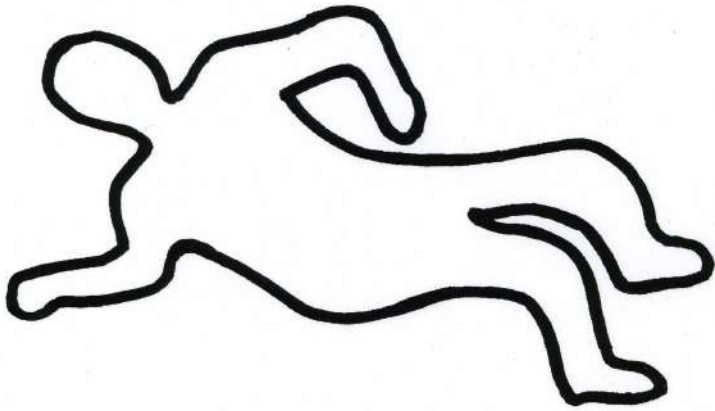


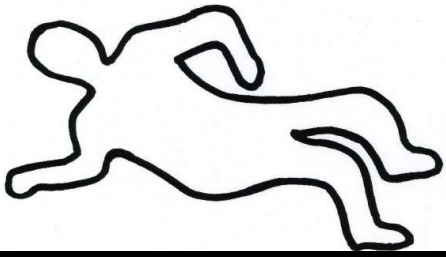
Chapter 3: **THE CRIME SCENE**

CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS — CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS



“Oh, how simple it would all have been had I been here before they came like a herd of buffalo and wallowed all over it.”

—A. Conan Doyle, in *The Boscombe Valley Mystery*, 1892



CRIME SCENE

CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS — CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS

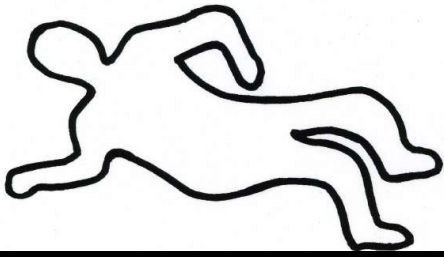


Students will learn:

- The steps to take when processing a crime scene.
- That type of evidence determines what packaging should be used.
- Why the chain of custody must be preserved.

Students will be able to:

- Isolate, record, and search for evidence at a mock crime scene.
- Collect and package evidence at a mock crime scene using to proper forensic procedures.



CORPUS DELICTI

“Body of the Crime”

CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS — CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS

👤 You must prove

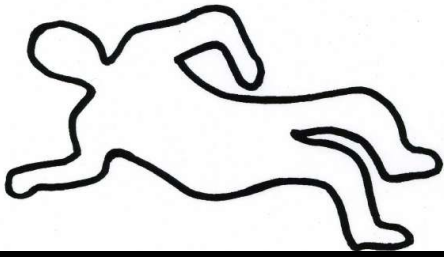
- that a crime occurred
- that the person charged with the crime was responsible for the crime

♦ Top Reasons for Committing a Crime

- Money
- Revenge
- Emotion—love, hate, anger

♦ Source of Evidence

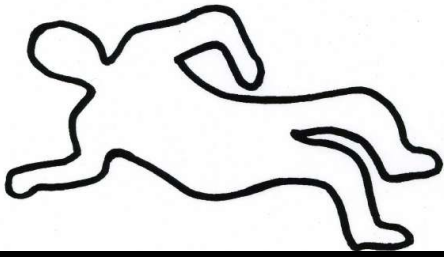
- Body
- Primary and/or Secondary Crime Scene
- Suspect(s)



CRIME SCENE TEAM

CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS — CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS

- A group of professional investigators, each trained in a variety of special disciplines.
- Team Members
 - First Police Officer on the scene
 - Medics (if necessary)
 - Investigator(s)
 - Medical Examiner (if necessary)
 - Photographer and/or Field Evidence Technician
 - Lab Experts



