



Michael Owens

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OFFICE

Burlington

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CONTACT

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Specializing in structural fires and explosions, Mike's professional experience includes 16 years as a fire investigator with the Ontario Fire Marshal, 9 years as an Attorney General investigator, and 14 years as a police officer, attaining the rank of Detective. During his career, he has investigated 1,575 fire and explosion occurrences, including 136 fatal fires and 61 gaseous explosions. Mike's areas of expertise include advanced fire investigation and origin and cause determination. He is trained in post-blast explosion scene investigations as well as gas and electrical appliance fires. Mike has been declared an expert witness at all levels of the criminal and civil justice system.

CERTIFICATIONS

- Certified Fire & Explosions Investigator, CFEI
- Certified Fire Marshal's Investigator, CFMI
- Certified Canadian Fire Investigator - Level C, CCFI-C

TECHNICAL AFFILIATIONS

- National Association of Fire Investigators (NAFI)
- International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI)
- Canadian Association of Fire Investigators (CAFI)
- Criminal Intelligence Service of Ontario (CISO), OFM Representative
- Associate – Member of The Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences, London, United Kingdom

EDUCATION

South Wales Police College

Law Enforcement and Police Duties Diploma
Bridgend, South Wales, U.K.
1973

Hendon Police College

Advanced Detective Training, Criminal Law & Theory Diploma
London, England, U.K.
1982

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Fire and Explosion Investigator

OCI Group (Formerly Origin and Cause Incorporated)
Burlington, ON
2013 – Present

- Conducted fire scene examinations to determine origin and cause
- Collected, preserved, and documented critical evidence
- Interviewed witnesses and involved parties to support investigative findings
- Prepared detailed investigative reports outlining conclusions and analysis
- Collaborated with partner agencies and investigative teams throughout the process

Fire and Explosion Investigator

Office of the Fire Marshal

1997 – 2013

A/Director of Investigations

Ontario Police Commission, Ministry of the Attorney General

1988 – 1997

Detective

Criminal Investigations Department, South Wales Police Service

1973 – 1987

FURTHER TRAINING & EDUCATION

- Designated Associate Instructor, Ontario Fire College (June 2013)
- Fire Investigation Course 2012 (4-day course), Ontario Fire College (October 2012)
- Fire Investigation Course 2012 (5-day course), Ontario Fire College (June 2012)
- Advanced Fire Investigation Seminar (Dr. J. Dehaan), Ottawa (April 2012)
- Fire Investigation Course 2011 (5-day course), Ontario Fire College (October 2011)
- Investigation of Gas and Electrical Appliance Fires (5-day course), Fire Findings Laboratory, Michigan (November 2005)
- Digital Photography Course (5-day course), Ontario Fire College (July 2005)
- Fragmentary Osteology Course (5-day course), Ontario Fire College (August 2003)
- Forensic Anthropology (5-day course), York Regional Police Service (August 2002)
- Ontario Fire Marshal Investigator (CFMI) Certificate, achieved upon completion of 238 performance objectives covering 19 general areas of competency and final written examination (accredited equivalent to NFPA 1033) (December 2003)
- Major Case Management Course, Ontario Provincial Police (March 2001)
- Post Blast Scene Technicians Course (10-day course), Canadian Police College, Ottawa (December 2000)
- Advanced Fire Investigation Course (5-day course), Michigan State Police, Fire Marshal Division (March 1999)
- NFPA 921 Fire & Explosion Investigation Course (5-day course), Oakville, Ontario (October 1997)
- Scenes of Crime Examiners Course, South Wales Police Service (October 1986)
- Qualification to the Rank of Inspector, South Wales Police Service (November

1984)

- Advanced Detective Training Course (12-week course), Hendon Police College (October–December 1982)
 - Qualification to the Rank of Sergeant, South Wales Police Service (November, 1981)
 - Continuation Law Enforcement and Police Duties Course (4-week Course) Dishforth Police College (August 1975)
 - Law Enforcement and Police Duties Course (16-week course), South Wales Police College (February–August, 1973)
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PRESENTATIONS

Training Presentation: “3 Most Common Structure Fires”, Presented by OCI Group (October 2019)

Lecture: “Confirmation & Expectation Bias” in Fire Investigations, Ontario Fire College (October 2011)

Course: “Fire Cause Determination”, Ontario Fire College (October 2004)

Course: “Fire Cause Determination”, Greater Sudbury Fire and Police Services (June 2004)

Course: “Fire Cause Determination”, Norfolk County Fire & Police Services (October 2003)

Course: “Fire Cause Determination”, Ontario Fire College in Gravenhurst (July 2002)

Presentation: “Fire Crime Detection”, Chatham-Kent Fire & Police Services (November 2001)

Course: “Fire Cause Determination”, Chatham-Kent Fire & Police Services (September 2001)

Course: “Fire Cause Determination”, Middlesex County Fire & Police Services (May 2001)

Course: "Fire Cause Determination", Perth County Fire & Police Services
(October 2001)

Course: "Fire Cause Determination", Lambton County Fire & Police Services
(March 2001)