

Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training

Basic Curriculum Model Lesson Plan

LESSON TITLE: CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION 5.2 (PRACTICAL)

SUBJECT:	Crime Scene Investigation (Practical)
AZ POST DESIGNATION:	5.2
HOURS:	
COURSE CONTENT:	<p>An outline of the principles common to all types of investigations with emphasis on the importance of the preliminary stage of an investigation. Topics covered include: Protecting the crime scene, identifying the crime involved, conducting a proper search, sketching the crime scene, recording and preserving notes and synthesizing information into a final report. The proper attitude of an officer, the importance of witnesses, the need for accurate data collection and the necessity of a thorough evaluation of the complaint are discussed. This lesson plan covers the practical field scenarios and evaluations.</p>
PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES:	<p>Upon completion of this course of instruction, students using notes, handouts and other support materials as references, within the allotted time, will demonstrate their ability to perform basic crime scene investigation duties under simulated field conditions by:</p> <p>5.2.1 Given a simulated crime scene, <i>demonstrate</i> the ability to conduct a preliminary investigation that minimally includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Identifying and containing the perimeter of the crime scene.B. Identifying and interviewing victims, witnesses and suspects.C. Protecting the crime scene.D. Locating pre-designated physical evidence through the use of the strip/grid, spiral, quadrant or point-to-point search method.E. Collecting and marking/tagging such evidence.F. Taking appropriate enforcement action.

- G. Recording crime scene notes which include:
 - 1. Observations of significant conditions present upon arriving at the scene.
 - 2. Identification of victims, witnesses, suspects and other persons present at the scene.
 - 3. Chronological order of actions taken at the scene.
 - 4. Any actions taken with reference to identifying, preserving or handling evidence.

- H. Completing a field sketch which includes:
 - 1. Identification of items of evidence.
 - 2. Identification of reference points.
 - 3. Location and measurements of items of evidence in relation to reference points.
 - 4. Disclaimer that a sketch is not drawn to scale.
 - 5. Identification of northerly direction.
 - 6. Identification of the location of the crime scene.
 - 7. Report number and officer identification.

- I. Requesting appropriate specialized assistance (e.g., detectives, crime lab, coroner's office, narcotics unit, tracking dogs, air support, fire department, etc.).

DATE FIRST PREPARED: August 2009

PREPARED BY: AZPOST DATE: August 2009

REVIEWED BY - **REVISED**: AZPOST (DocX) DATE: December 2021

REVIEWED BY - REVISED: DATE:

REVIEWED BY - REVISED: DATE:

ACADEMY DISTRIBUTION DATE: DATE:

AZ POST APPROVAL: Lori Wait DATE: December 2021

INSTRUCTOR REFERENCES:

CLASS LEVEL: Student

TRAINING AIDS:

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGY: Practical exercises with simulated crime scenes.

SUCCESS CRITERIA: Practical exercises with simulated crime scents.

DATE RELEASED TO THE SHARE FILE: May 27, 2022