



# Priority Action Report

## Fire and Explosion Investigation

Crime Scene/Death Investigation

Craig Beyler

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# Subcommittee Leadership

Position	Name	Organization	Term	Email
Chair	Craig L. Beyler	Jensen Hughes		cbeyler@jensenhughes.com
Vice Chair	Philip E. Crombie, Jr.	Travelers	2	pcrombie@travelers.com
Executive Secretary	Gregory E. Gorbett	University of Eastern Kentucky	2	greg.gorbett@eku.edu



# Subcommittee Members



#	Name	Organization	Term	Email
1	Craig Beyler	Jensen Hughes	2 Years	cbeyler@jensenhughes.com
2	Phil Crombe	Travelers	2 Years	pcrombie@travelers.com
3	Greg Gorbett	University of Eastern Kentucky	2 Years	greg.gorbett@eku.edu
4	<b>Charles "Randy" Watson</b>	SEA, Ltd.	1 Years	cwatson@sealimited.com
5	<b>John Lentini</b>	Scientific Fire Analysis, LLC	1 Years	johnlentini@yahoo.com
6	<b>Mark Goodson</b>	Goodson Engineering	2 Years	mark@goodsonengineering.com
7	<b>Chad Wissinger</b>	Ohio Division of State Fire Marshal Forensic Lab	2 Years	cwissinger@com.state.oh.us
8	<b>David McCollam</b>	Federal Bureau of Investigation	1 Years	david.mccollam@ic.fbi.gov
9	<b>Melvin Robin</b>	Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives	2 Years	MELVIN.ROBIN@ATF.GOV
10	<b>John Golder</b>	Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives	2 Years	john.golder@atf.gov
11	Michael Truebenbach	Federal Bureau of Investigation	3 Years	mike.truebenbach@ic.fbi.gov
12	<b>Mark Johnson</b>	University of Central Florida, Dept of Statistics	1 Years	Mark.Johnson@ucf.edu
13	Chris Connealy	Texas State Fire Marshall	3 Years	chris.connealy@tdi.texas.gov
14	David Sheppard	ATF Fire Lab	3 Years	david.sheppard@atf.gov
15	Steve Campolo	Leviton	3 Years	scampolo@Leviton.com
16	Scott Davis	Gexcon	3 Years	sgdavis@gexcon.com



# Discipline Description



The OSAC Subcommittee on **Fire and Explosion Investigation** will focus on standards and guidelines related to the investigation, analyses and interpretation of fire and explosion incidents. The subcommittee will work closely with OSAC Subcommittee on Fire Debris and Explosives (Chemistry/Instrumental Analysis SAC).

Rationale: Our discipline deals with fire and explosion investigations without initial regard for whether the event is possibly arson. It is antithetical to our methodologies to presume any cause of the incident. Explosions are a physical phenomenon which parallels fire as a phenomenon. Explosives are materials, not processes. Scene was dropped from the title because it is unduly restrictive. These investigations are not necessarily limited to the scene.





# Summary of Priority Projects

Priority	OSAC Process	Working Title of Document
1		Strategic Plan for Fire and Explosion Investigation
2		Proposal to NFPA for Standard for Fire and Explosion Investigation Units





# Standards/Guidelines Development Priority 1 Document

Document Title: Strategic Plan for Fire and Explosion Investigation

Scope: Define the future development of the profession

Objective/rationale: NFPA 921 and 1033 have not been enough

Issues/Concerns: Accreditation, education, research, gatekeeping



# Standards/Guidelines Development Strategic Plan for Fire and Explosion Investigation

## Key Components of Standard:

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Current Structure of the Fire and Explosion Investigation Community
- 3 The Admission of Fire and Explosion Investigation Evidence in Litigation
- 4 The Principles of Science and Interpreting Scientific Data
- 5 Descriptions of Some Fire and Explosion Investigation Disciplines
- 6 Improving Methods, Practice, and Performance in Fire and Explosion Investigation
- 7 Strengthening Oversight of Fire and Explosion Investigation Practice
- 8 Education and Training in Fire and Explosion Investigation
- 9 DOJ and the Fire and Explosion Investigation Disciplines

# Standards/Guidelines Development Priority 2 Document

Document Title: Standard for Fire and Explosion Investigation Units

Scope: All aspects of FIU's

Objective/rationale: NFPA 921, NFPA 1033, and fire investigator certification all focus on the investigator. This effort is to provide focus on proper operations and oversight by the investigation unit.

Issues/Concerns:

- Proposal is under consideration at NFPA

# Standards/Guidelines Development Standard for Fire and Explosion Investigation Units

Key Components of Standard:

- **Chapter 1 Administration**
- **Chapter 2 Referenced Publications**
- **Chapter 3 Definitions**
- **Chapter 4 Management System Requirements**
- **Chapter 5 Personnel Qualifications**
- **Chapter 6 Accreditation**
- **Chapter 7 SOGs for Conducting the Investigation**
- **Chapter 8 SOGs for Expert Witness Testimony**