



PREMIER CLAIMS INVESTIGATIONS

Michael W. Littrell - Professional Qualifications

Career

- Austin Fire Department- Fire Prevention Division, Fire/Arson Investigations Section- Lieutenant Investigator- December, 1990 to present
- Austin Fire Department- Fire Prevention Division- August, 1988 to December, 1990
- Inspections Section- Lieutenant Inspector
- Austin Fire Department- Operations Division- March, 1978 to August 1988

History

- Austin Fire Department Training Academy- November 7, 1977
- Assigned to Operation Division, Fire Station 15, Engine 15- March 23, 1978
- Charter member of the Austin F.D. Underwater Rescue Team, 1980 to 1988
- Transferred to Fire Station 1, Engine 1- October 9, 1981
- Promotion, Fire Specialist, Fire Station 1, Engine 1- April 17, 1983
- Promotion, Lieutenant, Fire Station 1, Engine 30- February 2, 1986
- Assigned to Fire Prevention Division, Inspection Section, Lt. Code Inspector- August 1988
- Assigned to Fire Prevention Division, Investigations Section, Lt. Fire Investigator- December 30, 1990 to present

Job Description and Experience

Job duties include the investigation of the origin and cause of fires, structural and vehicular: burn pattern interpretation, debris analysis, scene photography, scene sketching, evidence collection, the interviewing of witnesses and suspects, arrests and booking of suspects, reports and document preparation for Criminal Court prosecutions, and Civil Court testimony. Duties also require liaison with the Local, State, and Federal authorities on criminal cases. In non-criminal cases, the Insurance Industry representatives are assisted to expedite victim relief. Investigators are also required to respond to large Hazardous Material-related Incidents for documentation and follow-up investigation.

I have been Lead Investigator in over one thousand fire cases, both accidental and criminal. I have been Court Certified as an expert witness testifying in State and Federal District Courts.

Certifications

- **Arson Investigator, Master-** Texas Commission on Fire Protection, Personnel, Standards and Education
- **Arson Investigator, Certified (IAAI-CFI)-** International Association of Arson Investigators, tested
- **Texas Peace Officer, Basic-** Texas Commission on Law Enforcement, Personnel, Standards, and Education
- **Firefighter, Advanced-** Texas Commission on Fire Protection, Personnel, Standards and Education
- **Fire Inspector, Advanced-** Texas Commission on Fire Protection, Personnel, Standards and Education
- **Instructor, NFPA Level 1-** National Fire Academy Field Course
- **Instructor, Intermediate-** Texas Commission on Fire Protection, Personnel, Standards and Education
- **Emergency Medical Technician, Basic-** Texas Department of Health
- **Hazardous Material Technician, Basic-** Austin Fire Department

Education

- Associate Degree, Austin Community College, Fire Protection Technology
- University of Texas at Austin, Pharmacy Major, 1975-76
- William B. Travis High School, Austin Texas, 1975,NHS

Memberships

- International Association of Arson Investigators(IAAI), Inc.
- International Association of Arson Investigators, Texas Chapter
- Central Texas Fire Investigator's Association, Charter Member
- International Association of Fire Fighters(IAFF), Local 975
- Combined Law Enforcement Association of Texas (CLEAT)

Teaching Experience

- Travis County Emergency Services District #2, Instructor, Fire Cause Determination, Fire Cadet Class, December 2005
- Oak Hill Fire Department Training Academy, Instructor, Fire Cause Determination, Fire Cadet Class, December 2005
- Austin Community College, Instructor, Fire/Arson Investigation I, Spring Semester 2005
- Austin Fire Department, Instructor, Fire Investigator State Certification Class, January 2005
- Oak Hill Fire Department, Instructor, Fire Cause Determination, December 7 & 9, 2004
- Austin Community College, Instructor, Fire/Arson Investigation II, Fall Semester 2004
- Austin Fire Department, Training Division, Fire Officer I, Basic Origin and Cause for the First Responder, May 2004

