



CURRICULUM VITAE

ROBERT HELMKAMP

Senior Fire Investigator

Robert Helmkamp is the Senior Fire Investigator for ACS Investigative Services, Inc. He joined ACS on October 15th, 1999, after serving six years with the Topeka Police Department in Topeka, Kansas. He specializes in fire and fraud investigations on behalf of companies and organizations handling damage claims. He has a full range of experience in both criminal and civil investigations. He is certified by the Missouri Division of Fire Safety as a Fire Investigator, by the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal as a Firefighter II and Fire Investigator, the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Commission as a Full-Time Police Officer, and by the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation as a Class A Private Detective. He has testified in criminal matters in both municipal and state court, and has provided civil testimony as it relates to fire origin and cause. Robert is a member of the International Association of Arson Investigators, the Missouri Chapter of the Professional Fire and Fraud Investigators Association, the National and Missouri Chapters of the National Society of Professional Insurance Investigators, the Illinois Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators, and the Madison County Fireman's Association.

Prior to joining ACS, Robert attended Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg, Missouri from 1990 to 1994. He graduated in 1994 with a Bachelor of Science degree, with a major in Criminal Justice and a minor in Fire Science.

After graduation from Central Missouri State University, Robert became a Police Officer for the City of Topeka, Kansas. He attended the Topeka Police Training Academy where he received his law enforcement commission. First assigned to the Uniform Services Division as a Patrol Officer, Robert was responsible for self initiated activities, call response, and all aspects of on-scene criminal investigation. After three years, Robert transferred to the Special Operations Unit where he served as a Community Police Officer. In the SORT Unit, Robert was responsible for special projects, narcotics interdiction, criminal intelligence, and mid-level investigations within his assigned territory. While with the Topeka Police Department, he attended the United States Drug Enforcement Administration's Drug Investigator School, Kansas Bureau of Investigation's Kansas Narcotics Investigation Seminar, the National Crime Prevention Council's CPTED Workshop, and multiple other seminars and classes. In 1999, Robert was honored by the Topeka Police Department with the first ever Excellence in Community Service Award and commendation bar.

In 2000, Robert successfully completed the Missouri Division of Fire Safety's Fire Investigator course, and became a Certified Fire Investigator in the State of Missouri. He also successfully passed the Private Detective examination given by the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation, and became licensed to conduct investigations in the State of Illinois. Since 1999, Robert has conducted more than 500 origin and cause investigations for ACS Investigative Services, Inc.

In 2001, Robert continued his training and education by attending the Illinois Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators conference in Collinsville, Illinois and by completing Module A of the Certified Firefighter curriculum. In 2002, Robert attended the annual conference of the Missouri Chapter of the National Society of Professional Insurance

Investigators, as well as completing the Module B, Module C, and Hazardous Materials courses of the Certified Firefighter curriculum in Illinois. Robert successfully passed the state administered tests for the Certified Firefighter modules and became a Certified Firefighter II in the State of Illinois. In 2004, Robert began the Fire/Arson Investigation Certification Program administered by the University of Illinois Fire Service Institute. He successfully completed Module I, II, & III in August Of 2004. With the completion of the three modules, Robert was certified by the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal as a Fire Investigator.

Robert has been a Paid-On-Call Firefighter/Fire Investigator for the Wood River Fire Department in Wood River, Illinois since August of 2001. His primary responsibilities with the department include assisting with fire suppression activities, and the investigation of fires. Since 2001, Robert has conducted more than twenty origin and cause investigations for the Wood River Fire Department.

Robert resides in Wood River, Illinois, which is approximately 30 miles northeast of St. Louis, Missouri. He can be contacted at (618) 251-5313.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ACS INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES, INC

1999-Present

Lead Fire Investigator

Responsible for conducting fire origin and cause investigations. Investigative duties include scene examinations, motive investigations, background checks, field and recorded interviews, and evidence collection and preservation. Maintain a close relationship with federal, state, and local law enforcement and fire protection officials. Consult with insurance industry and attorneys regarding origin and cause investigations. Prepare reports as to investigations and testify to opinions presented in those reports.

Senior Fire Investigator

Direct supervision of all field investigators. Handling of personnel issues that include vacation, sick leave, and time off. Available to assist field investigators as needed. Ensure that investigative reports are completed and reviewed in a timely fashion. Continued responsibility for own files and investigations.