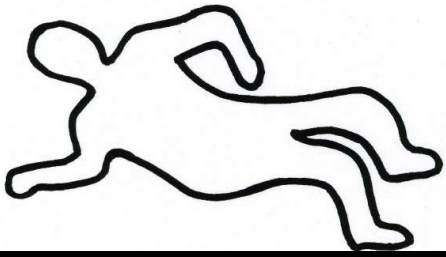
CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION

CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS — CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS

👤 Based on the scientific method and the Locard Exchange Principle, logic and forensic techniques

👤 *Involves:*

- **Recognition**—scene survey, documentation, collection
- **Identification**—comparison testing
- **Individualization**—evaluation and interpretation
- **Reconstruction**—reporting and presenting

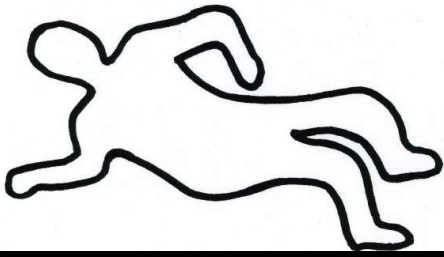


PROCESSING A CRIME SCENE

CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS — CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS

- Isolate and secure the scene
- Document the scene
- Search for evidence
- Collect and package evidence, maintaining the chain of custody
- Submit evidence to the crime lab



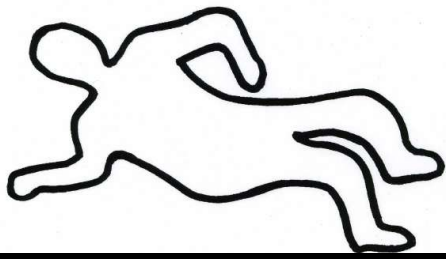


FIRST OFFICER ON THE SCENE

CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS — CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS



- ♦ **A** Assess the crime scene and assist those hurt
- ♦ **D** Detain the witness
- ♦ **A** Arrest the perpetrator
- ♦ **P** Protect the crime scene
- ♦ **T** Take notes



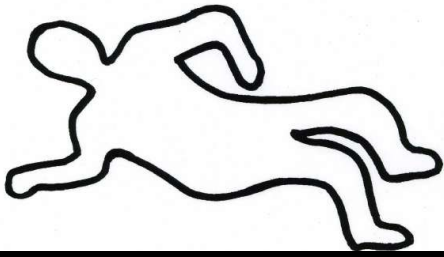
CRIME SCENE SURVEY

CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS — CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS

Walk-through—performed by the crime scene investigator, the first officer and sometimes the lead detective

Purpose:

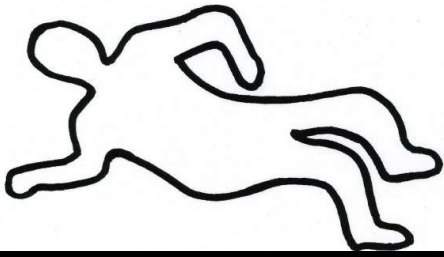
- Mentally prepare a reconstruction theory
- Note any transient or conditional evidence that could change over time.
- Note weather conditions
- Note points of entry or exit, as well as paths of travel within the crime scene
- Record initial observations of who, what, where, when, and how
- Identify special needs within the crime scene for personnel, precautions or equipment and notify superior officers or other agencies



DOCUMENTATION

CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS — CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS

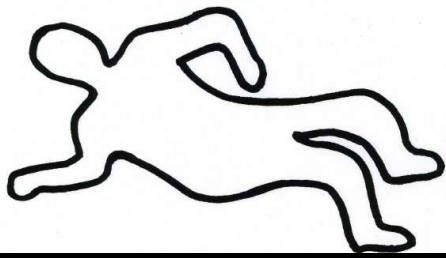
- **Notes**—date and time, description of the location, weather and environmental conditions, description of the crime, location of the evidence relative to other key points, the names of all people involved, modifications that have occurred and other relevant information
- **Photography**—photos of scene and surroundings, mid-range to close-up photos with various angles of each piece of evidence, photos as viewed by any witnesses.
- **Sketches**—inclusion of date, time, scale, reference points, distance measurements, names of investigators, victims, suspects, and a legend (key)
- **Videography**—allows narration (non-subjective) to be included



