**HOMICIDE**

Arrival at scene  
  
1 .Enter scene by route least likely to disturb evidence, noting route of travel  
2 .Check victim for signs of life. Breathing, neck area for pulse  
3 .Note time of arrival  
4 .Lining victim  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. Summons medical assistance  
2. Dying Declarations  
  
5 .Conscious Victim: If victim is conscious, attempt to obtain the following information  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. Who did this to you?  
2. If name of assailant not known to victim, commence identification by description man, woman, race, height, weight, color of hair, eyes, type of clothing, etc.  
3. Establish the fact that the victim knows that he/she is dying  
  
6 .Unconscious Victim: If victim is unconscious on arrival at scene Make sure that a police officer remains with victim at all times, including trip to hospital so that any dying declarations made during conscious periods can be noted  
7 .Upon arrival at hospital alert medical personnel of a possibility of dying declarations Request them to note same if made during operative period  
8 .Request to be notified if victim regains consciousness so that you will be present when any dying declarations made  
  
  
Removal of victim from scene  
  
1 .Before removal  
2 .Officer accompanying victim to hospital should collect victim's clothing and personal effects as they become available.  
3 .Officer receiving items should carefully note time received and the identity of person from whom items were received.  
4 .If Necessary for identification items handled by physicians, nurses should be marked by those persons and the chain of custody noted. This is particularly important with items such as bullets, etc. Medical personnel should not attempt to identify caliber or types of firearms used.  
5 .NOTE: - A failure to follow up on collecting items that left the crime scene with the victim may cause their loss or render them useless as evidence.  
  
  
Notify command of situation  
  
1 .Notify command of your agency. Request Assistance  
2 .Notify command of your agency. Request Assistance  
3 .Notify or request notification of DA representative. Only for legal questions, do not allow a lawyer to get involved in the actual investigation. Their training limits them to the providing advice on legal issues only.  
4 .Notify or request notification of medical examiner.  
  
  
Secure Scene  
  
1 .Block or rope off scene (A Bigger is better)  
2 .Persons at scene  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. a) Clear unauthorized person from the scene. NOTE: You cannot worry about hurting someone’s feelings. If they do not belong tell them to leave. This must include any unauthorized police command.  
2. Prevent anyone from touching the body or disturbing anything pending the arrival of the medical examiner, identification personnel, and investigative officers.  
  
3 .Witnesses  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. Note name and address of persons present  
2. Obtain brief statement from each person present  
3. Hold witnesses until arrival of investigators.  
4. Keep witnesses separate to prevent conversation  
5. Prevent destruction of fragile evidence such footprints, tire, tracks, etc...  
  
4 .Process Scene  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. CAUTION - Be aware that there are search and seizure problems in this area. If in doubt you may wish to contact your DA regarding a warrant or other advice.  
2. NOTE: - At night - Obtain adequate lighting before scene processing commences. Artificial lighting used must be adequate for photography and for minute detail search for items such as hair, cartridge cases, etc...  
3. WHEN LIGHTING NOT AVAILABLE secure scene under guard and wait for daylight before processing is commenced.  
  
  
  
Identification Personnel (Technical Investigators)  
  
1 .Note Time of arrival  
2 .Note weather conditions, especially at outdoor crime scenes.  
3 .Check perimeter of scene to insure that all of scene is secured.  
4 .Obtain summary of situation from officer in charge.  
5 .Photograph scene Take color photographs of the scene from all angles. Work from the perimeter to center (Include photographs of entrance, exit routes to scene.)  
6 .REMEMBER - There is no such thing as too many photographs of a crime scene.  
7 .Make sure that all possible locations relevant to scene are photographed. Particularly important that all rooms a scene are photographed.  
8 .REMEMBER - Something may have happened in an adjoining room that will be critical importance as the investigation develops.  
9 .Photograph specific items of evidence such as footprints, cartridge cases, weapons, etc. as observed in place at scene. Where scale is important (footprints, tire tracks use ruler scale to show size).  
10 .Overhead photographs  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. Should be taken of outdoor scenes, including streets, intersection. These can be invaluable in constructing scale representation of scene.  
2. Extension ladders, power company and fire trucks should be utilized for this purpose.  
  
11 .Video Tap  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. Video tape recordings should be made of scene where possible.  
2. Include videotape shots of collecting evidence, examining victim at scene.  
3. Also video tape defendant, witnesses.  
  
12 .Photograph victim at scene  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. Color photographs should be taken of deceased from all angles.  
2. Photograph deceased as items are removed from body identification, clothing, etc.  
3. Photograph substances on body and clothing of deceased such as blood, seminal fluid, powder residue, etc. These should include full length and close-ups.  
4. Photograph wounds, injuries - include close-ups. This should be done step by step as body examined, disrobed by medical examiner at scene.  
  
13 .Make careful note of following  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. Position of body  
2. Position, condition of clothing  
3. Location of substances on deceased and his clothing  
4. Any alteration of deceased’s position before your arrival as determined from witnesses or officers.  
  
