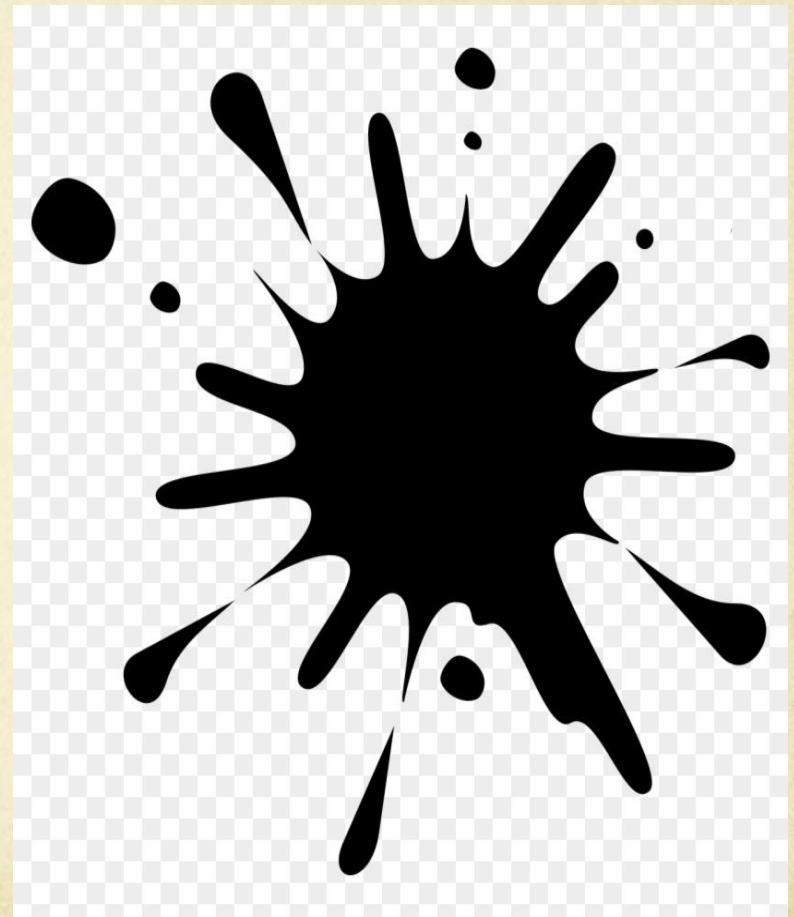


# Introduction to the Crime Scene

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# What Is Forensics?

- Again, Forensic Science is the application of Science to Both Criminal and Civil Law!
- Investigators establish or exclude association between a suspect and a victim or a crime How?
- We search for trace material
- But, what is trace material?





# Examples of Trace Evidence

- Blood
- Saliva
- Semen
- Body fluids
- Paints
- Glass
- Footprints
- Tire impressions
- Flammable material
- Hair
- Fibers and drugs





# Basic Crime Scene Procedures

- Physical Evidence recognition
- Documentation
- PROPER COLLECTION AND CHAIN OF POSSESSION
- **Remember**- this is where OJ's team tore the case apart- they could not beat the evidence, so they showed how the collection of the evidence was compromised





