



# 7 Steps of Crime Scene Investigation

**Ms. Sidhvita Kaithepaalli**  
**Assistant Professor &**  
**Ph.D Scholar in Forensic Science**



# Introduction

- Crime scene investigation is a critical process in forensic science that ensures justice is served through the proper handling of evidence.
- The 7 essential steps, starting from recognizing that a crime has occurred to presenting forensic findings in court, provide a structured and scientific approach to investigating crimes.
- Each step plays a vital role in preserving the integrity of the evidence and establishing the truth, ultimately supporting the legal process from crime scene to courtroom.



# 7 Steps of Crime Scene Investigation

## (From Crime Scene to Courtroom)

1. Recognition
2. Preservation
3. Documentation
4. Collection
5. Identification
6. Comparison
7. Interpretation and Presentation



# 1. Recognition

- Identify that a crime has occurred.
- Observe and detect potential physical evidence.
- Begin initial assessment of the scene.





## 2. Preservation

- Secure the crime scene to prevent contamination or loss of evidence.
- Maintain integrity of the scene using barriers and logs.
- Limit access to authorized personnel only.



# 3. Documentation

- Record the scene through photographs, sketches, and written notes.
- Capture the position and condition of evidence before collection.
- Ensure accurate and detailed representation for later reference.



## 4. Collection

- Systematically search and recover physical evidence using proper techniques.
- Package and label each item correctly.
- Maintain chain of custody from scene to lab.



# 5. Identification

- Analyze collected evidence to determine its nature (e.g., blood, fibers, tool marks).
- Use forensic science methods such as DNA, fingerprints, or chemical testing.
- Confirm that evidence is relevant to the crime.



# 6. Comparison

- Compare unknown evidence with known samples (e.g., suspect's DNA or weapons).
- Establish connections or exclusions.
- Support investigative leads and hypotheses.



# 7. Interpretation & Presentation

- Interpret findings in context of the case.
- Prepare expert reports and testify in court.
- Present evidence clearly, objectively, and scientifically.



# Conclusion

- The 7 steps of crime scene investigation form the backbone of a successful forensic inquiry.
- By following a systematic approach—from recognizing the crime to presenting evidence in court—investigators ensure that all procedures are scientifically valid and legally sound.
- This method not only upholds the integrity of the evidence but also strengthens the pursuit of justice by transforming physical clues into compelling courtroom testimony.



Thank You