

# **DOCUMENTING THE CRIME SCENE: NOTE TAKING, PHOTOGRAPHING AND SKETCHING**

CHAPTER  
2  
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Test Bank

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## Chapter 2

# Documenting the Crime Scene: Note Taking, Photographing and Sketching

### Multiple Choice

1. Which are permanent written records of the facts of a case to be used in further investigation, in writing reports and in prosecuting the case?
    - a. field notes
    - b. tape recordings
    - c. investigative notes\* (p. 42, Learning Objective: Explain why notes are important in an investigation.)
    - d. stenographer notes
  2. Record all information that helps to answer the questions of
    - a. Who? What? Which? When? How? and Why?
    - b. Who? What? Where? When? How? and Why?\* (p. 43, Learning Objective: Discuss what to record.)
    - c. Which? When? Why? Where? and How many?
    - d. Why? When? and Why or why not?
  3. When taking notes, the investigator should
    - a. ignore unimportant items.
    - b. write only the important items.
    - c. learn to select key facts and record them in abbreviated form.\* (p. 44, Learning Objective: Discuss what to record.)
    - d. never take notes but always memorize things verbatim and record them later.
  4. One of the disadvantages of photographs is that
    - a. they can be taken immediately and thus the crime scene processors have not prepared the scene.
    - b. they are not selective.\* (p. 47, Learning Objective: Compare and contrast advantages and disadvantages of crime scene photography and videography.)
    - c. they are not admissible into court.
    - d. they are only allowed in court if black and white.
  5. When taking photographs/videotape, the investigator should
    - a. take the primary points of concern or interest.
    - b. take only those shots wanted by the prosecutor.
    - c. examine the scene from all sides and take only the sides of the crime scene that show the best view.
    - d. take sufficient photographs and/or videotape to reconstruct the entire scene.\* (p. 50, Learning Objective: Determine what to photograph at a crime scene and in what sequence.)
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6. Types of investigative photography include
    - a. crime scene and mug shots.
    - b. aerial, night and laboratory pictures.
    - c. lineup photographs and those related to crime scenes.
    - d. all of these choices.\* (p. 51, Learning Objective: Compare and contrast the types of photography used in criminal investigations.)
  7. Which of the following does a crime scene sketch accomplish?
    - a. accurately portrays the physical facts
    - b. relates to the sequence of events at the scene
    - c. establishes the precise location and relationship of objects and evidence at the scene
    - d. all of these choices\* (p. 56, Learning Objective: Explain the various purposes of crime scene sketches.)
  8. The basic purpose of field notes is to
    - a. show the officer was at the scene.
    - b. show the date and time of the incident.
    - c. record all facts of the incident.\* (p. 45, Learning Objective: Describe characteristics of effective notes.)
    - d. all of these choices.
  9. The amount of notes taken is determined by
    - a. the conditions of each case.\* (p. 43, Learning Objective: Discuss what to record.)
    - b. whether the crime is a felony or not.
    - c. department policy and procedure.
    - d. calls for service.
  10. Which plotting method establishes a straight line from one fixed point to another fixed point from which measurements are taken at right angles?
    - a. baseline\* (p. 60, Learning Objective: Differentiate between the different plotting methods used in sketches.)
    - b. rectangular-coordinate
    - c. triangulation
    - d. cross-projection
  11. The photographic technique in which a scene is photographed clockwise, with the first picture showing a specific object on one side of the photograph and the next picture showing the same object on the opposite side of the photograph, is called
    - a. scoping.
    - b. cross-projection photography.
    - c. overlapping.\* (p. 50, Learning Objective: Determine what to photograph at a crime scene and in what sequence.)
    - d. triangulation.
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12. The Bertillon identification system includes
- a written description of a person.
  - a person's complete criminal record.
  - a photograph.
  - both a written description of a person and a photograph.\* (p. 54, Learning Objective: Compare and contrast the types of photography used in criminal investigations.)
13. Which type of camera is more likely to result in convictions?
- Polaroid
  - medium-format camera
  - point-and-shoot camera
  - video camera\* (p. 48, Learning Objective: Decide on proper photographic equipment needed.)
14. Which of the following is *not* a disadvantage of photographs?
- They do not show actual distances.
  - They are not selective.
  - They may be distorted.
  - Photographs are always admissible in court.\* (p. 47, Learning Objective: Compare and contrast advantages and disadvantages of crime scene photography and videography.)
15. According to a national video forensics expert, what is the "new DNA for law enforcement"?
- fingerprints
  - tire tracks
  - footprints
  - video analysis\* (p. 52, Learning Objective: Compare and contrast advantages and disadvantages of crime scene photography and videography.)
16. The main problem with night photography is
- lack of color.
  - shadows.
  - the cost of calling out a photographer.
  - proper illumination.\* (p. 53, Learning Objective: Describe technical errors to avoid.)
17. Admissible photographs must be
- noninflammatory.
  - material.
  - relevant.
  - all of these choices.\* (p. 55, Learning Objective: Illustrate the basic rules to which evidence photographs must adhere.)
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18. Photographs should be taken
    - a. before officers leave the scene.
    - b. only after the investigators complete a crime scene sketch.
    - c. before tending to emergencies, to show the “true” scene as officers found it.
    - d. before anything is disturbed.\* (p. 51, Learning Objective: Describe technical errors to avoid.)
  
