

Paducah Fire Prevention 13th Annual Combined Conference

Instructor Bios:



Warren Olsen has spent more than 50 years in fire protection. He is a retired Battalion Chief from the Hoffman Estates Fire Department which is located in suburban Chicago where he served for more than 30 years. Since 1979 he has also worked as a fire protection consultant. He is the past Vice President of Building and Life Safety Division for the consulting firm of Fire Safety Consultants, Inc. in suburban Chicago. After retiring he continues to work as a Senior Fire and Life Safety Consultant for FSCI. Warren is a Certified Fire Protection Specialist and a Certified Building Code Official. Warren is a past chairperson and current principal member of NFPA 72, Chapter 26, Technical Committee on Supervising Station Alarm Systems for NFPA 72, and serves on NFPA 72, Chapter 18, Notification Appliances, NFPA 3 and NFPA 4. He has been a contributor to several editions of the NFPA 72 Handbook and the NFPA Fire Protection Handbook. He teaches National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code and Water-Based Sprinkler System Inspection seminars nationally and internationally for NFPA.



Jeff Fecteau represents UL Solutions Codes and Regulatory Services as a Senior Regulatory Engineer. Jeff enlisted in the US Army as a Combat Engineer and when he returned home to Phoenix, enrolled and graduated from Career One Technical Training Corporation as a Construction Electrician. In 1998 Jeff was hired by the City of Peoria, AZ, as a Combination Dwelling Inspector and within one year was promoted to Senior Electrical Inspector. In 2006, Jeff started working for the City of Bloomington, IL, as a Building Inspector III. Jeff then accepted the position of NEMA Midwest Field Representative in 2007, and in 2008 accepted a position with UL as a Staff Engineer Associate. In 2013 was promoted to Senior Regulatory Engineer and in 2018, Jeff was inducted into the UL Distinguished Member of Technical Staff in the William Henry Merrill Society. Jeff has been very active with the International Association of Electrical Inspectors (IAEI) since becoming a member in 1995. After serving as the President for the Central Arizona Chapter of IAEI in 2002 Jeff became the Education Chairperson for the Central Arizona Chapter and maintained that position until he relocated to Central, Illinois in 2006. Jeff has also been very active in Education and Electrical Safety since 1998. He taught electrical codes for Glendale Community College, Glendale, AZ. and Gateway Community College, Phoenix, AZ, for eight years, the 2nd year apprenticeship program for the Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) in Phoenix for four years, as well as numerous seminars for the Central Arizona Chapter of IAEI, the Arizona Building Officials (AZBO), Phoenix Chapter of Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) and the Phoenix Chapter of American Society of Home Inspectors (ASHI). Jeff has provided training to inspector and contractor organizations, including 8 years as an adjunct faculty instructor at two community colleges. Jeff has been involved with IREC, NREL, Solar 3.0, SolarAPP+ and the International Association of Electrical Inspectors as an instructor on code compliant PV installations as well as an SME for the development of presentations such as the PVOT program. Jeff has authored several technical papers that address code compliant installations of PV equipment such as inverters and PV rapid shutdown systems. Currently Jeff represents UL as a Code Panel Member for the National Electrical Code (NEC) on CMP 8 (previously a member of CMP 9), IAPMO on the Uniform Solar Energy and Hydronics Code, as well as on NFPA 70B (Standard for Electrical Equipment Maintenance). Jeff is currently approved as a CEU accredited instructor in Arizona, Texas, Minnesota, Louisiana, Michigan, Florida, South Carolina and North Carolina. Jeff has been recognized by UL and inducted into the society of Distinguished Members of Technical Staff. Jeff is a Certified Building Official (CBO), Certified Electrical Code Official (ECO) and currently maintains twenty-three International Code Council (ICC) inspection certifications and two IAEI electrical inspection certifications.

Kelly B. Gardner, PE; Gardner Engineering & Consulting PLLC / Special Inspection Services LLC
Mr. Gardner has over 30 years of professional experience and currently is the Principal and Owner of Gardner Engineering & Consulting PLLC (GEC) located in Owensboro, Kentucky. GEC was formed in 2016 and offers structural, forensic and industrial engineering along with building code reviews and other consulting services. Mr. Gardner is also partner in Special Inspection Services, LLC (SIS) located in Owensboro, Kentucky and Ashland, Kentucky. SIS was formed in 2017 and is a full service Special Inspection and Testing firm providing KBC Chapter 17 services. Mr. Gardner is a licensed professional engineer in Kentucky as well as 12 other states, primarily in the Southeast USA. Mr. Gardner is a certified FEMA Structures Specialist 1 (StS1) for assisting with Urban Search & Rescue and KY Task Force 1 deployments. Kelly also has ATC 20/45 and Cal OES training to perform post-disaster building safety assessments, which he has used in responding to hurricanes and tornados. Mr. Gardner is a longtime member of several professional associations, including SEAoK, ASCE, KSPE/NSPE, CAAK, and AISC. He is the current President of SEAoK (Structural Engineers Association of Kentucky) and the Kentucky delegate to the National Council of Structural Engineers (NCSEA). Mr. Gardner has served on the SEAoK Codes Committee since 2006, including the KY Code revision cycles of 2007, 2013, 2018 and 2024.

Madeline Traylor is the supervisor of the Paducah Regional Office for the Division of Water. She has worked for Division of Water for the last 9 years and began her career with the Division as an inspector. The Paducah Region has three inspectors who cover the eleven westernmost counties of Kentucky and cover several programs, including Drinking Water, Wastewater, and Stormwater.