WOOD RIVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

2001-Present

P.O.C Firefighter/Fire Investigator

Paid-On-Call Firefighter responsible for responding to calls for service, mutual aid, and fire alarms. Responsible for assigned fire ground activities that include fire suppression, rescue, forcible entry, and salvage/overhaul. Responsible for conducting fire origin and cause investigations at the direction of Fire Chief or Incident Commander. Preparation of reports as related to origin and cause investigations and activities. Maintain close working relationship with local, state, and federal law enforcement officials.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT

1994-1999

Police Officer – Special Operations Unit

Responsible for all aspects of on-scene and assigned criminal investigations. Conducted mid-level investigations of all crimes including narcotics, prostitution, and fugitive apprehension. Assisted other law enforcement agencies with case investigations and intelligence information. Prepared documentation for warrant and arrest matters. Planned, supported, and implemented special assignments to meet designated objectives.

Patrol Officer – Uniform Division

Effectively responded and dealt with all aspects of on-scene criminal and traffic violations as a uniformed officer. Responsible for conducting custodial arrests, collecting and preserving evidence, preparing documentation and reports, and providing court testimony as required.

EDUCATION

CIVIC MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

Bethalto, IL.

High School Diploma – May 1990

CENTRAL MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

Warrensburg, MO.

Bachelor of Science Degree – May 1994

GPA: 3.37/4.0

Major: Criminal Justice Minor: Fire Science

Major coursework: Introduction to Criminal Justice, Police Organization & Management, Criminal Law, Constitutional Aspects of Criminal Justice, Criminal Investigation, Liability and the Criminal Justice Officer, Introduction to Criminal Justice Research, Criminal Evidence, Homicide Investigation, Global Crime, Probation, Parole, and Corrections.

Minor coursework: Introduction to Fire Science, Water System Analysis, Legal Aspects of Safety, Security, and Fire, Fire Extinguishment Systems, Industrial Fire Protection, Fire Prevention and Protection, Building Codes Administration.

TOPEKA POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAINING ACADEMY

Topeka, KS.

KLETC Full-Time Police Officer Certification – 1994

Coursework: Constitutional Law, Communications, Report Writing, Patrol Procedures, Principals of Criminal Investigation, Motor Vehicle Law Enforcement, Motor Vehicle Collision Investigation, Crisis Management, Use of Force, Arrest Procedures, defensive Tactics, Physical and Emotional Readiness, Courtroom Testimony, Basic Firearms, Law Enforcement Driver Training

UNITED STATES DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION St.Louis,MO.

Basic Drug Investigator School – December 1997

Coursework: Controlled Substances Act, Missouri Drug Trends, Drug Identification, Intelligence Briefing/Domestic Gangs, Clandestine Drug Labs, Surveillance, Asset Forfeiture, Interview and Interrogation, Conspiracy, Courtroom Testimony, Highway Drug Interdiction, Informant Management, Undercover Operations, Street Safety and Survival, Raid Planning and Execution, Technical Operations, Surveillance Practical, Ethics and Integrity.

KANSAS BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Salina,KS.

Kansas Narcotic Investigator School – March 1998

Topics: Legal Updates, Laboratory Procedures, Gangs & Violent Street Crime, Handling Informants, Surveillance Techniques, Affidavits, Warrants & Subpoenas, Drug Labs, Raid Planning, Traffic Stop Techniques, Electronic Surveillance, Undercover Buys.

MISSOURI DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY

St. Louis, MO.

Fire Investigator Certification Program – March 2000

Coursework: Legal Aspects of Fire Investigation, Fire Scene Investigation, Accidental Fire Causes, Incendiary Fire Causes and Devices, Explosives and Explosions, Documenting the Fire Scene, Fatal Fire Investigations, Basics of Insurance, Evidence Collection and Preservation, Motivation of Firesetters, Juvenile Firesetters, Interviews & Interrogations, Reports & Presentations, Investigative & Expert Resources, Analytical Methods, Expert Testimony & Legal Proceedings, Fire Behavior, Building Construction.

ILLINOIS CHAPTER OF IAAI

Collinsville, IL.

August F. Mazzone Fire Investigation Conference – April 2001

Topics: Legal Issues of Fire Investigation, Guidelines for Expert Testimony, Fire Scene Technician, NFPA 921, Fire Scene Processing to Determine Origin and Cause, Engineering Role in Fire Investigations, Investigation of Clandestine Drug Labs, Spoliation of Evidence, Insurance Investigations

MISSOURI CHAPTER OF IAAI

Lake Ozark, MO.