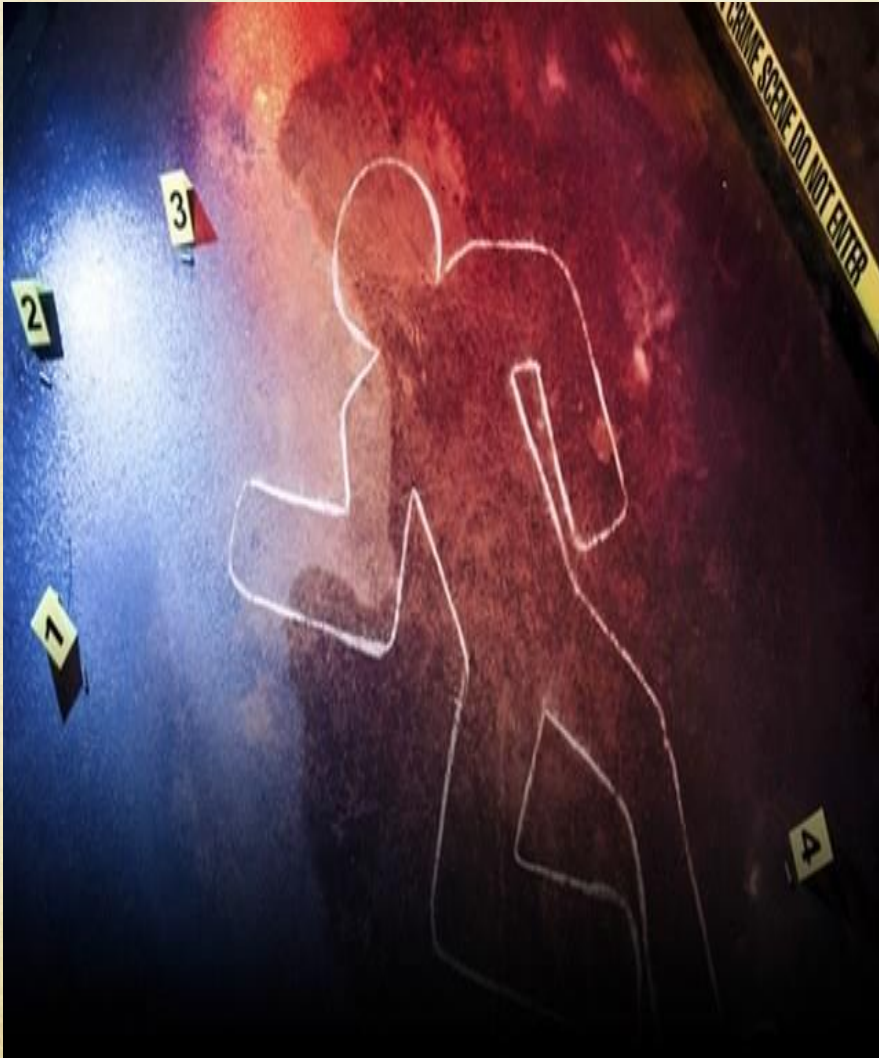
# Continued



- Packaging
- Preservation
- Scene reconstruction
- Once this is done, a written report is made of the investigators initial conclusions- yes, the scientific method strikes again!



# Classification 1 of 4



1. According to location-  
primary or secondary

2. Size

- For example: **Macroscopic-**  
GSW victim dumped in a  
field- where are the crime  
scenes?
- The body, the body's  
wounds, the ground around  
the body

# Continued Zoff4

- Microscopic- trace evidence on the body
  - GS residue around the wound, tire tread marks
3. Type of Crime committed
- Homicide, robbery, sexual assault, shooting, stabbing, hit and run, arson-
  - Gives us an idea of what to expect, but does not allow us to expect the unexpected





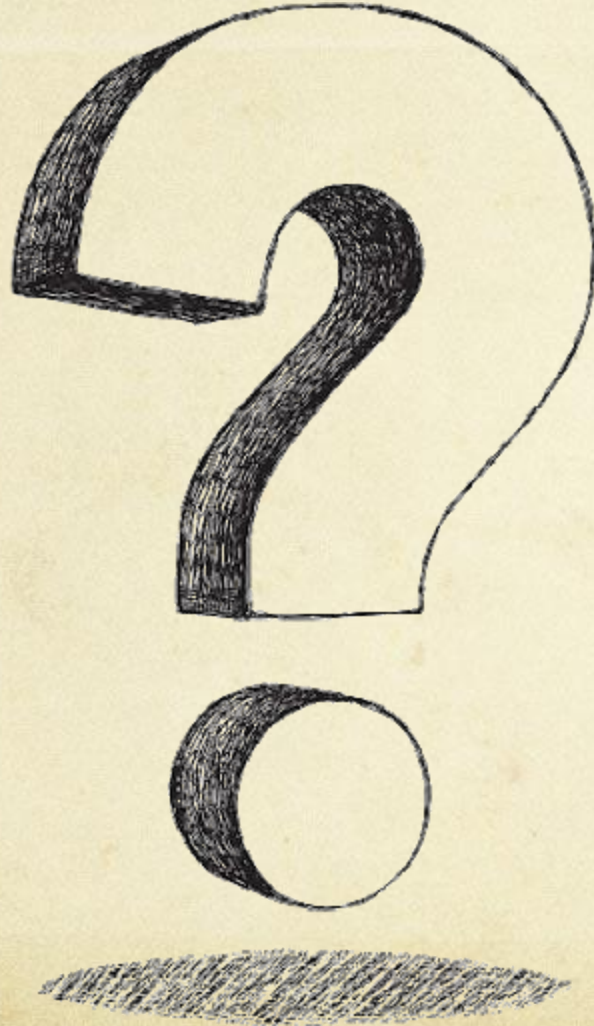
# Classification 3 of 4

4. Crime Scene Condition- organized or not
5. Physical location- inside or outside
6. Type of crime associated with the scene - do they match?
7. Composition of material
8. General nature of evidence- physical, biological, chemical
9. Physical nature of physical evidence- solid, liquid, gas
10. Type of question to be resolved