  19. Sketch all serious crime and crash scenes
    - a. after taking photographs.
    - b. before anything is moved.
    - c. both after taking photographs and before anything is moved.\* (p. 57, Learning Objective: Identify what evidence to sketch.)
    - d. neither after taking photographs nor before anything is moved.
  
  20. Many agencies fail to do this with those tasked with videotaping a crime scene:
    - a. provide enough videotape.
    - b. provide adequate training.\* (p. 47, Learning Objective: Compare and contrast advantages and disadvantages of crime scene photography and videography.)
    - c. provide adequate supervision.
    - d. provide enough portable power sources.
  
  21. Photographs should be taken in the following order:
    - a. specific objects, specific area, general area.
    - b. specific area, general area, specific objects.
    - c. general area, specific area, specific objects.\* (p. 50, Learning Objective: Determine what to photograph at a crime scene and in what sequence.)
    - d. micro to macro in all cases.
  
  22. This type of photography may be best used for extensive, large-scale, outside areas:
    - a. flash photography.
    - b. aerial photography.\* (pp. 52–53, Learning Objective: Compare and contrast the types of photography used in criminal investigations.)
    - c. painting with light.
    - d. walking flash.
  
  23. Writing on the back of your photographs to identify them later is referred to as
    - a. stacking.
    - b. backing.\* (p. 55, Learning Objective: Illustrate the basic rules to which evidence photographs must adhere.)
    - c. cataloging.
    - d. back-dating.
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24. Showing the relationship between evidence on the walls and the floors of a room, by flattening out the walls on the sketch, allowing the viewer to look straight down into the sketch, is best done using which of the following methods?
- compass-point
  - cross-projection\* (p. 61, Learning Objective: Differentiate between the different plotting methods used in sketches.)
  - rectangular-coordination
  - doll-house
25. Which type of photography is often used to establish the identity of a subject, a location and in some cases criminal behavior?
- surveillance\* (pp. 51–52, Learning Objective: Compare and contrast the types of photography used in criminal investigations.)
  - infra-red
  - digital
  - mobile
26. Which process would enlarge the evidence to be viewed?
- microphotography
  - macrophotography\* (p. 54, Learning Objective: Compare and contrast the types of photography used in criminal investigations.)
  - paleontology
  - odontology
27. In which direction should the top of a sketch be oriented?
- west
  - north\* (p. 58, Learning Objective: Write the steps to take in making a rough sketch.)
  - south
  - east
28. Crime scene photographs are
- substitutes for sketches.
  - substitutes for notes.
  - better than sketches.
  - none of these choices.\* (p. 56, Learning Objective: Explain the various purposes of crime scene sketches.)
29. Providing proof that the image introduced into evidence is the same image taken at the crime scene is referred to as
- redundancy.
  - image authentication.\* (p. 56, Learning Objective: Illustrate the basic rules to which evidence photographs must adhere.)
  - concrete evidence.
  - pictometry.
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30. A sketch drawn or personally witnessed by an investigator that accurately portrays a crime scene and that is allowed into evidence is referred to as what type of sketch?
- freehand
  - exculpatory
  - admissible\* (p. 67, Learning Objective: Clarify when a sketch or a scale drawing is admissible in court.)
  - courtroom
31. Which of the following statements about photographic resolution is *not* true?
- Resolution is commonly quantified by pixels.
  - An image photographed with a high-resolution camera, if printed on a low-resolution printer, will not show fine detail clearly.
  - A megapixel is roughly equivalent to a thousand dots.\* (p. 50, Learning Objective: Describe technical errors to avoid.)
  - A low-resolution image, if enlarged too much, will lose quality.
32. Record in notes the following items at the crime scene:
- services rendered.
  - weather conditions.
  - name, address and phone number of every person present.
  - all of these choices.\* (pp. 43–44, Learning Objective: Discuss what to record.)
33. Which type of photograph would best capture the immediate crime scene and the location of objects in the area or room?
- long-range shot
  - medium-range shot\* (p. 51, Learning Objective: Determine what to photograph at a crime scene and in what sequence.)
  - close-range shot
  - none of these choices
34. A major advance is the ability of computer software to stitch together digital photos of 180 degrees or more to create one 360-degree photo—a panoramic view of a crime scene that is interactive, allowing viewers, including jury members, to walk through it as though they were there. This type of 360-degree photographic view is called
- an aerial view.
  - an exploded view.
  - immersive imaging.\* (p. 49, Learning Objective: Compare and contrast the types of photography used in criminal investigations.)
  - walkthrough imaging.

