



WALTER O. HERNDON, JR

Director

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800-961-2909 - E-Fax 734-591-0140

Licensed, Bonded & Insured in Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Arizona, Florida and Ontario, Canada

EXPERTISE:

Motor Vehicle Fires, Vehicle Theft, Ignition/Steering Column & Immobilizer Systems, Watercraft and Recreational Vehicle Fires

EDUCATION, TRAINING & QUALIFICATIONS:

Graduated from Detroit Police Academy in January 1972. I continued my education while serving as a police officer under the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (L.E.A.A.). Completed my Associates Degree in Law Enforcement at Henry Ford Community College in June of 1976. Completed my Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice at Madonna College of Livonia in December of 1977. Vocational teaching certificate obtained from State of Michigan Department of Education in March of 1978.

Certificate, International Association of Arson Investigators (Michigan Chapter) April 1983 (32 hours)

Certificate, Vehicle Fire Investigation, Macomb Community College, September 1988 (32 hours)

Certificate, International Association of Arson Investigators (Michigan Chapter) 32 hours each year, from 1989 to the present.

Certificate, Vehicle Fire Investigation Macomb Community College, May 1990. (26 hours)

Certificate, Vehicle Theft and Fraud Investigation, Grand Rapids Community College, May 1994 (32 hours)

Certificate, Vehicle Fire, Theft and Fraud Investigation International Association of Auto Theft Investigators, Dearborn, Michigan, August 1999. (40 hours).

Certificate, Fire Arson Investigation, Macomb Community College, May 2000 (26 hours)

Certificate, Fire Litigation 2000, Lansing, Michigan, November 2000 (8 hour) NFPA 921

Certificate, International Association of Auto Theft Investigators, North Central Regional Chapter, Vehicle Theft, Insurance Fraud and Arson Investigation, Finley Park, Illinois, May 2003, (32 hours)

Certificate, North Central Regional Chapter of the International Association of Auto Theft Investigators, Investigation of Vehicle Theft, Insurance Fraud and Arson, Novi, Michigan, May 2005

Certificate, International Association of Arson Investigators (Michigan Chapter), Bay City, Michigan May 2007, 2008, 2009 and May 2010.

EXPERIENCE:

Enlisted in the United States Army in June, 1968 and separated in June, 1971. Service in combat area - Vietnam. Received National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with three Bronze Stars, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Combat Infantry Badge, Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device and one Oak Leaf Cluster, Purple Heart with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Good Conduct Service Medal. Completed my military reserve requirements as a Staff Sergeant, Grade E-6.

City of Detroit Police Officer (8-1/2 years), with experience in narcotics, executing search warrants, surveillance's and arrests, general patrol duties including theft and recovery of stolen vehicles.

Vehicle fires/theft of vehicles. Examined over 10,000 vehicle fires over the past 30 years.

Live demonstrations of 1375 motor vehicles, trucks, boats, snowmobiles, wave-runners and garage structures simulating accidental, as well as incendiary fires, utilizing various accelerants, to include flammable and combustible liquids.

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INSTRUCTOR FOR & ATTENDED TRAINING:

Michigan State Police Fire Marshal Division: Instructor for and attended training: September 1988, August 1989, August 1990, August 1991, August 1992, August 1993, August 1994, August 1995, August 1996, August 1997, August 1998, August 1999, August 2000, October 2001, October 2002, October 2003, October 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009, attended training through the Michigan State Police Fire Marshal Division in regard to Auto Theft/Vehicle Fires. Included were vehicle fire demonstrations, vehicle theft demonstrations, mechanical demonstrations and fires involving vehicles in garage structures.

Investigators for Herndon & Associates instructed the vehicle fire presentations, mechanical demonstrations and auto theft demonstrations, including Ignition and Steering Column Locking Mechanisms, Immobilizer Systems and live demonstration of vehicle fires to include garage structures.

