

National Institute of Justice

Award Title: Forensic Investigation Techniques for Inspecting Electrical Conductors Involved in Fire

Award Description:

The goal of this research project is to study the formation and identification of arc-beads encountered within fire and arson investigations. Fire and arson investigators, often rely on the appearance of electrical wires and the presence of electrical activity (e.g. arc-beads) on wires to assess the potential involvement of the wires or attached appliances in the initiation of the fire. The main objective of this research is to determine if distinguishing characteristics exist between energized and non-energized wires exposed to various types of thermal exposures. By understanding the formation of arc-beads and the characteristics associated with their formation, this research can help investigators identify if a fire was initiated by an electrical malfunction or by arson.

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Awardee Name: Combustion Science & Engineering, Inc.

Award Number: 2010-DN-BX-K246

Solicitation Title: NIJ FY 10 Research and Development on Instrumental Analysis for Forensic Science Applications

Fiscal Year: 2010

Amount: \$205,087.00

Earmark: No

Recovery Act: No

State/Territory: MD

County: Howard

Congressional District: 03

Award Status: Closed