35. What should be photographed first?
- the deceased
  - weapons
  - fragile evidence\* (p. 50, Learning Objective: Determine what to photograph at a crime scene and in what sequence.)
  - witnesses
36. According to the *Handbook of Forensic Services*, what should be used when photographing latent prints?
- flash and marker
  - ruler and a pencil
  - tripod and cable release\* (p. 48, Learning Objective: Decide on proper photographic equipment needed.)
  - macrolens and flashlight set at an oblique angle
37. These cameras are specially constructed to take pictures of fingerprints without distortion. They provide their own light through four bulbs, one in each corner. Removing a bulb from any corner provides slanted lighting to show fingerprint ridge detail. They are
- tripod cameras.
  - fingerprint cameras.\* (p. 48, Learning Objective: Decide on proper photographic equipment needed.)
  - backlit cameras.
  - blacklight cameras.

### True/False

38. Digital photographs can create a virtual scene similar to Pictometry. (True, p. 53, Learning Objective: Compare and contrast the types of photography used in criminal investigations.)
39. Evidence not discernible to the naked eye can be detected by laser-beam photography. (True, p. 54, Learning Objective: Compare and contrast the types of photography used in criminal investigations.)
40. Notes are not admissible in court. (False, p. 46, Learning Objective: Explain why notes are important in an investigation.)
41. The purpose of a marker in a photograph is to show the location of the specific object being photographed. (False, p. 51, Learning Objective: Determine what to photograph at a crime scene and in what sequence.)
42. Microphotography is useful in criminal investigations because it renders bruises and injuries visible long after their actual occurrence. (False, p. 54, Learning Objective: Compare and contrast the types of photography used in criminal investigations.)



43. The first step in sketching a crime scene is to outline the area and the crime. (False, p. 57, Learning Objective: Write the steps to take in making a rough sketch.)
44. The basic purpose of crime scene photography is to record the entire crime scene permanently.\* (True, p. 46, Learning Objective: Discuss purposes of crime scene photography.)
45. The basic purpose of note taking is to convict and punish offenders. (False, p. 45, Learning Objective: Describe characteristics of effective notes.)
46. A notebook is only a temporary report to record facts and has no real evidentiary value in itself. (False, p. 46, Learning Objective: Describe characteristics of effective notes.)
47. The advantages of videos include accurate representation of a crime scene and evidence, ability to show distance and sound capability to more fully document what is being seen. (True, p. 47, Learning Objective: Compare and contrast advantages and disadvantages of crime scene photography and videography.)
48. Photographs and videotapes reproduce the crime scene in detail primarily for presentation to the media. (False, p. 46, Learning Objective: Discuss purposes of crime scene photography.)
49. Digital cameras have not yet been approved for court use for crime scene photography. (False, pp. 47–48, Learning Objective: Decide on proper photographic equipment needed.)
50. To be admissible in court, photographs must be material, relevant, competent, accurate, free of distortion and noninflammatory. (True, p. 55, Learning Objective: Illustrate the basic rules to which evidence photographs must adhere.)
51. The first rough crime scene sketch is often an extremely important investigative aid. (True, p. 56, Learning Objective: Explain the various purposes of crime scene sketches.)
52. It is best to include every possible detail in a crime scene sketch. (False, p. 57, Learning Objective: Identify what evidence to sketch.)
53. Cameras may be stored wherever they are most readily available for use. (False, p. 49, Learning Objective: Decide on proper photographic equipment needed.)
54. Digital recorders are rapidly replacing notebooks in law enforcement note taking. (False, p. 43, Learning Objective: Discuss what to record.)
55. Note taking should never, under any circumstance, be delayed or postponed. (False, p. 42, Learning Objective: Demonstrate when to take notes.)

56. Checklists are a critical aspect of the law enforcement function, especially when it comes to crime scene photography. (True, p. 51, Learning Objective: Describe technical errors to avoid.)
57. If an item of evidence has inadvertently been moved before being photographed, put it back immediately and then resume taking photos. (False, p. 51, Learning Objective: Describe technical errors to avoid.)
58. Ultraviolet-light photography is used to document bite marks, neck strangulation marks and other impressions left from intentional injuries. (True, p. 54, Learning Objective: Compare and contrast the types of photography used in criminal investigations.)
59. The rough sketch must always be drawn to scale. (False, p. 57, Learning Objective: Write the steps to take in making a rough sketch.)
60. It is important to take crime scene photographs from eye level. (True, p. 51, Learning Objective: Describe technical errors to avoid.)

