

**PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTARY FIRE SERVICE CERTIFICATION SYSTEM
FIRE INVESTIGATOR I PRACTICUM**

Composite Rating Sheet (BY CHALLENGE)

Candidate Name:	Date:	SSN #
Rater's Signature:	Date:	

	Yes	No
A. <u>Hazardous Materials Training or Certification certificate attached?</u>	_____	_____
B. <u>Provided a plot plan, floor plan, photographs of the scene, rooms, burn patterns, and complete the following:</u>		
*4.2.1 Mark the plot plan and/or floor plan to indicate how the scene would be secured.	_____	_____
*4.2.2, 4.2.3, 4.2.4 Assess the scene for structural condition, observe fire damage, and interpret burn patterns. Report what you find.	_____	_____
*4.2.2, 4.2.3 Assess the scene and determine the presence and/or absence of contents. Report what you find.	_____	_____
*4.2.4 Report the effects of the fire on different types of materials.	_____	_____
*4.2.4, 4.2.5 Interpret and report variations in burn patterns dependent upon fuel, fuel loads, trails, heat release ratio, and ignitability.	_____	_____
*4.2.6 Determine what search techniques would be used to discover fire cause evidence And ignition sources; and, complete necessary documentation of example evidence you submit.	_____	_____
*4.2.8 Determine and report building systems operation and their effect on the fire. Identify any alternatives and evaluate the effect of the fire suppression.	_____	_____
*4.2.9 Identify explosive effects on building components and distinguish between low and high order explosion effects. Analyze and document the blast zone and origin.	_____	_____

C. Candidate provided the following documentation investigated by themselves.

	Yes	No
*4.3.1 (MANDATORY) Sketch of scene to include evidence recognition and origin points.	_____	_____
*4.3.2 (MANDATORY) Pictures of scene taken with a 35mm camera and flash.	_____	_____
4.3.3 Investigative notes.	_____	_____

D. Candidate Shall:

* 4.4.2 (MANDATORY) Explain proper procedures/protocols for collecting and preserving evidence with regard to fire victims/fatalities.	_____	_____
4.4.3 Determine and report forensic, engineering and laboratory needs. Utilize the fire scene information provided for Part I.	_____	_____
4.7.1 Explain the various types of evidence that exists and determine which would be critical to the investigation in Part I.	_____	_____
* 4.4.4 (MANDATORY) Complete appropriate documentation necessary to document chain of custody for evidence collected. Submit the documentation.	_____	_____
*4.4.5 (MANDATORY) Complete and submit appropriate documentation for the disposal of evidence in a timely and safe manner in accordance with agency requirements.	_____	_____
*4.5.1 (MANDATORY) Submit an interview plan and questions for an investigation they conducted.	_____	_____
*4.5.2 (MANDATORY) Submit an interview that has been conducted with questions and answers indicated. Indicate any changes in questioning strategy and explain why.	_____	_____
4.5.3 Evaluate interview information and incident data from the investigation. Correlate the data and evaluate the source of the information.	_____	_____

E. Candidate shall submit a copy of a complete case record that demonstrates the following competencies.

Yes No

***4.6.1 (MANDATORY)**

Identify the proper reports/documents necessary for investigation and chain of custody.

4.6.2

Evaluate an incident file and identify areas for further investigation and ensure that corroborating evidence and discrepancies are identified.

***4.6.3 (MANDATORY)**

Provide an investigation file, identify expert resources, identify the expert's qualifications, and develop a plan for using the expert's resources.

4.6.4

Establish evidence as to motive and/or opportunity from analyzing the file.

4.6.5

Formulate an opinion of person(s) and/or product(s) responsible for the fire

F. CANDIDATE SHALL:

***4.7.1 (MANDATORY)**

Prepare a written investigative report of an arson fire investigated by the candidate.

***4.7.2 (MANDATORY)**

Prepare a 15-30 minute VHS videotape or a slide tape with sound track and Transcript expressing the investigative findings of an investigation conducted by candidate.

4.7.3

Presents documentation of testifying at a pre-trial hearing or higher.

4.7.4

Prepare a 15-30 minute VHS videotape of an oral presentation on "Arson as A Community Problem"

G. Fire Investigations:

Documentation of 25 fire investigations, documents attached

Pass _____ Fail _____ Date _____