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LOG OF TELEPHONE CALL

1998 SEP 10 A 9 47

SUBJECT: Fire Investigation Training

DATE OF CALL: September 8, 1998

PERSON CALLED: William Buxton, International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI)

CALLER: James F. Hoebel, Engineering Sciences *[Signature]*

SUMMARY OF CALL: IAAI is the contractor that provided fire investigation training to CPSC staff on August 17-18, 1998. Mr. Buxton was informed that CPSC staff was processing the paperwork to exercise the option to conduct a second session of the training. Mr. Buxton was pleased to hear this.

Mr. Hoebel suggested that IAAI develop a schedule to conduct the second session as soon as they were able. Mr. Buxton said that they were not happy with the Adam's Mark Hotel, and would likely seek another hotel to host the training. Mr. Hoebel said CPSC has no problem with this. Mr. Buxton promised to propose training dates quickly.

Mr. Hoebel suggested some modifications to the course content, based on comments received from the attendees at the first session. Mr. Hoebel suggested that Dr. Brown's presentation be eliminated, and that any needed information on electricity fundamentals be covered by Mr. Magee (who provided the presentation on appliance fires). Mr. Magee's slides needed improvement. All speakers should reduce emphasis on arson and increase emphasis on product involvement. The sessions on interviews, reports, evidence, and fire scene processing were generally well received. One commenter suggested that some time could be spent on photographs and their interpretation. Mr. Buxton was very appreciative of our feedback, and will make the appropriate changes. He emphasized that they wanted to provide the most productive training for us.

Mr. Hoebel also suggested that Carol Cave and Linda Smith call the presenters, prior to the second session, to describe the specific function and responsibilities of our field investigators and to discuss our training needs in more detail. Mr. Buxton thought that this would be very useful, and it will be arranged.

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