



**FFAI Skill Sheet 6.1 Evidence Collection and Preservation © Revised 4-29-19**

**NFPA 1033 Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigator 2014 Edition**

**NFPA 921 Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations 2017 Edition**

**Candidate:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Reference Source **NFPA 1033 2014 Edition 1.3.7 (8, 9, 10, 15), 4.2.6, 4.4.2, 4.4.3, 4.4.4, 4.4.5, NFPA 921 2017 Chapter 17**

**Expected Completion Time: 30 Minutes**

**TASK: 4.2.6** Examine and remove fire debris, given standard equipment and tools, so that all debris is checked for fire cause evidence, potential ignition source(s) is identified, and evidence is preserved without investigator-inflicted damage or contamination. **4.4.2** Locate, document, collect, label, package, and store evidence, given standard or special tools and equipment and evidence collection materials, so that it is properly identified, preserved, collected, packaged, and stored for use in testing, legal, or other proceedings and examinations, ensuring cross contamination and investigator-inflicted damage to evidentiary items is avoided and the chain of custody is established. **4.4.3** Select evidence for analysis, given all information from the investigation, so that items for analysis support specific investigation needs. **4.4.4** Maintain a chain of custody, given standard investigative tools, marking tools, and evidence tags or logs, so that written documentation exists for each piece of evidence and evidence is secured. **4.4.5** Dispose of evidence, given jurisdictional or agency regulations and file information, so that the disposal is timely, safely conducted, and in compliance with jurisdictional or agency requirements.

**PERFORMANCE OUTCOME:** The fire investigator shall identify, document and remove debris, evidence and potential ignition sources, perform proper packaging and labeling to establish and maintain a chain of custody and evaluate items for forensic, engineering, or laboratory analysis.

**EQUIPMENT REQUIRED:** Appropriate Personal Protective Equipment, common tools, supplies and equipment

**CONDITIONS:** Given a prepared fire scene the candidate shall:

No.	TASK STEPS	FIRST TEST		RETEST	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
1.	<b>Insure the scene is safe and shall don the appropriate level of PPE for the hazards present and to prevent cross contamination</b>				
2.	Identify and deploy a systematic search process				
3.	<b>Identify and protect any visible potential evidence</b>				
4.	<b>Search debris utilizing techniques that incorporates documentation, proper collection and preservation of evidence</b>				
5.	Identify areas requiring further debris analysis and perform appropriate techniques for identifying evidence of interest				
6.	<b>Identify item(s) for analysis and determine what type of evaluation is necessary</b>				
7.	Utilize packaging/labeling appropriate for the type of evidence being collected				
8.	<b>Establish an appropriate chain of custody form and evidence log</b>				
9.	<b>Execute the transmittal of evidence and maintain chain of custody</b>				
10.	<b>Verbalize and document the appropriate procedure for disposal of evidence</b>				
<b>Total:</b>		<b>/8</b>		<b>/8</b>	

***BOLD=Critical Criteria that must be successfully completed.  
Skills must be completed with >75% pass rate. (6/8)***



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_____ <b>Examiner</b> (Print & Sign)	_____ <b>Date</b>	_____ <b>Candidate</b>	_____ <b>Date</b>
_____ <b>Retest Examiner</b> (Print & Sign)	_____ <b>Date</b>	_____ <b>Candidate</b>	_____ <b>Date</b>