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- Austin Community College, Instructor, Fire/Arson Investigation I, Spring Semester 2004
- Austin Fire Department, Instructor, Fire Investigator State Certification Class, September 2003
- Austin Fire Department Training Division, Basic Origin and Cause for the First Responder, Fire Cadet Training Class #107, graduated April 2003
- Austin Community College, Instructor, Fire/Arson Investigation II, Spring Semester 2003
- Austin Community College, Instructor, Fire/Arson Investigation I, Fall Semester 2002
- Austin Fire Department Media Day, Fire Investigation overview for the news media, June 5, 2002
- Austin Fire Department Training Division, City-wide Captain's School, Basic Origin and Cause for the First Responder, Summer 2001
- Austin Community College, Instructor, Fire/Arson Investigation II, Spring Semester 2001
- Austin Community College, Instructor, Fire/Arson Investigation I, Fall Semester 2000
- Austin Fire Department Specialist College, Training Division, Basic Origin and Cause for the First Responder, May, 2000
- Austin Fire Department Officer College, Training Division, Basic Origin and Cause for the First Responder, May, 2000
- Austin Community College, Instructor, Fire/Arson Investigation II, Spring Semester 2000
- Austin Community College, Instructor, Fire/Arson Investigation I, Fall Semester 1999
- Texas Commission on Fire Protection, Basic Investigator Certification Course, August, 1999
- Austin Fire Department, Training Division, Basic Origin and Cause for the First Responder, Lieutenant and Captain College, April 2, 1999.
- Southern Union Gas Company, Texas Area Representatives, Fire Investigation of Gas-related Fires, March 30, 1999.
- Westlake Fire Department, Travis County, Texas, Basic Origin and Cause for the First Responder, In-service school, Summer, 1998
- Austin Fire Department, Ops. Division, Basic Origin and Cause for the First Responder, City-wide Captain's School, Summer, 1998
- Austin Fire Department, Training Division, Basic Origin and Cause for the First Responder, Fire Cadet Training, Spring, 1998
- Texas Public Service Safety Conference, Arson Awareness, Summer, 1998
- Austin Community College, Instructor, Fire/Arson Investigation I, Spring Semester 1997

Specialized Training

- Investigations of Electrical and Appliance Related Fires Point-Counterpoint, I.A.A.I.&A.H.A.M., December 7-9, 2005, 24hrs
- Statement Analysis/Interview and Interrogation-CAPCO, Leander PD, April 13, 2004, 16hrs
- Post Blast Investigation Course- Department of the Treasury, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, Waco, Tx., October 6-10, 2003, 40hrs.
- Fire Investigations- FBI Academy, Quantico, Virginia, June 24-28, 2002

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- Clandestine Laboratory Awareness Course- Texas Counterdrug Training Institute, February 21, 2001, 4hrs.
- Hands-on Electrical Fire Investigation- Public Agency Training Council, San Antonio, Tx., March 1-3, 2000, 24hrs.
- Emergency Response to Terrorism:Basic Concepts- National Fire Academy Course, DOJ/FEMA, April 21, 1999
- Cause and Origin/Court Technique(S&L), Advanced- Department of the Treasury, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, ATF Academy, Glynco, Georgia, September 14-24, 1998
- Management for Arson Prevention and Control -National Fire Academy, Emmitsburg, Maryland, June 1-12,1998, 80hrs.
- Hazardous Materials Technician, Austin Fire Dept., March 2-13, 1998, 80hrs.
- Advanced Course on The Reid Technique of Interviewing and Interrogation- John E. Reid and Associates, Chicago, Ill., November 20-21, 1997, 16hrs.
- The Reid Technique of Interviewing and Interrogation- John E. Reid and Associates, Chicago, Ill., November 17-19, 1997, 24hrs.
- Practical Fire/Arson Scene Search and Evidence Recovery- Public Agency Training Council, San Antonio, Tx., September 22-23, 1997, 16hrs.
- Arson Investigation -National Fire Academy, Emmitsburg, Maryland, August 1997, 80hrs.
- Austin/Travis County Medical Standards of Care Program, Austin F.D.- MedOps, AFD Training Academy, August 20, 1997, 5hrs.
- Hazardous Materials Incident Command- Austin Fire Dept., January 23-24, 1997, 8hrs.
- Austin/Travis County Medical Standards of Care Program, Austin F.D.- MedOps, AFD Training Academy, June 11, 1996, 5hrs.
- Advanced Origin and Cause/Expert Witness- International Training Association, San Antonio, Tx., May 20-22, 1996, 24hrs.
- Gas and Electrical Appliance Fire Investigation- Barker and Herbert Analytical Laboratory, New Haven, Indiana, November 13-14, 1995, 16hrs.
- Fire Investigation Theory Applied to Live Burns- International Association of Arson Investigators, Galveston, Tx., January 27-28, 1994, 40hrs.
- Electronic Surveillance Techniques- Round Rock P.D., Round Rock, Tx., February 7, 1992, 8hrs.
- Kinesic Interviewing Technique, Levels 1 and 2- Lamar Univ. Regional Police Academy/Sam Houston State Univ., Beaumont, Tx., March 28, 1991, 32hrs.
- Fire and Arson Investigation Certification Course- State of Texas Fire Marshal's Office, Austin, Tx., March 1, 1991, 90hrs.
- Instructional Techniques for Company Officers, NFPA Level 1 Instructor and TCFPPSE Basic Instructor Course- National Fire Academy Field Course, Austin Tx., April 5, 1990, 16hrs.
- Financial Investigative Techniques Course- Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service Center, Austin, Tx., March 5-9, 1990, 40hrs.
- Texas Peace Officer Certification Course- Travis County Sheriff's Academy, Austin, Tx., July 5, 1989- September 18, 1989, 400hrs.
- Fire Prevention Inspections Training- Austin F.D., Inspections Section- Prevention Division, January 17, 1989, 200hrs.