# Continued 4off4



11. How was the evidence produced

- Position/ geometric
- Imprint/ indentations
- Striations
- Tears- breaks- cuts
- Mutual transfer of material-  
Locard
- Deposits, dispersals, residues
- Cannot determine

# What Does The Information Obtained From The Physical Evidence Tell Us? 1 of 3

## I. **Corpus Delicti**

determination of the essential facts- is the blood in the middle of the road human or animal

## II. **Modus Operandi**

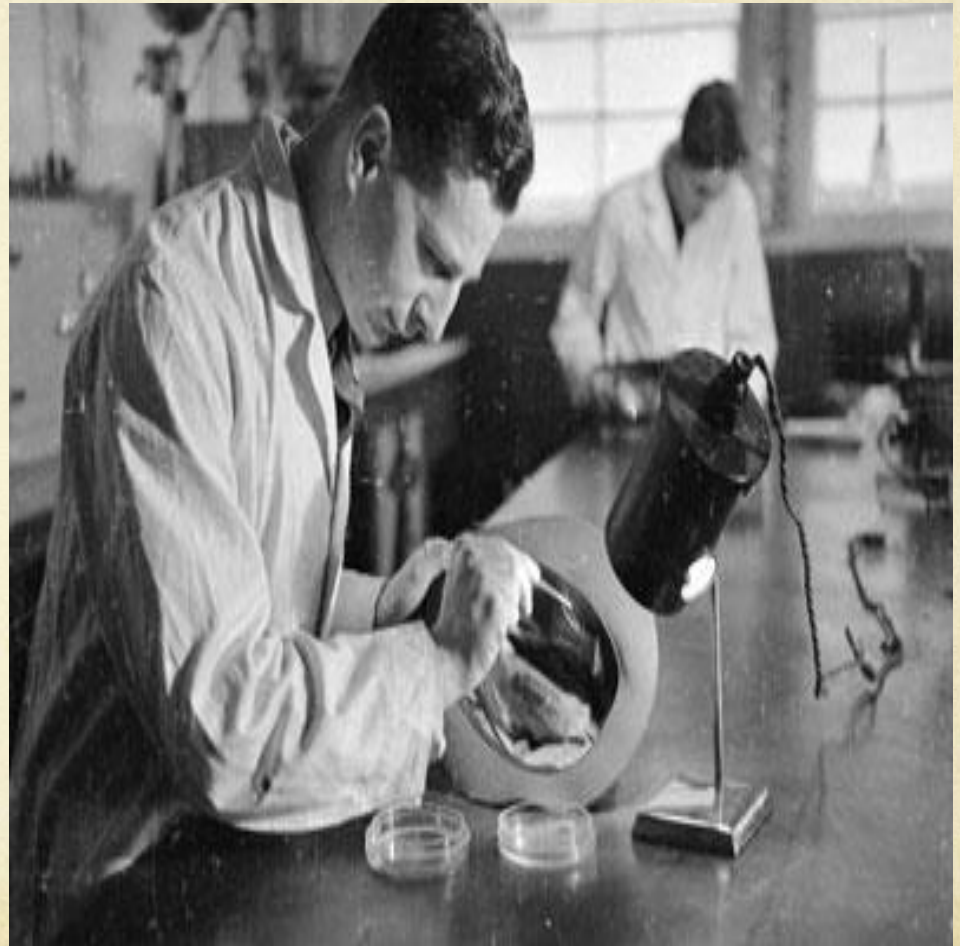
mode of operation- their signature- criminals repeat their behavior



# Continued 2 of 3

## III. Linkage of Persons, Scenes and Objects

- Locard's Exchange Principle-
- Whenever two objects come into contact with each other, a mutual exchange of materials will take place between them



# Continued 3of3



IV. Proving or disproving a witness statement

V. Identification of suspects-  
recognition

Identification

individualization AFIS

VI. Identification of unknown substances

VII. Reconstruction of the crime -  
the How is more important than  
the Who!

VIII. Providing investigative leads



