

IAAI Advocacy Committee

Mission:

The IAAI Advocacy Committee is dedicated to improving the profession of fire and explosion investigators by being the global resource to promote and advance fire and explosion investigation through governmental legislation and industry partner organizations.

Goals:

1. To be a resource to governmental legislators, industry partner organizations and members concerning fire investigation initiatives.
2. To promote IAAI legislative activities and initiatives to the members.
3. To establish a representative from each Chapter to act as a Liaison with the Advocacy Committee.
4. To have the Chapter Liaisons' promote and advance IAAI supported legislation with their local governmental legislators.
5. To support and promote the Resolutions of the CFSI National Advisory Committee (NAC).
6. To assist Chapters with their local legislative efforts.
7. To promote the IAAI to governmental legislators and industry partners for their understanding of the IAAI and the importance of the fire investigation industry around the world.

Objectives:

1. To establish Chapter Liaisons who will utilize or develop relationships with their local legislators and industry partner organizations to market the IAAI.
2. Committee Members and Chapter Liaisons are expected to be available to meet with their local, state, provincial or federal legislators or industry partner organizations to educate them on the IAAI and supported legislation.
3. To establish Chapter Liaisons to serve as local contacts for any "Call to Action" with their local legislators.
4. To have Chapter Liaisons work with their local members in establishing contact with their legislators in any "Call to Action."
5. To disseminate information timely for any relevant "Call to Action" to maximize contact with local legislators before they vote on the matter.
6. To provide information on a quarterly basis in the IAAI Journal publication.
7. To provide information as needed for the IAAI Website.
8. To assist Chapter Liaisons with their local legislative initiatives.
9. To assist in writing model legislation when requested.
10. To be available to assist with writing and promoting legislation that has a direct impact on fire investigation or our members.
11. To assist the CFSI in other fire service related legislation and sharing of information with industry partner organizations.
12. To assist the Director of Governmental Affairs in preparing reports as needed on any project(s).

Standard Operating Guidelines:

1. Advocacy Core Committee.
 - A. Chair, Co-Chair and no more than seven additional members for a total of no more than nine Core Committee members. The Director of Governmental Affairs will be one of the nine core members.
 - B. The Executive Director shall be an Ex-Officio member of the committee.
 - C. The committee shall report directly to the Executive Team.

2. Advocacy Committee Chapter Liaison.
 - A. Each Chapter will designate a Chapter Liaison, if the Chapter does not designate a liaison the Chapter President will serve as the Chapters Liaison to the committee.

3. Tasks.
 - A. The Advocacy Core Committee will:
 - i. Assist the Director of Governmental Affairs as needed.
 - ii. Disseminate information to the each assigned Chapter Liaison.
 - iii. Develop talking points for any "Call to Action" and disseminate the talking points to the Chapter Liaisons.
 - iv. Develop relationships with their local and federal legislators and industry partner organizations.
 - v. Assign projects to Chapter Liaisons as needed.
 - vi. Assist and provide guidance to Chapter Liaisons with their local legislative efforts.
 - vii. Disseminate information and status of legislation affecting the fire investigation community to IAAI members via the Journal and Website.

 - B. Advocacy Committee Chapter Liaison will:
 - i. Serve as the direct contact between the Chapter and the Advocacy Core Committee.
 - ii. Report directly to the Advocacy Core Committee Chair as required or to bring information to the Core Committee to review.
 - iii. Disseminate information received from the Advocacy Core Committee to their Chapter members and industry partner organizations.
 - iv. Assist in any assigned projects from the Advocacy Core Committee and report directly to the Committee Chairperson.
 - v. Be expected to contact their appropriate legislators (federal, state or provincial) when a "Call to Action" is requested to seek their support of prescribed legislation.

- vi. Be expected to work with Chapter members in providing them with “Call to Action” talking points so the Chapter members can also make contact with their local legislator.
- vii. Work with the Advocacy Core Committee as needed in developing local initiatives related to fire and explosion investigation.

4. Committee Meetings

- A. Advocacy Core Committee meetings will be conducted via telephone conference calls, email and at the annual ITC and Mid-year for those present. Conference calls will be scheduled as needed when called by the Chairperson.
- B. Advocacy Chapter Liaison meetings will be conducted via telephone conference calls, email and at the annual ITC for those present. Conference calls will be scheduled as needed when called by the Chairperson.
- C. Meet in the appropriate national capital as needed when the national governmental body is in session.

5. Financial Support

- A. Until the committee receives budget funding costs are the responsibility of the committee member.
 - i. To minimize the financial impact most committee work will be via telephone and email.
 - ii. Meeting attendance at ITC and Mid-Year will be optional based on those who may be able to travel to the meeting site.
 - iii. We expect Core Committee Members to travel regionally and Chapter Liaisons to travel locally to meet with their legislators and industry partner organizations when they are in town and call or meet with them when any “Call to Action” is requested or attend meetings to keep them abreast of fire investigation in fire loss.