SEARCH METHODS

CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS — CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS

- **Line or strip method**—best in large, outdoor scenes
- **Grid method**—basically a double-line search; effective, but time-consuming
- **Zone method**—most effective in houses or buildings; teams are assigned small zones for searching
- **Wheel or ray method**—best on small, circular crime scenes
- **Spiral method**—may move inward or outward; best used where there are no physical barriers

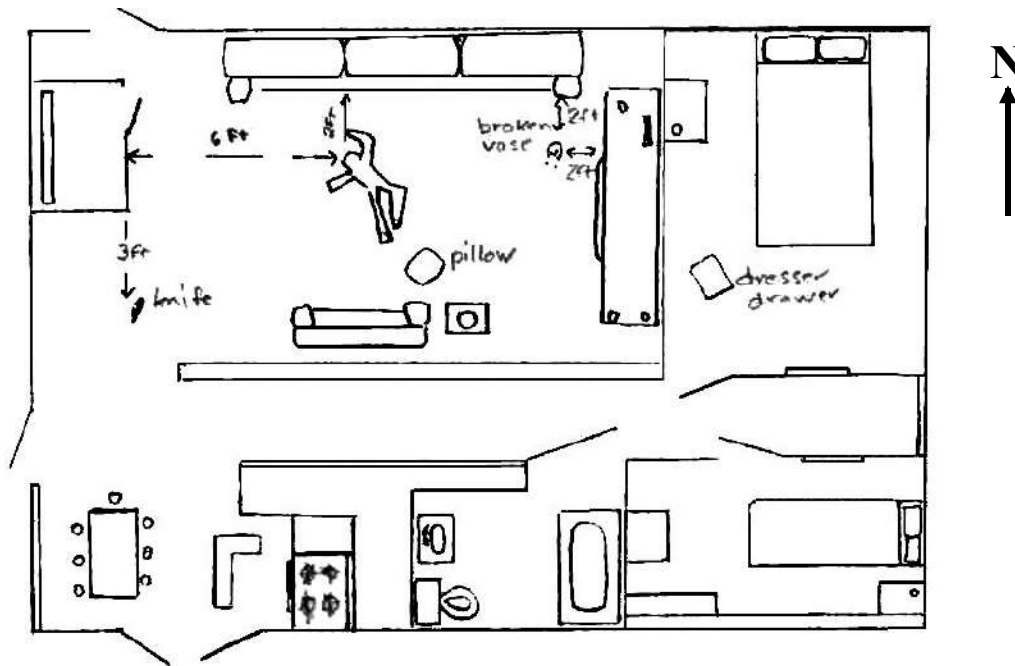


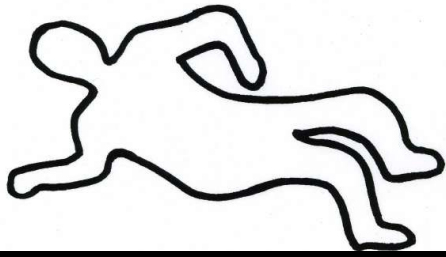
CRIME SCENE SKETCH

CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS — CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS

Date: August 14, 2005 Criminalist: Ann Wilson

Time: 11:35 am Location: 4358 Rockledge Dr, St. Louis, Mo.

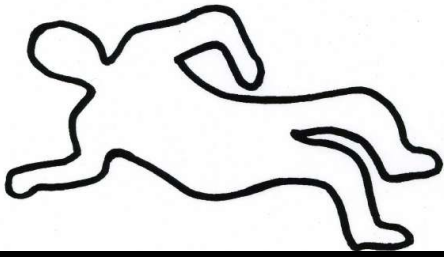




COLLECTING AND PACKAGING EVIDENCE

CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS — CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS

