



Fire investigation is the process of determining the origin, cause, and development of a fire or explosion.[1] This definition comes from the **National Fire Protection Association (NFPA 921)**. Although the definition is simple, the investigation of fires and explosions is a complex and often difficult process. Often, but not always, the area that sustains the greatest amount of damage is the location that an experienced fire investigator will consider in the determination of the origin and cause of a fire or explosion. Proper documentation, analysis, reconstruction, evidence collection, and notification of potentially interested parties are just a few of the elements that make up a thorough and accurate fire or explosion investigation.

Fire origin is the point, location, or area where a fire began. An experienced fire investigator will determine the fire origin before determining the fire cause. An experienced fire investigator knows every fire or explosion is different and each has elements that may be of interest. These elements may include drop down fire, ventilation factors, fuel load, suppression tactics, and the possibility of multiple areas of origin, to name a few. Often, many potential fire causes exist and through the process of elimination, an experienced *fire investigator* will identify and eliminate as many as possible.

Fire cause is the circumstances and or agencies which have brought together the elements necessary for a fire to start. The four fire classifications are:

- **Accidental**
- **Natural**
- **Incendiary / Arson**
- **Unknown**

TDI's experienced fire investigators will evaluate and assess responsibility: the factors and reasons which brought together the elements necessary for a fire to occur. While the science of fire investigation constantly evolves with innovative technology and training, there is a key element that science cannot provide - experience.

TDI investigators have that vitally important experience, which is critically important to the successful resolution of your investigation. **TDI** investigators have nearly 50 combined years of experience investigating fires and explosions in the public and private sectors. **TDI** is dedicated to staying current with new developments in both fire science and insurance investigations. Our investigators are court-qualified experts and have investigated thousands of fires. **TDI** investigators hold both the CFI and CFEI certification.

[1] NFPA 921, 2004 Edition

Experience

Certified

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Contact Us

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Experience Matters.