fee for certificates
- Collaborate with other organizations & the private sector to fund modules of high value to their specific industry.
- Collect input from our membership and subject matter experts to identify an appropriate annual fee for utilizing CFITrainer.net. If we have tens of thousands of users each year a **nominal fee** combined with other funding sources may be the answer.

OTHER THAN TRAINING FIRE INVESTIGATORS, WHAT TWO OR THREE OTHER ELEMENTS DO YOU CONSIDER AS CRITICAL TO THE MISSION OF THE IAAI? Our certification and designation initiatives have been extremely successful. We should build upon these initiatives and begin to explore ways to create an apprenticeship program that builds upon those successes and provides a **clear career path** for the new generation of fire investigators professional development.

Explore how **analytics and artificial intelligence** can be utilized as an investigative resource toward predicting arson targets, management & deployment of assets, prevention, investigative prioritization, data collection and many other uses.

Better communicate the value we provide to not only our members but to the broader industry. We need to become more visible in communicating the **“return on investment”** message membership in the IAAI and in collaboration the IAAI provides.