

Laboratory Services Bureau

CRIME SCENE RESPONSE



PROVIDING THE HIGHEST QUALITY FORENSIC SCIENCE SERVICES TO THE CITY OF PHOENIX

The Crime Scene Response Section (CSR) consists of Crime Scene Specialists I, II, and III's. Several of our Crime Scene Specialists are Certified Crime Scene Investigators or Analysts. This certification is awarded by the International Association for Identification after an individual meets the requirements and successfully passes the testing process. Some of CSR's staff hold a certification through the IAI.



The **PRIMARY SERVICES** provided by the CSR are:

Crime Scene Photography

Almost every violent crime scene requires photographic documentation of the crime scene, evidence, or individuals involved. Crime scene photography requires a systematic approach to documenting information. The CSS takes overall, mid-range, and close-up photographs in order to help the viewer understand the relationship between items of evidence within the scene. Additionally, timed exposures, infrared, and painting with light are specialized photography techniques that use manual settings to capture low light or unique situations.



Latent Print Processing

Crime Scene Specialists utilize black and magnetic powders to develop and enhance latent fingerprints at crime scenes. CSS's utilize clean techniques using a new fingerprint brush and clean powder at every crime scene.



Evidence Collection

CSS's search for, mark, package and collect items of evidence at crime scenes. Various types of evidence packaging is utilized dependent on the item's condition. Packaging includes paper, plastic, cardboard boxes, vials and bags.



Chemical Testing

CSS's can provide several different chemical tests at a crime scene to include enhancing bloody prints, determining if a stain is possibly blood, or if a hole in a surface is from a bullet strike.



- ⇒ CSR offers a wide array of processing services to include chemical applications, diagrams, fingerprint development and biological evidence collection.
- ⇒ CSR responds to violent crime scenes to photograph, process and collect evidence.
- ⇒ Property crimes are primarily fielded by patrol.
- ⇒ On average Crime Scene Response responds to 2,900 calls for service annually.
- ⇒ Historically CSR takes on average 580,000 photographs a year.

Sketch/Diagram

CSS's can sketch and measure a crime scene to plot items of evidence and notate important areas of interest. A diagram can be completed at a later date for courtroom demonstrative aides.

In addition, CSS can complete a 3D scan of crime scenes and convert the data into a finished product to use in court to include a "fly through" feature.



Court Testimony

Crime Scene Specialists provide testimony regarding the work completed on a crime scene to include photography, chemical processing, sketching, diagrams, evidence collection and chain of custody.



Training

New Crime Scene Specialists attend a 16 week classroom training where they learn how to use forensic equipment, master each of the processing techniques, and learn the various concepts related to crime scene processing. At the successful completion of the classroom training is a mock crime scene test followed by a 24 week field training phase. This phase is where the new CSS puts the skills learned into action under the supervision of a senior CSS. A moot court testimony is the final step before being evaluated for independent casework.

