



Cattaraugus County Fire Investigation Team

301 Court Street, Little Valley, New York 14755-1090
(716) 938-9191

FI-4

Joseph Kaye
Team Leader

FI-3

Christopher Baker

FI-5

Joseph Patti

FI-7

Jeffrey Latten

FI-8

Thomas Hooper

FI-10

Christopher Kloc

2088

Brandon Walters

GUIDELINES FOR REQUESTING THE CATTARAUGUS COUNTY FIRE INVESTIGATION TEAM

1. For all fires or explosions resulting in fatalities or serious injury and for suspicious fires where a possible cause of arson may exist. All requests should be made as soon as possible for these criteria.
2. For fires where the Duty Chief cannot determine the cause of the fire per General Municipal Law, section 204-d (see attached).
3. If the Incident Commander believes the fire was accidental but would like the fire investigation team to check it out.

CONTRIBUTING CIRCUMSTANCES FOR REQUESTING THE FIRE INVESTIGATION TEAM

1. All fire scenes where the fire investigation team has been requested, custody shall be maintained by fire department personnel until the fire investigation team has arrived.
2. Investigators will need information from first firefighters on scene such as:
 - A) Where was the fire located?
 - B) Was there any signs of forced entry into the structure
 - C) Color of smoke and flames
 - D) Were there possible tire tracks or footprints in the area?
3. In the case of fatal fires it is imperative the scenes are left intact as much as possible and bodies are not removed unless they are endangered by fire.
4. The fire investigation team will attempt to determine the origin and cause of all fires but will not be used as an agent for insurance companies or subrogation purposes.
5. If the Incident Commander requests for the fire investigation team fire suppression should continue to preserve any evidence and structural stability.
6. All fire personnel shall stay out of structures and away from all fire investigations unless asked for assistance by the fire investigation team.
7. Incident command shall leave one engine and crew at scene until released by fire investigators.
8. If a request is made for the fire investigation team and they are already on another investigation they will prioritize response.



Detective Brandon Walters
Fire Investigator
301 Court St
Little Valley, NY 14755
716-938-2684

