



The Crime Scene

Module 2
Part 1 – Introduction to the Crime Scene
The First Responder

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FSC-101
Forensic Science in Criminal Investigation

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1

CRIME CLASSIFICATIONS

- Homicide
- Sexual Assault
- Aggravated Assault & Battery
- Breaking & Entering (B&Es)
- Robbery & Larceny
- Arson
- Drug Abuse (CDS) Violations
- DWI Violations
- Motor Vehicle Theft
- Suspicious Death
- Weapon Law Violations
- Liquor Law Violations

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2

The Crime Scene

Most Important & Major Source of Physical Evidence.

Each Crime Scene:

- Unique
- Highly Dynamic
- Fragile
- Frequently requires special handling

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3

The Crime Scene & Physical Evidence

1. First Officer at the Crime Scene.
2. The Crime Scene Investigator.
3. Processing the Crime Scene.
4. Jurisprudence in Forensic Science

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4

Crime Scene

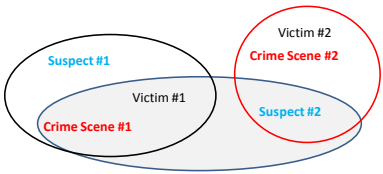
- Crime Scene is Dynamic.
- Success depends on First Officer.
- Where most physical evidence is obtained.

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5

Secondary Crime Scene

- Multiple Scenes
- Multiple Victims
- Multiple Suspects



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6

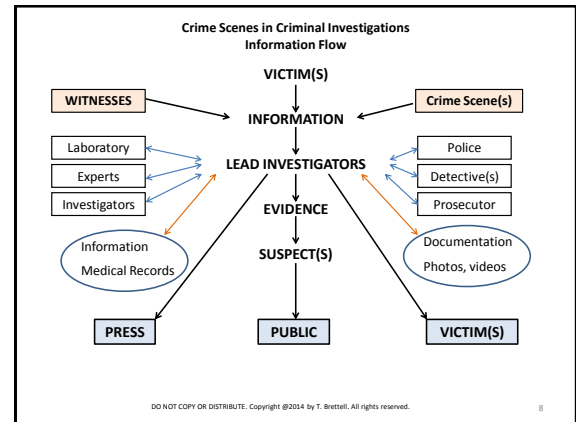
The Crime Scene

“Team Effort”

- 1. Coordination.**
- 2. Technical Services.**
- 3. Investigative Services.**

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7



8

First Officer at the Scene

“The Process” or ARISN

- 1) Approach**
- 2) Render medical aid.**
- 3) Identify victims/witnesses.**
- 4) Secure scene/physical evidence.**
- 5) Notifications.**

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9

Approach

- Do not approach scene hastily.
- Be calm/deliberate.
- Basic Rule: Anticipate worst – caution.
- Be aware of suspects possible path.
- Assess the situation ASAP.

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Rendering Medical Aid

- Save human life/prevent additional injury.
- Instruct EMTs how to enter scene.
- If victim is moved – officer should go.
- Arrange for correct removal.
 - eg. Custody of clothing

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Dead Person at the Scene

- Note signs of death.
 - Rigormortis
 - Odor
 - Lividity
 - Decomposition
 - Insects, etc.

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12

Death Cases

- Homicide
- Suicide
- Accidental
- Natural Causes

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13

In cases of Strangulation:

- Where unmistakable signs of death are visible – do nothing.
- If danger rope may break – support corpse.
- If death is not obvious – attempts must be made to save life.

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14

Identifying victims/witnesses

Why?

Additional victims may need first aid.
Can provide additional information.
Corroborate events.
Where discarded evidence may be.

Separate Witnesses

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15

The Crime Scene

1. Secure & Isolate Scene.

1st Officer

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Secure Scene/Physical Evidence

- Establish perimeter and protect
 - Outside/inside or both? How extensive?
 - As soon as possible.
 - From everyone!
 - 1st Officer should remain at scene.

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17

Notifications

- Follow departmental guidelines.
- Notify supervisors.
- Notify investigators.
- Notify Medical Examiner.
 - ME has jurisdiction of body.
 - If body removed – note condition/position, etc.

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18

What to do until Investigators arrive:

- Write down names of witnesses & others.
- Who was at the scene when 1st officer arrived.
- Establish basic facts...who, what, where, when, how?
- Keep suspect and witnesses separated
 - Family members?

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19

What to do until Investigators arrive

- Instruct witnesses not to discuss events.
- Do not discuss the crime with witnesses/bystanders.
- Listen attentively but unobtrusively.
- Protect evidence that is in danger of being destroyed.
- Report all knowledge and facts to Investigator.

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20

**Guide- Preliminary Steps for 1st Responder
at the Crime Scene**

- **P**roceed promptly and safely
- **R**ender aid
- **E**ffect required notifications
- **L**ocate witnesses
- **I**nvestigate and secure scene
- **M**aintain scene control
- **I**nterview witnesses
- **N**ote conditions
- **A**rrest suspects
- **R**eport accurate and complete details
- **Y**ield to crime scene investigators

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21