

SQL MURDER MYSTERY: “WHO KILLED THE CEO?”

CAPSTONE PROJECT AS A PART OF
21-DAYS SQL CHALLENGE

1. Identified the crime location & exact timeline using evidence timestamps

```
4  SELECT
5    *
6  FROM evidence
7 WHERE room = 'CEO Office';
8
```

	evidence_id	room	description	found_time
▶	1	CEO Office	Fingerprint on desk	2025-10-15 21:05:00
	2	CEO Office	Keycard swipe logs mismatch	2025-10-15 21:10:00
*	NULL	NULL	NULL	NULL

2. Analyzed who accessed the CEO's Office near the murder time

```
14 •  SELECT
15      kl.log_id,
16      kl.employee_id,
17      e.name,
18      kl.room,
19      kl.entry_time,
20      kl.exit_time
21  FROM keycard_logs kl
22  JOIN employees e ON kl.employee_id = e.employee_id
23 WHERE kl.entry_time BETWEEN '2025-10-15 20:48:00' AND '2025-10-15 21:10:00'
24  AND kl.room = 'CEO Office';
```

Result Grid					
log_id	employee_id	name	room	entry_time	exit_time
11	4	David Kumar	CEO Office	2025-10-15 20:50:00	2025-10-15 21:00:00

3. Cross-verified alibis with actual movements using keycard logs

```
40 * WITH
41   claims AS (
42     SELECT employee_id, claimed_location, claim_time
43     FROM alibis
44     WHERE claim_time BETWEEN '2025-10-15 20:40:00' AND '2025-10-15 21:10:00'
45   ),
46   actual AS (
47     SELECT employee_id, room, entry_time, exit_time
48     FROM keycard_logs
49     WHERE entry_time BETWEEN '2025-10-15 20:40:00' AND '2025-10-15 21:10:00'
50   )
51   SELECT
52     c.employee_id,
53     e.name,
54     c.claimed_location,
55     a.room AS actual_room,
56     a.entry_time,
57     a.exit_time
58   FROM claims c
59   LEFT JOIN actual a
60     ON c.employee_id = a.employee_id
61     AND (c.claim_time BETWEEN a.entry_time AND a.exit_time)
62   JOIN employees e ON c.employee_id = e.employee_id
63   WHERE c.claimed_location <> a.room
64   ORDER BY c.employee_id;
```

RowIndex	Filter Rows	Insert	View Cell Content		
employee_id	name	claimed_location	actual_room	entry_time	exit_time
1	David Kumar	Server Room	CEO Office	2025-10-15 20:50:00	2025-10-15 21:00:00

4. Investigated suspicious phone calls made around the critical 20:50–21:10 window

```
68 •  SELECT
69      c.*,
70      e1.employee_id,
71      e1.name AS caller_name,
72      e2.employee_id,
73      e2.name AS receiver_name
74  FROM calls c
75  JOIN employees e1 ON c.caller_id = e1.employee_id
76  JOIN employees e2 ON c.receiver_id = e2.employee_id
77 WHERE c.call_time BETWEEN '2025-10-15 20:50:00' AND '2025-10-15 21:10:00'
78 ORDER BY c.call_time;
```

	call_id	caller_id	receiver_id	call_time	duration_sec	employee_id	caller_name	employee_id	receiver_name
+	1	4	1	2025-10-15 20:55:00	45	4	David Kumar	1	Alice Johnson

5. Matched evidence with movement patterns

```
86 •   SELECT
87       ev.evidence_id,
88       ev.room,
89       ev.description,
90       ev.found_time,
91       k.employee_id,
92       em.name,
93       k.entry_time,
94       k.exit_time
95   FROM evidence ev
96   LEFT JOIN keycard_logs k ON ev.room = k.room
97       AND k.entry_time BETWEEN ev.found_time - INTERVAL 30 MINUTE AND ev.found_time
98   JOIN employees em ON k.employee_id = em.employee_id
99   WHERE ev.room = 'CEO Office'
100  ORDER BY ev.found_time;
101
```

evidence_id	room	description	found_time	employee_id	name	entry_time	exit_time
1	CEO Office	Fingerprint on desk	2025-10-15 21:05:00	4	David Kumar	2025-10-15 20:50:00	2025-10-15 21:00:00
2	CEO Office	Keycard swipe logs mismatch	2025-10-15 21:10:00	4	David Kumar	2025-10-15 20:50:00	2025-10-15 21:00:00

6. Consolidated all findings to pinpoint the killer

```
149 * WITH
150   employee_details AS (
151     SELECT *
152     FROM employees
153   ),
154   key_card_logs AS (
155     SELECT employee_id
156     FROM keycard_logs
157     WHERE entry_time BETWEEN '2025-10-15 20:40:00' AND '2025-10-15 21:20:00'
158   ),
159   alibis_found AS (
160     SELECT employee_id, claimed_location
161     FROM alibis
162     WHERE claim_time BETWEEN '2025-10-15 20:40:00' AND '2025-10-15 21:20:00'
163   ),
```

```
164   sus_call AS (
165     SELECT DISTINCT caller_id AS employee_id
166     FROM calls
167     WHERE call_time BETWEEN '2025-10-15 20:50:00' AND '2025-10-15 21:20:00'
168     UNION
169     SELECT DISTINCT receiver_id AS employee_id
170     FROM calls
171     WHERE call_time BETWEEN '2025-10-15 20:50:00' AND '2025-10-15 21:20:00'
172   )
173   SELECT
174     ed.*
175     FROM employee_details ed
176     JOIN key_card_logs kcl ON ed.employee_id = kcl.employee_id
177     JOIN alibis_found af ON ed.employee_id = af.employee_id
178     JOIN sus_call sc ON ed.employee_id = sc.employee_id;
```

	employee_id	name	department	role
▶	4	David Kumar	Engineering	DevOps Engineer