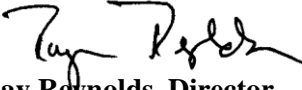
 <input type="checkbox"/> Division Order <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bureau Order <input type="checkbox"/> Special Order Order No.: SFM 11-09 ----- <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Procedure <input type="checkbox"/> Plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rule	Iowa Department of Public Safety State Fire Marshal Division	
	TITLE/SUBJECT: SFM Investigative Guidelines	IDENTIFIER: 46-03.07
	TO: SFM Special Agents	CC: Sworn Supervisors
	RELATED DIRECTIVES/FORMS:	
	APPLICABLE CALEA STANDARD(S): 42.2.1, 42.2.2	
	EFFECTIVE DATE: July 5, 2011	REVISION #: NEW
	INSTRUCTIONS:	
	APPROVED BY:  Ray Reynolds, Director	DATE: July 5, 2011

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide investigative guidelines and related procedural directives to personnel tasked with investigating fire and explosion incidents, and to provide procedural directives to personnel responsible for supervising those who conduct such investigations.

II. Policy

It is the policy of this Division that fire and explosion investigations be conducted in a safe, impartial, thorough, and professional manner, in accordance with applicable nationally recognized guidelines.

III. Procedure

- A. All Division personnel who investigate fires and explosions shall be guided by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 921, Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations, 2011 Edition, except when such guidance is inapplicable or when additional or alternative investigative methods are warranted based upon the nature of the fire or explosion.
- B. All investigative reports shall be submitted for supervisory review. Reports which result in referral for criminal prosecution or which, in the opinion of the investigator, conclude that a criminal act was the cause of the fire or explosion will be retained by the Division and will not be destroyed. All other reports shall be retained in accordance with DOM 39-01.03, Records Management and Retention.
- C. If any Division personnel who investigate fires and explosions, or supervise those who investigate fires and explosions, become aware of a conviction for arson or an arson related offense that, in the opinion of the investigator or supervisor, appears to have occurred based upon forensic science or investigatory methodologies that have been invalidated by

generally accepted scientific means, such personnel shall report information about such conviction to the State Fire Marshal.

- D. If the State Fire Marshal has reason to believe a person was convicted of arson or another arson related offense, including but not limited to murder, based upon forensic science or investigatory methodologies that have been invalidated by generally accepted scientific means, the State Fire Marshal shall refer information describing how and why a given methodology utilized in a specific case has been invalidated to the office of prosecuting attorney with jurisdiction and offer consultation services in an effort to determine if newly available forensic science or investigatory methodologies would, if applied to the facts of the case, yield evidence that is exculpatory.