14 .Survey Scene  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. Take careful measurements of the scene. Measure each room in a house NOTE: it is very hard to return later to a scene if you do not have a warrant.  
2. Use a reference point is permanent.  
  
  
  
Search of Scene  
  
1 .Deceased  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. Before removing examine deceased for physical evidence Example: loose hairs, fibers, etc.  
2. Place deceased on a cloth sheet, move body shortest possible distance  
3. Examine the ground underneath the victim  
4. Examine deceased for additional physical evidence that may become visible after movement.  
5. Collect physical evidence from deceased to include personal effects, clothing, shoes, weapons, etc.  
  
2 .Scene area  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. Organize scene search by adopting specific plan. Assign tasks, areas of search to individual officers.  
2. Assign ONE officer to collect, mark and transport items found.  
3. Execute search by carefully following plan of assigned tasks.  
4. Note, mark and photograph location of objects found such as latent: Fingerprints, footprints, tire tracks, tool marks, hair, fragments of cloth, buttons, cigarette butts, cartridge cases, bullet holes, bullets, bloodstains, etc.  
5. Collect, mark evidence. REMEMBER - When collecting evidence DO NOT overlook such items as room furniture, doors, etc. That can be used to reconstruct crime scene in court.  
6. Preserve items of evidence individually. i. Do not place separate items of evidence in same container. (Example: mixing items of clothing in one bag can compromise evidence such as head or pubic hair when the location of such items on a particular garment is critical. ii. Use correct container - molded plastic container for blood. Paper bindle for hair or fiber. Paper bag for bloody items. Never put evidence that may decompose or deteriorate into a plastic bag. iii. Provide information to lab personnel concerning source of item, what test you desire performed. Make contact with the lab personnel and give a brief account of what your investigation shows.  
  
  
  
Process Defendant  
  
1 .Photograph Defendant  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. Show any injuries or lack of injuries  
2. Show his clothing and general appearance  
3. Show hands(Both sides)  
4. Show any tattoos or scars  
  
2 .Take any evidence that you are entitled to   
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. Public combing if rape case  
2. Any item that is on the clothing and could be lost  
3. Obtain warrant for blood and hair samples  
  
3 .Autopsy Processing  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. Arrange through the medical examiner the transportation of the victim to morgue  
2. Medical Examiner investigator or police officer should be present during the autopsy  
3. If possible before autopsy take finger and palm prints of deceased. If not then once the autopsy is completed get the prints.  
4. Pick up any evidence that was obtained during the autopsy, blood samples, hair samples, fingernail scrapings, bullets  
5. NOTE: Place each item in a separate container. Paper bags are best. Each container should be marked, dated and initialed  
  
4 .Investigative Personnel  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. Obtain summary of situation from officer at scene.  
2. Check scene security and take steps necessary to correct and errors or omissions, if any.  
3. Review all actions of officers on the scene  
4. Initiate Investigation from the beginning  
  
5 .Determine identity of deceased  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. Identification on person of deceased  
2. Relatives  
3. Witnesses  
4. Fingerprints  
  
6 .Attempt to reconstruct events at crime scene by use of the following:  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. Position of body  
2. Number, location of wounds  
3. Trajectory of bullets  
4. Bloodstains, substances  
5. Other signs of violence  
6. Other physical evidence at scene  
  
  
  
Organize Investigation  
  
1 .Assign specific tasks to individual officers  
2 .Supervise execution of assigned officers  
3 .Receive, Record and Index information received from investigators Establish case book to include the following:  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. i. Index of contents  
2. ii. Initial reports  
3. iii. Follow up reports  
4. iv. Evidence reports  
5. v. Medical reports  
6. vi. Witness statements  
7. vii. Defendants statements  
8. viii. Background on defendant  
9. ix. Background on deceased  
10. x. Evidence Log Book  
11. xi. Books of photographs  
  
4 .Provide Copies of case book for principal Investigators DA's office  
5 .Keep casebook current by distributing new reports, etc., as available  
6 .Communicate information To your investigators to other agencies to PIO  
  
  
Obtained Detailed Statements  
  
1 .Defendant  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. Advise of MIRANDA RIGHTS using card  
2. Have defendant initial or sign rights card or get a verbal acknowledgment that defendant understands right  
3. Video tape or record that defendant's statement i. Your choice if you tell defendant he/she is being recorded. ii. Turn tape from the start. iii. Questions should be designed to answer the unanswered questions that you have about the case. iv. If lawyer is present you must control the interview.  
  
2 .Witnesses  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. Use your discretion as to video a witness or not i. Do tape if witness is reluctant ii. Not necessary if witness is cooperative iii. Unfortunately cost of tapes must be considered.  
  
3 .Establish movements of deceased prior to death to determine:  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. Time last seen alive  
2. Who with  
3. Doing what  
4. Location  
  
4 .Examine deceased’s background, including the following:  
  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS  
1. Relatives  
2. Friends  
3. Employment  
4. Possible criminal record or activities  
5. Finances  
6. Possible romantic involvements  
7. Possible use of narcotics  
8. Gang involvement