I.A.A.T.I. (North Regional Chapter): Instructor and attended training: May 16, 17, 18, 1989. Included were vehicle fire demonstrations on 13 new General Motors Vehicles. Ignition and steering column locking systems/Vehicle Identification.

INSTRUCTOR FOR:

International Association of Arson Investigators, Michigan Chapter (Seminar 1982, 1983, 1985, 1987, 1990 and 1998)

Michigan State Police Fire Marshal's Division (Two Week Basic School) 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1990, 1995, 1998, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010.

Monroe Community College (area fire and police personnel)

Dearborn Police Department (Seminar 1984 and 1985)

Highland Park Fire Department (Seminar 1984)

City of Detroit Fire Department (Seminar 1985)

Schoolcraft Community College (area fire & police personnel Force Five Seminar 1985 and 1990)

Macomb Community College Auto Theft/Vehicle Fires. Included were vehicle fire demonstrations, vehicle theft demonstrations and mechanical demonstrations. Investigators for Herndon & Associates instructed the vehicle fire presentations, mechanical demonstrations and auto theft demonstrations, including Ignition & Steering Column Locking Mechanisms. (1985, August 1986, May 1987, April 1988, June 1989, August 1990, July 12, 1991, July 24, 1992, July 23, 1993, July 1994, July 1995, July 1996, July 1997, July 1998, July 1999, July 2000 and June 2001.

Oakland County Association of Arson & Fire Investigators 1986, 1997

Michigan Arson Prevention Committee (September 1986 & September 1989)

IAAI, Central Michigan University (1987)

Northwestern Ohio Volunteer Fireman's Assoc. (Division of Ohio State Fire Marshal) 1987

Southfield Fire Department (1987)

Michigan Anti-Car Theft Campaign Committee (National Auto Theft Bureau) (1987)

Criminal Justice Institute, Toledo, Ohio (February 1988)

Greater Cleveland Crime Prevention Committee (September 1989)

Livonia Police Department (October 1989)

Wayne County Regional Police Training Center (February 1990)

Detective School (December 1990)

INSTRUCTOR FOR: (continued)

Schoolcraft College (April 20, 1990 and May 1990): M.L.E.O.T.C. Certification (Michigan Law Enforcement Officer Training Council)

Sophia (Ohio), May 1990.

Instructor and attended training for International Association of Arson Investigators (I.A.A.I.) International Conference, May 7-11, 1990. (Dearborn, Michigan)

National Society of Professional Insurance Investigators Seminar, November 13-14, 1990. (Columbus, Ohio)

Northern Ohio Arson Seminar, February 28, 1993 (Ashland, Ohio)

I.A.A.I - Instructor for Vehicle Theft and Vehicle Fire Origin & Cause in Auckland, New Zealand, May 1993.

North Central Regional Chapter of International Association of Auto Theft Investigators 31st Annual Midwest Vehicle Theft Conference, May 9-12, 1994.

Ohio Auto Theft Investigators Association, September, 1994.

Maryland/District of Columbia Chapter of International Association of Arson Investigators, March, 1995.

Oakland County Association of Arson Investigators Seminar. (April 12, 1997)

Livingston County/Police & Fire/G.M. Proving Grounds, Vehicle Fire Demonstrations and Ignition and Steering Column Locking Mechanism, September 1999.

I.A.A.I (Minnesota), Anti Vehicle Crime Association of Minnesota, International Association of Special Investigation Units. Fire Demonstrations and classroom presentation, October 1999

Washtenaw County Auto Theft Team, Area Police and Auto Theft Investigators. Instructed on Auto Theft/Ignition and Steering Column Locking Mechanisms. April 2001 Seminar.

Michigan Auto Vehicle Theft Investigators (MAVTI), Ignition and Steering Column Locking Mechanisms. April 18, 2001 Seminar.