### Completion

61. One of the ways a crime scene sketch can be used to assist an investigation is to \_\_\_\_\_ people. (interview, p. 56, Learning Objective: Explain the various purposes of crime scene sketches.)
  62. \_\_\_\_\_ is commonly used in outdoor scenes but can also be used indoors. This process of locating evidence or other items uses straight-line measures from two fixed objects. (Triangulation, p. 60, Learning Objective: Differentiate between the different plotting methods used in sketches.)
  63. A sketch that is drawn or personally witnessed by an investigator, that accurately portrays a crime scene and that is introduced as evidence is referred to as a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ sketch. (admissible, p. 67, Learning Objective: Clarify when a sketch or a scale drawing is admissible in court.)
  64. Mug shots can be used in \_\_\_\_\_ lineups to help identify suspects. (photographic, p. 54, Learning Objective: Compare and contrast the types of photography used in criminal investigations.)
  65. Writing your initials, the date the photo was taken, what the photo depicts and the direction of north on the back of a photograph is a procedure called \_\_\_\_\_. (backing, p. 55, Learning Objective: Illustrate the basic rules to which evidence photographs must adhere.)
  66. The plotting method restricted to square or rectangular areas is the \_\_\_\_\_-coordinate method. (rectangular, p. 60, Learning Objective: Differentiate between the different plotting methods used in sketches.)
  67. A crime scene sketch contains, among other things, the scale of the sketch, the direction of north and the name of the person making the sketch. This is referred to as the \_\_\_\_\_. (legend, p. 63, Learning Objective: Write the steps to take in making a rough sketch.)
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68. The technique in which a scene is photographed clockwise, with the first picture showing an object on the right side of the photograph and the next picture showing the same object on the left side of the photograph, is called \_\_\_\_\_. (overlapping, p. 50, Learning Objective: Determine what to photograph at a crime scene and in what sequence.)
69. Take \_\_\_\_\_ shots first because they are the most subject to alteration by weather and security violations. (exterior, p. 50, Learning Objective: Determine what to photograph at a crime scene and in what sequence.)
70. To overcome defense challenges that a digital image was altered or otherwise tampered with, investigators must rigorously maintain the \_\_\_\_\_. (chain of custody, p. 55, Learning Objective: Illustrate the basic rules to which evidence photographs must adhere.)
71. Enhanced surveillance capability can be provided by using \_\_\_\_\_, thereby collecting critical intelligence without exposing officers. (robots, p. 52, Learning Objective: Decide on proper photographic equipment needed.)

### Short Answer

72. When should the investigator start taking notes? (p. 42, Learning Objective: Demonstrate when to take notes.)
73. What type of items would one photograph in a laboratory? (pp. 53–54, Learning Objective: Compare and contrast the types of photography used in criminal investigations.)
74. What is immersive imaging? (p. 49, Learning Objective: Compare and contrast the types of photography used in criminal investigations.)
75. What kind of camera is useful for photographing trace evidence such as bloodstains and tool marks? (p. 48, Learning Objective: Decide on proper photographic equipment needed.)
76. What are trip cameras, and what are they used for? (p. 48, Learning Objective: Decide on proper photographic equipment needed.)
77. What typically determines where and how notes are to be filed? (p. 45, Learning Objective: Decide which notes to retain and where to file them.)
78. Imagine you are at the scene of a car accident involving two vehicles and a pedestrian. What evidence would you sketch? (p. 57, Learning Objective: Identify what evidence to sketch.)
79. When creating a scale drawing of a crime scene, what does an officer need to consider in order for the drawing to be admissible in court? (pp. 66–67, Learning Objective: Clarify when a sketch or a scale drawing is admissible in court.)
80. Briefly outline the six steps in making a sketch of a crime scene. (pp. 57–63, Learning Objective: Write the steps to take in making a rough sketch.)

81. Imagine you are at the scene of a homicide. The victim was murdered on the sidewalk in front of a public building on a busy street. Briefly record the photographs you need to take, and in what order they should be taken. (pp. 50–51, Learning Objective: Determine what to photograph at a crime scene and in what sequence.)
82. Explain what conditions a photograph needs to satisfy in order to be admitted as evidence in court. (pp. 55–56, Learning Objective: Illustrate the basic rules to which evidence photographs must adhere.)
83. How long does evidence, including photographic evidence, need to be kept? (p. 45, Learning Objective: Decide which notes to retain and where to file them.)
84. When would it be appropriate to use surveillance photography? (pp. 51–52, Learning Objective: Compare and contrast the types of photography used in criminal investigations.)
85. What are some of the advantages of videos? (p. 47, Learning Objective: Compare and contrast advantages and disadvantages of crime scene photography and videography.)
86. What are some of the disadvantages of videos? (p. 47, Learning Objective: Compare and contrast advantages and disadvantages of crime scene photography and videography.)