

VOTE 2023 Elections

IAAI Candidates for Board of Directors

Elections will be open until noon (EDT) April 24, the results will be announced at the 2023 ITC General Meeting and on www.firearson.com.

In Ballot Order



Chris Elrod (NC)

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A MEMBER OF THE IAAI? 16 Years

HOW MANY ANNUAL MEETINGS HAVE YOU ATTENDED; WHICH YEARS? 2019-2022

WHAT IAAI COMMITTEES HAVE YOU SERVED ON; WHICH YEARS? None

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

OFFICES HELD STATE/PROVINCE CHAPTER? Fire Service, Member at Large, 1st & 2nd VP, President, Past President.

PLEASE LIST ANY INTERNATIONAL OFFICES HELD, SPECIAL PROJECTS OR COMMITTEE WORK, INDICATING YEARS OF SERVICE.
NONE

DESCRIBE, IN 100 WORDS OR LESS, WHY YOU FEEL YOU ARE QUALIFIED FOR THIS POSITION: I have been a fire investigator in both public and private sectors of investigation for over 38 years. My experience and expertise in this area would be an asset to being a member of the Board of Directors. Additionally, I have been a field instructor for the IAAI for over 10 years in which I am still an active instructor and support the continued training and education that is offered through this organization.

With my extensive experience as a public sector entity, I would add a perspective that is part of the first responders and those first on the scene.

WHY DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A DIRECTOR OR OFFICER OF THE IAAI? I was an active part of my State Chapter of the IAAI in which I served in various capacities on the Board up to the position of President. After serving my tenure. I wished to go a further step above in being a leader and making a difference within this great organization. I feel with my knowledge and experience by both being in the field of investigation as well as serving in the administration of my State Chapter, I wanted to grow in the portion of this field that deals with decision-making and the future growth of this organization.

WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE ARE YOUR BEST LEADERSHIP TRAITS, AND HOW WOULD YOU USE THEM AS A DIRECTOR OR OFFICER OF THE IAAI? Leadership consists of many facets. My skills include being objective to the viewpoints of all those that are part of an organization. I am open-minded as to new ideas and improvement of existing ones. I am very much motivational in getting the job completed and somewhat a perfectionist in the work that I am responsible for. I thoroughly understand my responsibilities and deliver those responsibilities efficiently and timely. Problem-solving is a strong aspect of my leadership and taking on difficult issues to their final resolution.

WHAT STEPS DO YOU BELIEVE SHOULD BE TAKEN TO GROW MEMBERSHIP? The marketing of the Association should start at the college level. Those students pursuing degrees in fire science should be offered a discount for new membership as well as a discount for renew while they are full-time students.

The same suggestion for IAAI courses offered a discount if you are in college, especially if pursuing a degree and interest in fire science and investigation.

I realize that it takes monies to run the organization; however, the majority of members come from the public side. Keeping membership dues as low as can be would help the public employees to continue and want to be members of the organization

HOW WOULD YOU PROPOSE TO IMPROVE RELATIONSHIPS AND COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE INTERNATIONAL AND CHAPTERS? Provide a Chapters forum on the IAAI web page. A place where chapters can ask questions, voice concerns, and share information that is for the good of the Chapters as well as the International. This would be something that would be viewed by the International and directed to employees that can best answer the questions of concern without necessarily having to call on the phone to look for specific people. The forum would also open so that other Chapters throughout the world can view questions or issues and have an open dialog between State/Country Chapters. Being an extension of the annual President's meeting held at the ITC.

WHAT ARE YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE FUNDING OF CFITRAINER.NET? Look toward funding donations from the insurance industry as well as engineering and law firms. Possibly providing a discount in membership dues for those working for the specific industries if they were to become donors to the funding for CFITrainer. As all entities benefit from the "free" training, we know it always has a price. The grants have been so beneficial, but a plan B needs consideration. The public sector, unfortunately, has limited funding for training. Still, industry leaders on the private side have much more monetary levity, and if they can see savings for members' dues for assisting in funding the program, both may see the benefit.

OTHER THAN TRAINING FIRE INVESTIGATORS, WHAT TWO OR THREE OTHER ELEMENTS DO YOU CONSIDER AS CRITICAL TO THE MISSION OF THE IAAI? Keeping our membership growing and expanding to new Chapters throughout the World.

Keeping the costs of training to the most reasonable as possible for a to be able to take and gain knowledge from this Association.

Marketing and emphasis of members participating in the committees and education of them to see that they can have a word in the decision-making of various committees without being a member of the Board of the International.