



Election **2026** IAAI Candidates for Board of Directors



Greg Trosper IAAI Candidate for the Board of Directors

In Ballot Order

What would you say your greatest assets are if you become a Director or Officer of the IAAI?

If elected as a Director for the IAAI, I bring analytical, problem-solving abilities to the Board. One of the assets I bring to any organization is the ability to evaluate issues, proposals and ideas without bias or emotion which allows me to render clear assessments based solely on merit. Another asset I possess is simply being available. As a Director, I will continue to be available to any member that wishes to share a concern, an idea, or needs assistance with IAAI-related issues.

What type of leader are you, and how would you apply those leadership traits as a director or officer of the IAAI?

I am a servant-leader. I believe all leaders must be servants; we lead by serving our organization. We must also be able to hold people accountable, but true leadership is serving subordinates, employees, and members to equip them with the knowledge, skills and tools to ensure success. My leadership qualities are not etched in stone. I strive for continuous improvement, not complacency.

What steps do you believe the IAAI should take to reduce or eliminate membership shrinkage?

Like conducting a fire investigation, the first step required is data collection. We need to understand why members are not renewing membership. This can be accomplished by basic communications to members when their renewal window passes. We cannot propose a remedy if we do not know what the problem is.

What steps do you believe the IAAI should take to grow membership?

We need to reevaluate member benefits. We need to be proactive in seeking out and creating relationships with other industry-related organizations. Most importantly, we need to invest in youth. We should be the first resource for new fire investigators; we should further our partnerships with higher education institutions offering fire science degrees. We cannot adopt, or continue, the attitude of caring only for those who approach the IAAI. We need to seek them and demonstrate our value.

How would you propose to improve relationships and communications between the International and Chapters?

We have over 80 chapters across the globe. Holding a monthly Chapter call as the main channel for communication is the least productive means to establish a relationship with our Chapters. It is a chore and not a conversation. Each elected representative on the board should be assigned four to five chapters to liaise with; holding one on one conversations with Chapter Leadership covering needs, successes, and true engagement. Once gathered, your elected representatives can report to one another on Chapter activities and best practices, establishing true two-way relationships.

What is your vision for the future for the IAAI?

The future of the IAAI needs to focus solely on progression. We cannot ask the same questions year after year. We cannot continue to think what worked 20 years ago will work for tomorrow's IAAI. The elected positions within the IAAI represent less than 1% of total membership. We cannot expect change without increasing member engagement and involvement. We cannot expect change and progress unless we are ready to step outside our comfort zone and ask ourselves some uncomfortable questions.

The future of the IAAI needs to embrace greater member engagement. The future of the IAAI needs to include active pursuit of the next generation of fire investigators. The future of the IAAI needs to ask new questions and find the people that can answer them.

Other than training fire investigators, what two or three other elements do you consider critical to the mission of the IAAI?

The Certifications offered by the IAAI are critical not only to the mission of the IAAI but also to the industry as a whole. The IAAI holds what is regarded as the highest level of certification for a fire investigator with the Certified Fire Investigator certification. It is critically important to maintain the integrity of this credential. However, we must also adequately prepare the next generation of IAAI-CFIs while keeping the certification obtainable.

If we are going to continue to be the Global Leaders in Fire Investigation, we need to be on the leading edge for training and education. Our core fire science programs are fantastic, but we need to lead by staying in lockstep with the rapidly advancing world of consumer products. We need to be willing and able to educate on the products and issues of today's fires.

As the Global Leaders in Fire Investigation, we need to develop relationships outside of just our membership. We should be actively seeking communication and cooperation with the Insurance Industry, Manufacturers, Legal Associations, Law Enforcement Associations, and the public at-large.

What do you perceive is the biggest challenge facing the IAAI in the coming years and how would you address that challenge?

Roughly 60% of the current IAAI Membership is over 55 years old. Recently, we have seen proposals to limit the amount of FEMA grants and federal funding provided to fire and EMS agencies. This largely impacts programs like fire prevention and continuing education. Both will impact the IAAI across the board. As our older membership retires, our numbers will fall. If public departments cannot allocate funds for continuing education programs, like the IAAI, our numbers will fall.

Our biggest challenge is to reach, engage, and empower the next generation of fire investigators. If our membership is strong and engaged, our certification and training programs will follow.