

Crime Scene Investigation Contest Update

On Thursday, March 11th, all teams will be required to take a written exam at the Civic Center. This will be a team effort, one exam per team. As part of the written exam, teams will be required to complete an affidavit to obtain a search warrant. The information necessary to complete the affidavit will be provided to the teams. The same information will be used as part of the crime scene on March 12th. Exam scores will count as 25% of the overall score for the competition. Topics to be covered on the exam include: constitutional law, search and seizure, evidentiary procedure, and forensics.

Teams will have 50 minutes in the crime scene and additional 15 minutes outside the scene to finish paperwork. Teams will be required to submit a sketch of the scene, evidence logs, and photo logs. Each team needs to have their own digital camera for crime scene photos.

Blank photo logs and evidence logs will be provided to the teams as well as a blank sketch form. Teams will be judged on evidence collection techniques, evidence tagging, interview techniques, proper completion of logs, quality of photographs, and written summary of the team's theory of the crime. Teams will also be required to lift 2 fingerprints within the crime scene. **PLEASE NOTE: Only magnetic fingerprint powder may be used.** If your team does not have magnetic powder, it will be available to them along with the magnetic brush. This is based on our attempt to maintain a cleaner scene and have less clean-up at the end of the competition.

Teams should provide their own evidence collection kits and equipment. However, if items are needed such as evidence bags, boxes or collection tools, we will have items available to ALL teams with NO point penalties.

A debriefing for CSI will occur at 11:30am at the competition location. The judges will be giving feedback to the teams regarding strengths and weaknesses, team cohesion, and team leadership.