

**PROFESSIONAL FIRE & FRAUD
INVESTIGATORS ASSOCIATION
356 Melaleuca Dr.
Springfield, MO 65809**



**58th Annual
Fire and Fraud
Investigators
Professional
Development Symposium
October 6-8, 2025
St. Charles, MO**



The 58th Annual Professional Fire and Fraud Investigators Professional Development Symposium will be held Oct. 6-8, 2025, at the St. Charles Drury Inn, St. Charles, Missouri.

TRAINING CREDITS

Training hours from this seminar can be applied to the recertification requirements of the Missouri Division of Fire Safety Fire Investigator Certification program. **A total of 20 hours of continuing education is scheduled.** Attendance will be monitored and is required to receive a certificate for these hours.

Selected hours from this seminar can also be applied to the continuing education requirements for peace officer certification in Missouri. PFFIA has applied for approval from POST for hours at this symposium. **POST requires individuals to submit their POST officer license number when signing in for approved CEU's.**

SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION

PFFIA members: \$200 Nonmembers: \$225

Preregistration must be received by Sept. 15, 2025. Walk-in registration will be accepted at the seminar.

Registration includes lunch on Monday and Tuesday.



SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION



PLEASE PRINT All Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Representing: _____

Day Phone: _____ **Evening Phone:** _____

Email Address: _____

October 6-8, 2025

☐ **PFFIA member: \$200**

☐ **Nonmember: \$225**

***Payment must accompany registration.
Make checks payable to P.F.F.I.A.***

**To use a credit card, contact
Bill.Zieres@gmail.com**

Mail registration to:
PFFIA Training Symposium
356 Melaleuca Dr.
Springfield, MO 65809

Symposium Speakers

Laura Billon, JD, MFS, CFI

Subject matter expert on fire investigation, interview techniques, youth set fires, forensic science and community risk reduction. Over 25 years in the fields of Fire Setting Profiling, Fire Investigations, Forensic Science, Community Risk Reduction, and ICS.

- Over 3,100 investigations completed
- Over 7,900 Interviews conducted
- Over 174 Firesetting Evaluations and Profiles conducted
- Professor: San Diego Community College Dist.; School of Public Safety teaching various fire science, law enforcement, fire prevention, fire behavior, ethics
- Instructor: US Dept. of Homeland Security: US Fire Administration

Charles R. Giessing

- Senior Fire Consultant June 2019 to Present
- Pro-G Fire Consulting, LLC
- Responsible for determining the origin and cause of thermal events involving industrial equipment, truck-tractors, cargo trailers, specialty equipment, and vehicle fires.
- St. Francois County Sheriff Dept: Responsibilities included the investigation of various types of incidents and processing of crime scenes. Conducted fire investigations for thirteen county fire departments and provided leadership of a fire investigation unit formed by the fire departments and the Sheriff Dept.
- Farmington (MO) Police Dept. 1978 to 1983, responsible for determining the origin and cause of fires

Conference Lodging

Drury Plaza Hotel St. Charles
380 Mulholland Drive, St. Charles, MO

Reservations may be made by calling
(636) 724-5772. ***Use Group Number: 10153843***

Reservations by attendees must be received
before Sunday, September 21, 2025.

Group rooms have 2 queen beds, deluxe at a
conference rate of \$150 per night.

Recognize A Deserving Individual

The Harry Hanson Award recognizes individuals
who have made a significant contribution toward
advancing fire investigation in the State of Missouri.

The Prosecutor of the Year recognizes individuals
who realize the impact arson can have in the
community and have worked to bring those
responsible for the act of arson to justice.

Please download and mail in our award nomination
form at PFFIA.COM for someone you think is
worthy of this honor.

ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION

**The Annual Meeting and Election of Officers will
be held at 12:00 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2025
during the Symposium.**



SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM



Sunday, Oct. 5, 2025

6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Registration

Monday, Oct. 6, 2025

7:30 a.m. Registration

8:00 a.m. Conference Opening

8:30 a.m. Cognitive Interviewing (CI)
Laura Billon, JD, MFS, CFI

Eyewitness Testimony
Memory
History of the Cognitive Interview
Cognitive vs. Traditional Interviews
Four tenets of cognitive interviewing

12:00 p.m. Networking Lunch provided

1:00 p.m. Cognitive Interviewing (*continued*)

Understanding the cognitive interview
Establishing rapport
Encoding Specificity
Retrieval cues to assist in remembering
Question types to maximize success
False memories and confessions
Overcoming barriers
Mistakes of the CI



SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM



Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2025

8 a.m. Commercial Vehicle Fire
Investigations
*Charles Giessing,
Pro-G Fire Consulting LLC*

12:00 p.m. Networking lunch provided
*Annual Association
Membership Meeting and
Election*

1:00 p.m. Commercial Vehicle Fire
Investigations continued

Wednesday, Oct. 8, 2025

8:00 a.m. Scene investigations of
commercial vehicle fires
*Participants should bring
protective or fire scene work
clothing including safety boots
and gloves!*

1:00 p.m. Conference concludes