

CRIME SCENE RECONSTRUCTION – BRAZIEL INTERVIEW

Instructor: Charlotte Braziel

Our goal today in producing this little video was to demonstrate how a crime scene is reconstructed and the multiple roles and complexities. My primary role today was the team leader. I was responsible for safety, making assignments, photographer, sketcher. During that time, I was also responsible for multiple various forms of documentation, which I'll go over with you in a minute.

I'm hoping, through this exercise, you saw the complexities of handling multiple responsibilities, multiple issues. Then, you have outside concerns. The media comes in. They interrupt it. Responsibilities of keeping the case agent up-to-date and the intel that we've received here. For example, we found that there was a gun and shell casings. That would be important information for an agent doing the interview.

Our photographers and sketchers multitask when they stepped in, when they had to do something else, same as I did. When I was not doing admin responsibilities, I jumped over and filled out the photo log. I may stand in and hold the poll for the person doing the total station. Concept you need to understand is to do this proper documentation, it's a team effort.

There's a lot of paperwork created as you see. We would have an admin login, an evidence log, photographer log, who is in and out of my crime scene. This is hand written today, and we'll post this, so you can get a feel for it. It looks sloppy. It's messy. It's documented. What I'll do when I go back to the office is input this into a computer system create a nice report from my case agent. However, this is original evidence. This is never destroyed. We keep this.

So everything we do on the scene is documented, documented, and documented. Our final act that we do here is exit photos, and then we turn it back over. What you just saw here today is pretty realistic of what goes on. You may drop a piece of evidence. Your running around doing a few things. People are yelling, talking to you, answering phones.

Probably what you saw not real is this compact. A scene like this may take us 8 to 10 hours. The photographer would do many more pictures. But we want you to get a feel for the different things going on at the same time and also being flexible and jumping over to other duties to accomplish the ultimate goal.

Again, the feel for this is there's a lot of things going on. It's complex. Take your time. Pay attention to the details, and you will be successful.