- Hazardous Materials First Responder Course- U.S. E.P.A. and Union Pacific Railroad, Alamo Area Law Enforcement Academy, Univ. of Texas at San Antonio, Tx., January 12-13, 1988, 15hrs.,
- Texas Fire and Arson Investigators Seminar- Texas A&M Univ. Extension Service, Austin, Tx., (32hrs.) every March from 1984 to present

Expert Testimony

- **Texas v. Juvenile, Cause#J-25,333**, Trial, 98th District Court, Travis County, Texas
- **Capital Metropolitan Transit Authority v. Gillig Corporation, Case Number A04-CA-094-SS**, Trial, United States District Court, Western District of Texas- Austin Division
- **Sutton, Henderson v. Valdez Remodeling & Weatherization, Inc., Cause #9714134**, Trial, 261st District Court, Travis County, Texas
- **Texas v. Juvenile, Cause#J-03,401**, Trial, 98th District Court, Travis County , Texas

Deposition

- **Zawardy Ab Latiff vs. University Housing Corporation, Cause #GN301342**, 250th Judicial District Court, Travis County, Texas; Oral and Video
- **Dean Goddard v. Mark Hodgson and Michael Putegnat, Cause #GN102878**, 201st Judicial District Court, Travis County, Texas; Oral and Video
- **Shiloh Newman and Smith & Newman Enterprises, L.L.C. v. Neo-Neon USA, Inc., Home Depot USA, Inc. and Light Tech, L.L.C., Cause #GN204502**, 353rd Judicial District Court, Travis County Texas;consolidated with **Jamil F. Boukarim v. Smith & Newman Enterprises, Ltd. Co., Smith & Newman Enterprises L.L.C. and Shiloh Newman, Cause #GN 204617**, 200th Judicial District Court, Travis County, Texas, Oral
- **Robert Jewett v. Myrtle Moynahan, W.O. Harper Plumbing and Sewer Service, and Rheem Manufacturing Company, Cause #98-09186**, 261st Judicial District Court, Travis County, Texas, Oral and Video

Awards

- Austin Fire Department Unit Citation, 2003
- Austin Fire Department Unit Citation, 2002
- Customer Service Star, Assistant Chief Paul Maldonado, Abatement of Child Fires, Sept. 3, 1998
- Phoenix Bar (CPR confirmed save), Austin Fire Dept., September 22, 1994
- Certificate of Appreciation, Fire Marshal Chief Roy Bishop, October 11,1993
- Letter of Commendation, Capt. of Inspections Don Smith, Austin Fire Dept., January 24, 1989
- Letter of Commendation, Fire Chief Bill Roberts, Austin Fire Dept., September 27, 1985
- Certificate of Merit, Fire Chief Bill Roberts, Austin Fire Dept., September 27, 1985
- Pride of the City Award, City of Austin Employee Appreciation Program, 1985
- Employee of the Year Award, Mayor Frank Cooksey, December 11, 1985
- Letter of Commendation, City Council Member Mark Spaeth, August 24, 1983

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- Letter of Commendation, Lowell H. Lebermann, Jr., February 23, 1983
- Letter of Commendation, Mayor Carole Keeton McClellan, February 23, 1983
- Letter of Commendation, Governor Mark White, February 18, 1983
- Certificate of Recognition, Acting Fire Chief Brady Pool, February 6, 1983

revised: 03/28/06