Jon Nisja is a Fire Protection and Data Specialist with the National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA). Prior to working for NFSA, Jon served as a fire marshal since 1985. He is the past president of both the Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota and the International Fire Marshals Association.

Mike Dalton retired from the Knox County Sheriff's Office after 32 years of service. He also served as the Director of the Bomb and Arson Section of the Tennessee State Fire Marshal's Office. He started his career in the U.S. Air Force as a Security Police officer May 1975 till August 1979. After leaving the Air Force he started with the Knox County Sheriff's Office as a correctional officer and certified officer, from 1979 till May 1985. In May of 1985 he was assigned to the Knox County Fire Marshal's Office as Fire Investigator. He has worked as a lead or assisted in over 2500 fires in Knox County and assisted other agencies in complex fire investigations during his 25 years with the Sheriff's Office. Mike presently works as an investigator with Forensic Investigations Group and is a Certified Fire Investigator, Certified Instructor and Evidence Collection Technician through the International Association of Arson Investigators. Mike has instructed at the Knox County Sheriff's Office Training Academy, The Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy and the Tennessee Fire School and Tennessee Fire Service and Code Enforcement Academy on a regular basis in Fire and Arson related fields. Mike has taught as an adjunct instructor for National Fire Academy field courses on Arson Detection. He was an adjunct instructor with the National Forensic Academy located at the University of Tennessee, instructing in Forensic Fire Scene Investigations, from 2003 to 2014. He has instructed at International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI), chapter meetings in Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Nebraska, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Wisconsin, Virginia as well as the Canadian Providence of New Brunswick, Dubai, UAE. He instructed at the IAAI Annual Training Conference in Las Vegas, NV in 2011, on topics from Origin and Cause to Fire Patterns and Documentation. Mike is also a vetted instructor for the IAAI 40-hour Fundamentals class.

Mike served as a member of the Board of Directors for the International Association of Arson Investigators from 2007 to 2013; he has served as President of the TN Chapter International Association of Arson Investigators in 2003 and as a director. He served as President for two terms 1996 and 1997 of the Tennessee Advisory Committee on Arson as well as a director. He is still actively involved in these organizations.

Mike has been married to Kathy Dalton for 44 years, a retired Grant Coordinator at the University of Tennessee. Son, David is a Master Sargent with the U.S. Air Force. Mike enjoys fly fishing, hunting, golf, and the outdoors.



Jim Gault – IAAI-CFI, IAAI-ECT, MIAAI Mr. Gault is the owner and Principal Fire Investigator at TechniFire Services Company, located in Chattanooga, TN. After dedicating 40 years to public safety, he recently retired, having served in both law enforcement and fire service roles. He possesses multiple professional certifications from the International Association of Arson Investigators and is recognized as a Pro Board Certified Fire Investigator. Mr. Gault is an active participant in the Tennessee Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators, where he has held various positions, including Chapter President. Recently, he was elected to the Board of Directors of the International Association. In addition to his investigative work, Mr. Gault frequently serves as an instructor and course facilitator for the IAAI, the Tennessee Chapter, and the State of Tennessee Fire and Codes Academy. His expertise has led him to present training sessions in several states across the United States and internationally.

Linn Beyer is a seasoned plumbing and water treatment professional with over 40 years of experience. Licensed from 1983 until transitioning into management, he built expertise in plumbing operations, sales, and service leadership. WQA certified, Linn specializes in water treatment for commercial chillers and boilers, including chemical treatment system design. After shifting his company from construction to a service-focused model, he gained valuable insight into business transformation and client relationship growth. Now a National Account Executive with MRCOOL, Linn mentors young trade professionals, sharing practical strategies for hands-on service, business development, and leadership in today's evolving mechanical industry.

Grant Cherry brings over 11 years of experience in the mechanical and HVAC industry, with a career spanning technical service, installation, sales, and project management. He has attended NCCER's Project Management program and holds specialized training in high angle rescue, confined space rescue, and Hazardous Material Awareness. While with Lee Company in Nashville, Grant managed mechanical teams at Nissan Stadium and throughout Metro Nashville, overseeing complex, high-profile projects. Today, he serves as a National Account Executive with MRCOOL, leveraging his industry expertise to support contractors and distributors nationwide through innovative HVAC solutions, mentorship, and business development.

Orlando Hernandez boasts a career spanning over 30 years in emergency management, law enforcement, and fire safety. He began his professional journey in 1992 with the Texas State Fire Marshal's Office and has held roles such as Bexar County Fire Marshal and Emergency Management Coordinator, focusing on fire inspections, fire investigations, and emergency response efforts. In August 2017, during Hurricane Harvey, Mr. Hernandez took on a critical leadership role as Ground Transportation Evacuation Group Leader for the Texas Department of Public Safety. In this capacity, he successfully managed the coordination of 650 buses for the evacuation of residents across Texas, showcasing his ability to navigate large-scale emergency operations. In 2018, Mr. Hernandez was appointed Texas State Fire Marshal, a position he held with distinction until his retirement in June 2023. His leadership during this time was instrumental in enhancing fire safety standards across the state. In August 2024, Mr. Hernandez transitioned to the role of South-Central Regional Director for the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). In this capacity, he works closely with state and local government agencies, as well as fire service organizations, to advocate for improved fire safety, the adoption of national codes and standards, and the promotion of community risk reduction. He also conducts educational presentations focused on leadership, emergency management, and fire safety best practices.