# Title 火災事故調查的標準 - 從威林厄姆案例學習 The Standard for Fire Investigation - What we learn from the Willingham's Case? Description Speaker Mr. Bobbie KK CHEUNG, Senior Chemist, Government Laboratory. Mr. Cheung obtained his BSc in Chemistry and MPhil in Biochemistry, both from the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He is a Member of the Royal Society of Chemistry, a Chartered Chemist and a Chartered Scientist (CSci CChem MRSC). He is also a member of the Forensic Science Society in UK (MFSSsoc) and a holder of the Diploma in Fire Investigation (FSSocDip) from the Forensic Science Society, UK. Abstract A fire investigation is a complex endeavour involving skill, technology, knowledge, and science. The compilation of factual data, as well as an analysis of those facts, should be accomplished objectively and truthfully. While the methods and procedures employed by fire investigators in the fire scene investigation are built on sound knowledge of fire science and technology, whether the whole investigation process can be treated as being conducted systematically according to robust scientific method is still under dispute. In this seminar the methods and procedures that are used in fire scene investigation will be reviewed by using the disputed case of Willingham fire\*. The increasing demand on establishing an international standard for fire investigation will be discussed. \*This controversial fire case occurred in Corsicana, Texas on December 1991, in which Cameron Todd Willingham was accused of setting the fire to kill his three daughters. Cameron Todd Willingham was convicted of murder based on the fire scene investigation findings and was executed by lethal injection on February 17, 2004. **Event date** 29-JUN-2010 Assembly Place & Auditorium, Kowloon Tong Fire Station, 3 Baptist University Road, Kowloon Tong, Time Kowloon / 1815-2000 Fee Free of Charge Contact Person Mr. LU Chau-ming

Please send email to < gr142@netvigator.com > for reservation on or before

Light refreshment will be served before the seminar.

Contact Email

Contact Tel

Contact Fax

Remarks

25.6.2010

9205 9942

Nil

## 火災事故調查的標準 - 從威林厄姆案例學習

## The Standard for Fire Investigation - What we learn from the Willingham's Case

### Abstract:

A fire investigation is a complex endeavour involving skill, technology, knowledge, and science. The compilation of factual data, as well as an analysis of those facts, should be accomplished objectively and truthfully. While the methods and procedures employed by fire investigators in the fire scene investigation are built on sound knowledge of fire science and technology, whether the whole investigation process can be treated as being conducted systematically according to robust scientific method is still under dispute. In this seminar the methods and procedures that are used in fire scene investigation will be reviewed by using the disputed case of Willingham fire\*. The increasing demand on establishing an international standard for fire investigation will be discussed.

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#### Speaker:

Mr. Bobbie KK Cheung has been a practising forensic scientist since 1989 when he joined the Forensic Science Division of the Hong Kong Government Laboratory. Mr. Cheung obtained his BSc in Chemistry and MPhil in Biochemistry, both from the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He is a Member of the Royal Society of Chemistry, a Chartered Chemist and a Chartered Scientist (CSci CChem MRSC). He is also a member of the Forensic Science Society in UK (MFSSsoc). Mr. Cheung received his fire investigation training from the University of Edinburgh and the Metropolitan Forensic Science Laboratory, London, UK (MPFSL). He also attached to Fire Investigation Unit of the MPFSL as part of his training in 1994. He is a holder of the Diploma in Fire Investigation (FSSocDip) from the Forensic Science Society, UK. Mr. Cheung has more than twenty years of fire investigation experience and took part in a wide range of forensic investigation casework including many complex and difficult fire cases such as the Garley Building fire and the Top One Karaoke Fire. He has given evidence as an expert witness in courts of law in Hong Kong on numerous occasions.