



Virginia Chapter of International Association of Arson Investigators (VA-IAAI)

Presents the

Fall 2026 Fire and Arson Investigation School

October 19 - 21, 2026

Four Points by Sheraton, Virginia Beach

Hosted By

Virginia Chapter, International Association of Arson Investigators

Virginia State Police and Virginia Dept. of Fire Programs

24 TESTED Recertification Hours by Virginia Dept. of Fire Programs

20 Career Development/Elective Hours and 4 Legal Hours by DCJS

Monday, October 19	0700-0800	Registration	
	0800-1200	Preparing For and Beginning an Interview	(McClish)
	1200-1300	Lunch on your own	
	1300-1700	Analyzing a Verbal Statement	(McClish)
	1800-2100	Networking and Intelligence Sharing	
Tuesday, October 20	0800-1200	Analyzing a Written Statement	(McClish)
	1200-1300	Lunch on your own	
	1300-1700	Questioning Techniques / Case Study	(McClish)
	1700-1800	VA IAAI ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS	
	1800-2100	Networking and Intelligence Sharing	
Wednesday, October 21	0800-1200	Legal Updates	(Kowalski)
	1200-1300	Working Lunch	
	1200-1500	Legal Updates Continued and Case Review	(Kowalski)
	1500-1600	Exam and Certificates	

Seminar fees: VA-IAAI Members: \$525.00

Non-Members: \$600.00

Daily rates: VA-IAAI Members: \$225.00 per day

Non-Members: \$260.00 per day

ONLINE PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE AT www.vaiaai.com/shop

Four Points by Sheraton

1211 Atlantic Avenue, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23451

Desk: 757-428-1183

Room Rates: \$124.00 per night, plus tax. *Reservations for Seminar Room Rate must be received by hotel NO LATER THAN October 11, 2026 to ensure rate.* Check-in time is 4:00p.m.

RATE IS AVAILABLE FROM OCTOBER 16, 2026 TO OCTOBER 24, 2026

Registrants Name:	Organization:
Mailing Address/P.O. Box	
City and State:	ZIP Code:
Daytime Telephone:	Date of Birth:

Please forward Registration Form and Payment (or confirmation number) to: VA IAAI, P. O. Box 1367, Madison, VA 22727

VA IAAI Tax Identification Number: 54-21100979

Seminar Contact: Dave Allen – (540) 407-0512 - daveallen89@gmail.com

STATEMENT ANALYSIS® INTERVIEWING TECHNIQUES

COURSE AGENDA

INSTRUCTOR:	Mark McClish
EMAIL ADDRESS:	aic@StatementAnalysis.com
WEBSITE:	www.StatementAnalysis.com
CLASS HOURS:	Sixteen

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course involves examining a person's verbal and written statement in order to determine if the person is being truthful or deceptive. The Statement Analysis® techniques will also provide an interviewer with additional information by showing him or her exactly what the person is saying.

There are several ways you can phrase a statement. People will always word their statement based on all their knowledge. Therefore, a deceptive person may provide us with more information than what he intended to share. The key to detecting deception is examine how the person phrased his statement. When analyzing a statement, we look at the pronouns, verb tenses, unique words, his personal dictionary, words that indicates he skipped over something along with some other linguistic cues.

The Statement Analysis® techniques are very accurate because they are based on the English language primarily word definitions and the rules of grammar. Another reason for their accuracy is when we analyze a statement, we are not interrupting what the person has said. This is because people mean exactly what they say.

B. COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Identify methods of analyzing subject's verbal and written statement to detect deception.
2. Learn how to obtain additional information from a verbal and written statement.

C. COURSE TOPICS

Day One

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|--|-------------------|
| 1. Preparing for the Interview | 60 minutes |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- General rules and principles that will help you obtain information and detect deception. | |

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| 2. The Denial | 30 minutes |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The only true denial is when the subject denies the act. | |

Break	10 minutes
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|--|-------------------|
| 3. Starting the Interview | 30 minutes |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- How to get them talking to you.- How to obtain a statement. | |

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|---|-------------------|
| 4. Analyzing a Verbal Statement | 60 minutes |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Examine the language. | |

Break	10 minutes
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|--|-------------------|
| 5. Analyzing a Verbal Statement (continued) | 90 minutes |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Listen for unique words.- Look for unusual words and phrases. | |

Break	10 minutes
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|--|-------------------|
| Analyzing a Verbal Statement (continued) | 90 minutes |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Pay attention to verb tenses.- Listen for words and phrases that indicate untruthfulness.- Look for words that show a passing of time. | |

Break	10 minutes
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|--|-------------------|
| Analyzing a Verbal Statement (continued) | 80 minutes |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Order is important- Passive voice vs. active voice.- Examine the pronouns. | |

End of Day One	Total	480 minutes
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Day Two

1. Review of the techniques discussed on day one. **10 minutes**

2. Analyzing a Written Statement **80 minutes**

- Underline the language.
- Double underline all unique words.
- Place brackets around verbs in the present tense.
- Circle all pronouns.
- Use a caret to identify missing words.
- Place an asterisk next to out-of-order statements.

Break **10 minutes**

Analyzing a Written Statement (continued) **90 minutes**

- Place a box around the subject's personal dictionary.
- Place a parenthesis around all time references.
- Circle any deceptive articles
- Did the writer cross out any words?
- Underline any emotions in the story.

Break **10 minutes**

Analyzing a Written Statement (continued) **50 minutes**

- Determine the story breakdown.
- Write down all names.
- Is there any missing punctuation?
- Look for a signature.

3. Specific Questions **40 minutes**

- Do not include the answer within your question.
- Do not ask compound questions.
- Do not answer the question for them.

Break **10 minutes**

Specific Questions (continued) **90 minutes**

- Did the subject answer your specific question?
- Did the subject answer your question with a question?

Break **10 minutes**

Specific Questions (continued)

30 minutes

- Ask the subject if he committed the act.
- Back them up in their story.
- After interview questions.

4. Case Review

50 minutes

Total

480 minutes

D. TEXT

The students will receive a Statement Analysis® workbook that will contain the information listed in this Course Agenda. The workbook will also contain statements the students will have to analyze.

E. REQUIREMENTS

The students will spend time analyzing deceptive language found in statements of known liars. The students will then demonstrate they can apply the Statement Analysis® techniques to statements in which they do not know if the person is being truthful or deceptive.

Jason Kowalski

Jason Kowalski is from Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council.