Joseph Panagiotou has a background in fire protection engineering. He earned his B.S and M.S from the University of Maryland's fire protection engineering department in 2004. Joseph currently works for the National Transportation Safety Board where he began as a coop student in 2002. At present, Joseph works in the NTSB's Materials Laboratory Division as a fire and explosion accident investigator and has participated in numerous accidents both in aviation and other modes of transportation. Joseph's interests within the field are in the areas of material flammability testing and fire suppression and detection systems.