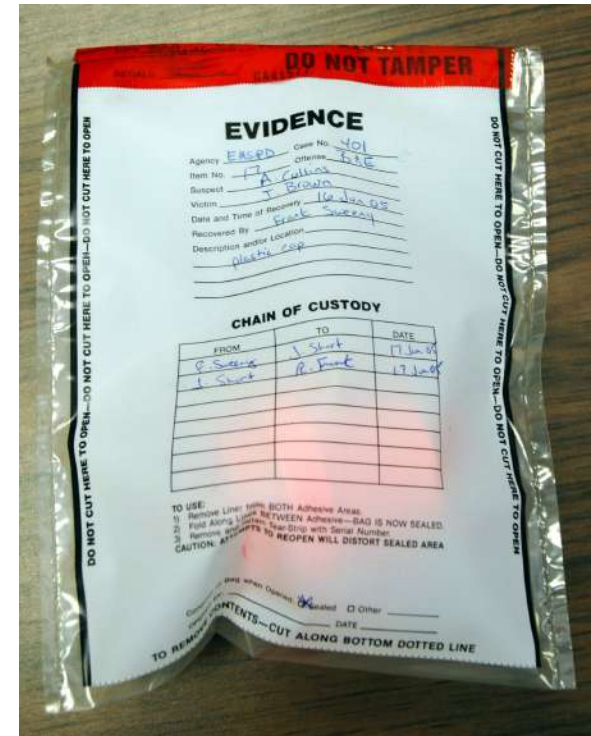
- One individual should be designated as the evidence collector to ensure that the evidence is collected, packaged, marked, sealed, and preserved in a consistent manner
- Each item must be placed in a separate container, sealed, and labeled
- Most fragile is collected and packaged first
- Different types of evidence require specific or special collection and packaging techniques
- The body is the property of the coroner or medical examiner. The collection of evidence on the body is done by that department

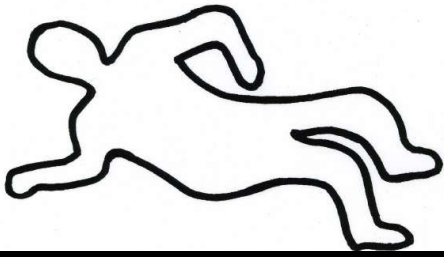


PACKAGING

CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS — CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS

Most items should be packaged in a primary container and then placed inside a secondary one. These are then placed inside other containers such as paper bags, plastic bags, canisters, packets and envelopes depending on the type and size of the evidence.



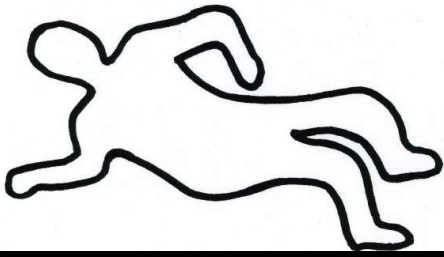


CHAIN OF CUSTODY

CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS — CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS

There must be a written record of all people who have had possession of an item of evidence.

- The evidence container must be marked for identification
- The collector's initials should be placed on the seal
- If evidence is turned over to another person, the transfer must be recorded.

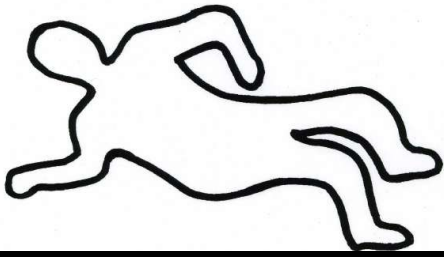


CRIME SCENE RECONSTRUCTION

CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS — CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS

Stages

- Data collection
- Hypothesis formation
- Examination, testing and analysis
- Determination of the significance of the evidence
- Theory formulation



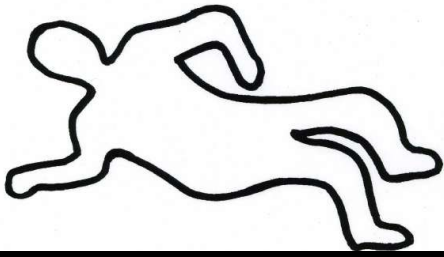
INVESTIGATORS

CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS — CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS

“The wise forensic investigator will always remember that he must bring all of his life experiences and logic to find the truth. This means common sense, informed intuition, and the courage to see things as they are. Then he must speak honestly about what it adds up to.”