17th Annual Fire Investigation Seminar – June 2001

Topics: Collection & Preservation of Evidence, Interviews & Interrogations, National Insurance Crime Bureau, First Responder to Bomb/Fire Scenes

N.T.L. SOCIETY OF PROF. INSURANCE INVESTIGATORS

Lake Ozark, MO.

2002 Advanced Insurance Seminar – Missouri Chapter - March 2002

Topics: Case Law Updates, Understanding Verbal, Written & Body Language, Direct and Cross Examination of the Claim Handler, Examination Under Oath & Recorded Statements, Anatomy of a Arson Case.

N.T.L. SOCIETY OF PROF. INSURANCE INVESTIGATORS St. Louis, MO.

2002 Advanced Insurance Seminar – National Conference – November 2002

Topics: Structuring a Successful Interview, Clandestine Drug Labs, Use of Surveillance in Insurance Fraud Investigations, Fire Scene Examination, 9-1-1 Postscript, Investigators Role in Fatal Fires, Cross Cultural Interviewing Techniques.

LEWIS AND CLARK COMMUNITY COLLEGE Godfrey, IL.

Certified Firefighter II – Module A – Fall 2001

Coursework: Firefighter Orientation & Safety, Fire behavior, Building Construction, Firefighter personal Protective Equipment, Portable Fire Extinguishers, Ground Ladders

Certified Firefighter II – Module B – Spring 2002

Coursework: Rescue & Extrication, Forcible Entry, Ventilation, Water Supply, Fire Hose, Fire Streams, Fire Control

Certified Firefighter II – Module C – Spring 2002

Coursework: Ropes & Knots, Fire Detection & Alarm Systems, Loss Control, Fire Cause Determination, Fire Department Communications, Fire Prevention & Public Fire Education, Haz-Mat Awareness.

KANSAS CITY ARSON TASK FORCE Kansas City, MO.

Annual Arson Seminar – March 2003

Topics: Legal Considerations, Fire Related Human Behavior, Fire Pattern Analysis, Building Systems, Electricity and Fire.

N.T.L. SOCIETY OF PROF. INSURANCE INVESTIGATORS Lake Ozark, MO.

2004 Advanced Insurance Seminar – Missouri Chapter - May 2004

Topics: Case Law Updates, Anatomy of an Arson Case.

UNIV. OF ILLINOIS – FIRE SERVICE INSTITUTE Fairview Heights, IL.

Fire/Arson Investigation – Module I – June 2004

Coursework: Fire Investigation Operations, Fire Science & Behavior, Building Construction, Detection and Suppression Systems, Fire Causes, Fire Patterns, Fire Origin Determination, Canine Accelerant Detection, Burn Cell Practical.

Fire/Arson Investigation – Module II – July 2004

Coursework: Fire Scene Photography, Fire Investigation Drawings, Report Writing, Evidence, Legal Issues, Fire Scene Practicals.

Fire/Arson Investigation – Module III – August 2004

Coursework: Interviewing & Communications, Injury & Fatal Fires, Financial Analysis, Arson-For-Profit, Explosions, Vehicle Fires, Vehicle Fires Practical.

Missouri Chapter of IAAI

21st Annual Fire Investigation Seminar – May 2005

Topics: Advanced fire Scene Investigation, Fire Fatalities, Interviewing Techniques, Fire Investigation Origin and Cause Determination Procedures.

CERTIFICATIONS

Licensed Private Detective - State of Illinois Class A License# 115-001534	2000-Present
Certified Fire Investigator – Missouri Div. Of Public Safety	2000-Present
Certified Full-Time Law Enforcement Officer – State of Kansas	1994-2001
Certified Firefighter II – State of Illinois	2002-Present
Certified Fire Investigator – Illinois State Fire Marshal	2004-Present
Licensed Private Investigator – State of Indiana	2005-Present
Certified Fire Investigator – Int’l Association of Arson Investigators	2005-Present

MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS

International Association of Arson Investigators
Illinois Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators
Missouri Chapter - International Association of Arson Investigators
Missouri Chapter - Professional Fraud and Fire Investigators Association
National Society of Professional Insurance Investigators
Missouri Chapter - National Society of Professional Insurance Investigators
Madison County Fireman’s Association – Madison County, Illinois

HONORS/ACHIEVEMENTS

2002 – Wood River Fire Department “Firefighter of the Year”

1998 – Topeka Police Department “Excellence in Community Service” Commendation