 

Date: April 14, 2020

Brothers and Sisters,

Let me begin by expressing my gratitude to everyone for the opportunity to once again, serve as the President of Louisiana Association of Arson Investigators (LAAI) #42. I am humbled to be able to represent such an outstanding organization with such dedicated Public and Private Fire Investigators. I will always be available to hear any questions, concerns, or opportunities that can improve our organization and its members.

During these uncertain times of the COVID-19 Pandemic, I hope all is well with you and your families. Over the past two months, I have been closely monitoring the day-to-day changes of the effects to the citizens of Louisiana by COVID-19 and I will continue to do so through the remainder of this Pandemic. Historically, we have had the Northern Training between April and June of each year. At this point, I believe, for the best interest of our members and their families, we suspend any attempt to have it during these months. With that said, the Southern Training day is scheduled to take place on October 1, 2020. Should things drastically improve with the COVID-19 Pandemic, this would give us time to prepare to have the Northern Training between June and September. As always, these decisions will be made during the normal meeting of the Chapter’s Board.

A Survey Monkey® survey will be sent out in the next few weeks, asking for input on several topics related to trainings and the Chapter. A reminder email will be sent out the day before to alert everyone. Please utilize this survey to convey any input you feel will benefit the LAAI.

In closing, Please remember to wash or sanitize your hands regularly, especially during fire investigations. As the weather gets warmer, our bodies naturally sweat more. This increases the need to use our hands to wipe the sweat away from our eyes and off our face. Be cognizant of your actions while conducting interviews. This may require the use of an approved mask to protect you and the person(s) being interviewed. Remember, we are all in this together. Always know that we can depend on each other for guidance, suggestions or just for friendly conversation during these uncertain times of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Eric A. Bacon,

President - LAAI