Instructor in Auto Theft, Ignition & Steering Column Locking Mechanisms, Live Burn Demonstration, Kane County Illinois. May 2001

Michigan Arson Prevention Committee, live demonstrations of vehicle fires, auto theft investigations, immobilizer systems, June 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010.

Auto Theft/Fires, Ignition and Steering Column, Grosse Pointe Police, February 2002

Detroit Police Commercial Auto Theft Unit and Detroit Fire Arson Section January 2003, training on Ignition and Steering Column Systems, Auto Theft & Fraud, January 2003

Michigan Association of Vehicle Theft Investigators (M.A.V.T.I.), auto-theft/live burn demonstration. April 16 and 17, 2003.

IAATI (North Central Regional Chapter), Vehicle Theft Insurance Fraud and Arson, instructed in the area of ignition and steering columns including immobilizer systems involving live vehicle fire demonstrations. Tinley Park, Illinois, May 2003.

IAAI (Michigan Chapter) – Instructor for Vehicle Theft and Vehicle Fire Origin & Cause Seminar. Berrien Springs, Michigan. October 2003.

IAAI (Michigan Chapter) – Training, vehicle fires and live demonstrations, Albee Township, February 2004.

INSTRUCTOR FOR: (continued)

IAAI (Missouri Chapter) – Live vehicle fire demonstrations. Lake Ozark, Missouri, May 2004.

IAAI (Ohio Chapter) Live vehicle fire demonstrations, Zainsville, Ohio, May 2005.

Windsor Police/Fire and Rescue Services. Instructed on Auto Theft/Ignition and Anti-Theft Immobilizer Systems. Live vehicle fire demonstrations Seminar. September 2005 and 2007

IAAI (Michigan Chapter) – Training, Vehicle Fires and live demonstrations, Albee Township, February 2006.

AVCAM's Spring Seminar, Bloomington, Minnesota, Auto Theft Immobilizer System - May 4, 2006

Michigan Arson Prevention Committee, Regional Training Seminar, Port Huron, Michigan Vehicle Fire & Theft Investigation, January 26, 2008.

IAAI (Michigan Chapter) – Training, Vehicle Fire and Theft Investigations, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, February 2, 2008.

St. Clair County Police and Fire Personnel – Class room presentation on origin and cause of vehicle fires with a live burn. (80 hour basic school)

COURT QUALIFICATIONS:

- Alexandria, MN
- Cascade District Court
- Cook County Court, Illinois
- Corunna District Court
- Dearborn District Court
- Dearborn Heights District Court
- Detroit 36th District Court
- Federal Court
- Flint District Court
- Garden City District Court
- Grosse Pointe Park Municipal Court
- Hamtramck District Court
- Highland Park District Court
- Howell District Court
- Ionia Circuit Court
- Jackson County Court
- Kane County, Illinois
- Lincoln Park District Court
- Livonia District Court
- Macomb Circuit Court
- Missaukee County
- Monroe Circuit Court
- Muskegon Circuit Court
- Oak Park District Court
- Oakland Circuit Court
- Pinconning Dist Court
- Plymouth District Court
- Records Court (Detroit)
- Romulus District Court
- Roscommon County Court
- Roseville Court
- Southfield District Court
- Southgate District Court
- St. Clair Shores District Court
- Taylor District Court
- Troy District Court
- Utica District Court
- Warren District Court
- Wayne Circuit Court
- West Branch, 82nd District Court
- Will County Court, Illinois
- Ypsilanti District Court

Testified over 440 occasions as an expert witness in vehicle origin and cause, theft of vehicles and ignition and steering column locking mechanisms/Immobilizer Systems.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

International Association of Arson Investigators

Michigan Chapter of International Association of Arson Investigators

International Association of Auto Theft Investigators

North Central Regional Chapter, Affiliate to IAATI

Oakland County Association of Arson and Fire Investigators

Michigan Association of Vehicle Theft Investigators (MAVTI)

National Fire Protection Association

Michigan Arson Prevention Committee