

Physical Evidence Case Studies Project

- 1) Select one type of evidence from the list below.

Anthropology (bones)	Glass	Ballistics (firearms)
Blood or blood spatter	Hair	Handwriting
Botanical (plants)	Dental impressions	Saliva or semen
Dental impressions	DNA	Soil or sand
Shoe or foot impressions	Drugs	PMI (rigor mortis, algor mortis, livor mortis)
Entomology (insects)	Tire impressions	Fibers or textiles
Forgery	Tool marks	Fingerprints
Other		

- 2) Select one authentic case study which has not been discussed in class that describe how your selected type of evidence was used to help solve the crime. Complete an *In-Depth Case Study Notes Form* (attached) for the case you selected. This form requires you to indicate basic information you've collected on the case as well as additional information such as the motive for the crime, how the evidence was used to solve the crime, and a crime-scene photo or sketch.
- 3) Research how to properly photograph, document, collect, label, and store the physical evidence that you are highlighting in your in-depth study. Prepare a training manual for crime-scene investigators in any of the following formats: brochure, video, poster, original animation, or booklet.

In-depth Case Study

Case Study Number	
Name of case	
Name of Plaintiff(s)	
Name of Dependant(s)	
Where was crime committed?	
Date and Approximate Time Crime Was Committed	
Synopsis of case	
Motive for Crime	
How was your selected physical evidence used to solve the crime?	
Bibliography	
Include Crime-Scene photo or sketch as a separate attachment.	

Evidence Collection Notes Form

Type of Physical Evidence
Proper method of evidence collection
Proper method of evidence labeling, documenting, and photographing
Proper method of evidence storage (plastic bag, brown bag, or glass jar)
Name of in-depth study
Describe how the evidence in this in-depth case study was collected, labeled, and recorded.
Describe any errors you identified in the evidence collection, labeling, and recording.

Death Notes Form (fill out if there was a death in your case study)

Name of Case	
Name of Victim	
Manner of Death	
Cause of Death	
Mechanism of Death	
Estimated Time of Death or PMI	
Describe how time of death was calculated.	
*Complete a form for each death.	