—Dr. Henry Lee

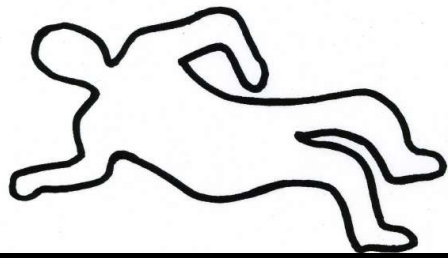
Chief Emeritus for Scientific Services and the
former Commissioner of Public Safety for the state of Connecticut



THE MEDICAL EXAMINER AND THE CORONER

CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS — CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS

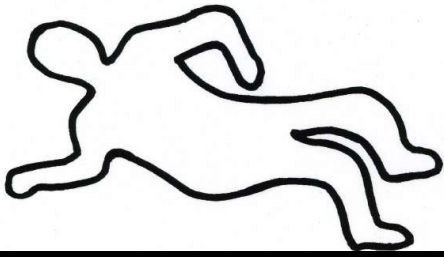
- A medical examiner is a medical doctor, usually a pathologist and is appointed by the governing body of the area. There are 400 forensic pathologists throughout the U.S.
- A coroner is an elected official who usually has no special medical training. In four states, the coroner is a medical doctor.



MEDICAL EXAMINER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS — CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS

- Identify the deceased
- Establish the time and date of death
- Determine a medical cause of death—the injury or disease that resulted in the person dying
- Determine the mechanism of death—the physiological reason that the person died
- Classify the manner of death
 - Natural
 - Accidental
 - Suicide
 - Homicide
 - Undetermined
- Notify the next of kin

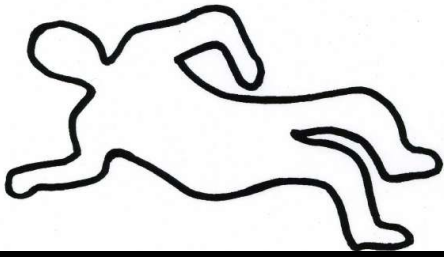


THE CORPSE

CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS — CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS

“The way I see it, being dead is not terribly far off from being on a cruise ship. Most of your time is spent lying on your back. The brain has shut down. The flesh begins to soften. Nothing much new happens, and nothing is expected of you.”

—Mary Roach. Stiff. W. W. Norton & Company. 2003



PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS — CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS

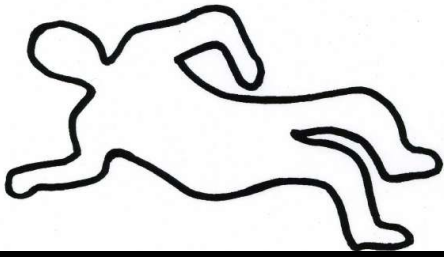
Dr. Michael M. Baden is a renowned pathologist and was the Chief Medical Examiner in NY City and for Suffolk County.

Dr. Baden was on the panel that investigated the assassinations of president John F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He has been involved as an expert in forensic pathology in many cases of international interest including:

- The remains of Tsar Nicholas of Russia and his family
- The Claus Von Bulow murder trial
- Expert witness for the defense in the O.J. Simpson trial
- Re-autopsy of Medgar Evers, Civil Rights leader
- Re-examination of the Lindberg Kidnapping and murder
- Autopsies of the victims of TWA Flight 800

Dr. Baden is the host of HBO's Autopsy series and is featured on many of the crime talk shows.





MORE INFORMATION

CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS — CRIME SCENE — DO NOT CROSS

For additional information on crime scene investigation, check out Court TV's Crime Library:
www.crimelibrary.com/criminal_mind/forensics/crimescene/5.html

On Michael Baden and the autopsy:
www.crimelibrary.com/criminal_mind/forensics/autopsy/1.html