

**Crime Scene Photography/ Diagramming**

Facilitator Guide

**Session Overview**

Introduction & Learning Objectives	10m
<b>Group Presentations</b>	1h30m
<b>ASSIGNMENT</b> - Montages/Line Ups/Sketches	10m
End of Session/ Break	10m

***Total Session Time: 2 hours******This particular session focuses on:***

- *Crime Scene Photography*
- *Crime Scene Diagramming*

***Facilitators Needed: 1(CI)******Locations:***

- *Classroom*

***Materials Needed:***

- *None*

***Students Should Already Have:***

- *Notebook*
- ***[THUMB DRIVE]***
- *REPORT FORM – Photo Log*
- *HANDOUT – Crime Scene Photography – Step-by-Step*
- *HANDOUT - Photographic Evidence in Court*



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## Learning Objectives:

- Explain the purpose behind crime scene photography.
- List and describe the three types of crime scene photos to be taken.
- Describe how to take photographs of evidence that is not easily photographable.
- Explain why creating a crime scene diagram is beneficial in addition to taking photographs.
- Demonstrate the triangulation and baseline/coordinate method of crime scene diagramming.
- List the 4 Rules for Court Acceptable Photos.
- List the information that should be included in every diagram.



**STUDY MATERIAL** - HANDOUT - Crime Scene Photography Step-by-Step [THUMB DRIVE]  
 - HANDOUT - Photographic Evidence in Court [THUMB DRIVE]

Instructions: Students already have this material on their thumb drives. Advise students they may be tested on this material.



## NOTE TO FACILITATOR - Introduction (5m)

- Remind students of the “Golden Rule” of Crime Scene Investigations -
  - Don't touch anything until the items have been marked, photographed and diagrammed.
- Briefly discuss that photographing a scene is done because we are trying to provide a permanent record of the scene and evidence collected.
- Ask students, “What do you do first, photograph or diagram evidence?”
  - Answer - Photograph
- Discuss with students that when investigating a crime scene, they are trying to make the most comprehensive record of the scene as possible and photographing and diagramming helps do just that.



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**GROUP EXERCISE - Squad Presentations (1hr 30m)**

Students were given this assignment at the end of MOD 04 / SES 10 and should be ready to give their 7-9 minute presentations by squad complete with visual aids.

- **Squad 1 -**
  - State V. Hayden
    - How does this case apply to crime scene photography?
    - Give background on case.
  - 4 Rules for Court Acceptable Photos
- **Squad 2 -**
  - Logistics of Crime Scene Photography
    - (3) Basic Rules
    - Overall, Mid-Range, Close-Up
    - Photographing Injuries
    - Crime Scene Photo Log
      - What is included?
- **Squad 3 -**
  - Photographing the scene
    - What do you capture in crime scene photos?
    - When do you begin to photograph the crime scene?
    - What should photos not be or do? What type of photos should not be taken?
    - What setting should the camera be on to take close-up photos?
- **Squad 4 -**
  - Triangulation and Baseline/ Rectangular Coordinate
    - Describe how each of these are done and when to use them.
    - How to measure a body?
    - How to measure inanimate objects?
    - What to include in a diagram?
- **Squad 5 -**
  - How is a legend completed on a diagram? What is a legend?
  - Provide an overview of each of the three following sketches:
    - Projection
    - Cross Projection
    - Detailed



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## NOTE TO FACILITATOR

During presentations, facilitate discussion so that the following key points are hit if not covered by students:

- Photographing difficult situations - i.e. evidence in a bush
- For example, a weapon in a spot where you cannot photograph it, you would photograph the general area first.
- Sketches/ Diagrams are not to scale
- When to photograph - Before search is conducted, during search as items are found, and after search exit or damage photos.
- 4 Rules for Court Acceptable Photos (*testable*)
  - Do not disturb the scene
  - Get a complete series of photos
  - Pay attention to camera angles
  - Accurately record data
- Reference points for measurements need to be included in sketch and legend.
- Person who is diagramming must confirm measurements visually before logging them.
  - Why? Because they will need to testify to them in court.
- Baseline recommended for distances of 30 feet and under.
- Every piece of evidence in a crime scene that is sketched/ diagrammed must have enough recorded measurements so that anyone looking at the item can determine the size and location of each item identified.
- The rough sketch made at the scene should be filed with the case along with final version of diagram/ sketch.



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**ASSIGNMENT – Due for MOD 05 / SES 12 – ID PROCESS** *(Give out at end of class)*

**Prepare a 7-9 minute presentation on assigned topic. Must incorporate visual aids and all members of squad must participate.**

- **Squad 1 -**
  - Photographic Montages
    - Preparing the montage
    - Presenting the montage
- **Squad 2 -**
  - Photographic Montages
    - Documenting the montage process
    - Problems with montages
    - Future of montages
- **Squad 3 -**
  - One-on-one field show-ups
  - When to use the field show-up
  - How do you administer the one-on-one show-up?
- **Squad 4 -**
  - Documenting the one-on-one show-up process
  - Suspect movement exceptions
- **Squad 5 –**
  - Overall understanding of physical line-ups and suspect sketches.

**Remind students to cite their sources. Does not have to be in a specific format, but reference does need to be made to where information was gotten from.**



**BREAK/END OF SESSION**

