

Curriculum Vitae David Bristow MSc, MIFirE, MCSFS, MFireInv, MIAAI, MCE-AFI, APAEWE

David Bristow, an Associate of SafeGuard Security Consultants Limited, an independent consultancy specialising in security for property, assets and people, has been a member of a Fire and Rescue Service since 1993 and an independent Fire Scene Investigator since 2005 specialising in the full range of forensic fire investigation services including the origin, cause and development of fires and explosions in a wide variety of fire scenes, both domestic and commercial.



David (Dave) joined Safeguard in 2019 to provide expert witness and litigation services in all areas of fire investigation. During his Fire Service career, Dave has been involved in the investigation of a wide variety of fire scenes including domestic properties, large industrial and commercial premises and vehicles. He has a wealth of experience working alongside police, crime scene investigators, forensic and private sector investigators to accurately determine the cause and origin of fires.

In his current role, Dave is responsible for the development and mentoring of a team of twelve Fire Investigation Officers. He also has sole responsibility for the development of procedures and Quality Management Systems to ensure compliance against ISO 17020; this is supported by his position as technical assessor for the United Kingdom Accreditation Service.

During his Fire Investigation career Dave has developed an in-depth knowledge of the mechanisms of heat transfer, mechanisms of ignition and the influencing factors of fire development and growth, fire dynamics, structural performance, system failure analysis, passive and active fire protection systems, fire tests and human behaviour in fire.

Since 2005 Dave has undertaken the full range of forensic fire investigation services and has extensive proven experience in the preparation of expert reports and the presentation of expert witness evidence in both Crown and Coroner Courts. Dave was drawn to Fire Investigation due to the detailed work required to accurately and competently determine the cause and origin of a fire. His approach to his work is one of total dedication with a determination to arrive at the truth by the application of a systematic approach balanced with meticulous scene analysis.

Dave has a MSc (with distinction) in Fire Scene Investigation, an Advanced Professional Award in Expert Witness Evidence and relevant Occupational Safety and Health training and qualifications. He has also received advanced training relating to diffuse phase explosions, gas explosions and commercial and military explosives.

Dave is currently a Member, Director and Board Member of the United Kingdom Association of Fire Investigators (MFireInv), a Member of the Institute of Fire Engineers (MIFireE), the Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences (MCSFS), International Association of Arson Investigators (MIAAI) and the Central European Association of Fire Investigators (MCE-AFI).