

## TO ALL MEMBERS AND GUESTS OF NSWAFI

You are invited to attend an Education Night run by the NSW Association of Fire Investigators Inc., on the subject of:

# The Pros & Cons of Photoionization Detectors in Fire Scene Examination

The detection of Ignitable Liquid Residues (ILR) at fire scenes can assist fire investigators with the determination of a deliberately lit fire. Historically, accelerant detection canines (ADCs) have been used as a tool to assist fire investigators by indicating suspected locations of ILR in a fire scene, after which samples can be sent to a laboratory for analysis and identification. In recent years, the Photoionization Detector (PID) has been marketed as “a proven scientific tool used in forensic fire investigations” and as a portable, electronic alternative to a sniffer dog.

This presentation will include how a PID works, what it is capable of detecting, how reliable this tool is at fire scenes and will discuss whether it actually holds up to these claims. The pros and cons of using PIDs at fire scenes will be discussed: Does it assist the fire investigator, or can it lead into poor investigation practices? How does it compare to other ILR analysis tools and procedures?

Mr Peter Jeffrey completed his Bachelor of Science (Chemistry) at UWA in 2011 and joined the Western Australia Police the following year, completing his Diploma of Public Safety (Policing) as the Dux of his course. Following his passion for forensic investigation, Peter moved to NSW where he has worked as a Fire Examiner and Fire Debris Analyst for GKA Investigations Group since 2016. Peter was one of the two-person team responsible for developing the quality manual for GKA Analytical Services, which led to the laboratory being NATA certified. Peter completed the Basic Fire Debris Analysis course from the University of Central Florida and obtained a Master of Science (Forensic Science) at UTS in 2018.

VENUE: Fire and Rescue NSW Headquarters

ADDRESS: 1 Amarina Ave, Greenacre NSW 2190

WHEN: Thursday, 3 October 2019 TIME: 18:30 hours

**REMEMBER: You do not need to be a Fire Investigator to attend these evenings.**

Please note that RSVPs are no longer taken by email. Instead, please complete the booking form on the NSWAFI website. If you are not a member of the NSWAFI the cost of attending this education night is \$10, which can be paid through the website. The booking form is located on the main menu under ‘Event Calendar’ or at: <http://www.nswafi.com.au/booking-form/>.



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