

Dear Fellow NJ Chapter members:

I hope you all had a wonderful, healthy and safe holiday season. Now, I guess it is back to the grindstone. There are two very important issues I would like you to be informed about.

The long awaited revised website for the IAAI is scheduled to be released 1/4/2010. In addition, the equally long awaited new Member Database will be linked to the website. All transactions from this point forward are going through the new database.

The new website is at www.firearson.com.

It is vital that, once you are in to the new website, go into the members section and make sure your profile is accurate. You can edit any changes yourself. It is YOUR responsibility to make sure your profile is accurate.

I want you to know that many of the changes that have been introduced in the new website and database came from the NJ Chapter officers and members. I was fortunate to be a member of the Communications Committee that worked on this project, so you were well represented. You will probably not say that it is perfect. But it is a darn sight better than where we were a year ago. It is also a work in progress. Your feedback will be listened to and considered.

If you have any issues or questions, please let me know or contact the IAAI Office.

Also, the National Fire Protection Association has announced that the Report on Proposals (ROP) for NFPA 921, Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations, is now available. You can download the document at <http://www.nfpa.org/assets/files/PDF/ROP/921-F2010-ROP.pdf>.

As you know, this document, perhaps more than any other for...ms the foundation of the work that we do every day. This is a consensus document. As such, you are eligible to review the proposals and offer your comments. Each and every comment is read by the technical committee and acted on. Your input will most definitely be considered by the technical committee during the deliberation and final voting for the 2011 edition.

175 proposals have been submitted to the technical committee for this revision cycle. These proposals include some new chapters, as well as a complete rewrite of others. There are also proposals that, if adopted, may change the way you operate as a fire investigator. I would like to urge each of you to read the ROP and offer any comments you may have. This is a unique opportunity to participate in the code development process. Remember, if you do not participate in the process, you have no reason to criticize it later on. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you for your time. Please contact me with any IAAI concerns you may have.

George Wendt, IAAI Board of Directors
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