

# CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION



## PURPOSE

To evaluate a team of contestants' ability to conduct a crime scene investigation.

First, refer to General Regulations, Page 9.

## CLOTHING REQUIREMENT

Official light blue SkillsUSA work shirt; navy pants\* and black, brown or tan leather work shoes/boots. Skirts and high-heeled shoes are not permitted.

These regulations refer to clothing items that are pictured and described at: [www.skillsusastore.org](http://www.skillsusastore.org). If you have questions about clothing or other logo items, call 800-401-1560 or 703-956-3723.

\*Competitors may wear black or blue battle dress uniform (BDU) trousers. This item is not supplied by the SkillsUSA Store.

**Note:** Contestants must wear their official contest clothing to the contest orientation meeting.

## ELIGIBILITY

Open to a team of three active SkillsUSA members enrolled in programs with law enforcement as the occupational objective. All team members must be from the same SkillsUSA chapter.

## EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

1. Supplied by the technical committee:
  - a. Crime scene
2. Supplied by the contestants:
  - a. Crime scene kit containing materials necessary to conduct a crime scene investigation, e.g., fingerprint cards, brushes, powder, crime scene tape, etc.
  - b. Small pocket notebook for field notes
  - c. Pens and pencils
  - d. Handcuffs and handcuff case
  - e. Flashlight

- f. Digital camera (any style — quality of photography will not be judged)
- g. All competitors must create a one-page résumé and submit a hard copy to the technical committee chair at orientation. Failure to do so will result in a 10-point penalty.

**Note:** Your contest may also require a hard copy of your résumé as part of the actual contest. Check the Contest Guidelines and/or the updates page on the SkillsUSA website: [www.skillsusa.org/compete/updates.shtml](http://www.skillsusa.org/compete/updates.shtml)

## SCOPE OF THE CONTEST

The contest assesses the ability to perform skills related to the crime scene procedures as outlined in *Criminal Investigations* by Bennett and Hess, Seventh Edition, and guidelines as set forth by the SkillsUSA technical committee.

### Knowledge Performance

The contest will include a skill-related written knowledge test assessing knowledge of crime scene photography, physical evidence, crime scene sketches, fingerprinting and releasing a crime scene.

### Skills Performance

The contest will include activities that simulate situations encountered by criminal investigation professionals.

### Contest Guidelines

1. Teams will draw numbers during the pre-contest orientation meeting to determine the order of performance and demonstration times.
2. Contestants must work together as a team without assistance from instructors, other contestants or observers.

## Standards and Competencies

### CSI 1.0 — Demonstrate or explain activities prior to conducting a crime scene search

- 1.1 Obtain information from the responding officer and secure the scene
- 1.2 Explain and demonstrate knowledge and use of constitutional law governing search and seizure

- 1.3 Demonstrate proper procedures for checking vital signs of a victim and certifying death of a victim

**CSI 2.0 — Explain and demonstrate the use of crime scene photography**

- 2.1 Demonstrate proper crime scene photography
- 2.2 Document photographs taken at the crime scene

**CSI 3.0 — Properly search for, collect and remove physical evidence from a crime scene**

- 3.1 Explain and demonstrate appropriate search method to use
- 3.2 Properly flag all evidence
- 3.3 Explain methods for collecting DNA evidence
- 3.4 Explain and demonstrate proper bagging and marking of all evidence

**CSI 4.0 — Draw a crime scene sketch using proper measurements, symbols and labels**

- 4.1 Demonstrate proper use of measurements
- 4.2 Demonstrate the proper use of symbols and labels

**CSI 5.0 — Apply proper procedures for dusting a crime scene for collecting latent fingerprints**

- 5.1 Demonstrate the ability to properly lift and mount a latent fingerprint from a designated item of evidence
- 5.2 Demonstrate the proper procedure for marking a latent fingerprint card

**CSI 6.0 — Release a crime scene properly and legally**

- 6.1 Demonstrate the ability to prepare an evidence inventory
- 6.2 Demonstrate the ability to remove all evidence and equipment from crime scene

**CSI 7.0 — Work together as a professional team to conduct a crime scene investigation**

- 7.1 Demonstrate professional bearing and demeanor
- 7.2 Demonstrate the ability to assign team members' tasks equal to their aptitude

**Committee Identified Academic Skills**

The technical committee has identified that the following academic skills are embedded in this contest.

**Math Skills**

- Measure angles
- Use the rectangular coordinate method to locate evidence (uses two fixed reference points and right angles to indicate the exact location of evidence in the crime scene)

**Science Skills**

- Plan and conduct a scientific investigation
- Use the proper method for developing latent fingerprints
- Identify and demonstrate necessary safety precautions for handling and processing DNA evidence

**Language Arts Skills**

- Provide information in conversations and in group discussions
- Provide information in oral presentations
- Demonstrate use of such verbal communication skills as word choice, pitch, feeling, tone and voice
- Demonstrate use of such nonverbal communication skills as eye contact, posture and gestures using interviewing techniques to gain information
- Organize and synthesize information for use in written and oral presentations
- Demonstrate informational writing
- Edit writing for correct grammar, capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure and paragraphing

**Connections to National Standards**

State-level academic curriculum specialists identified the following connections to national academic standards.

**Math Standards**

- Algebra
- Geometry
- Measurement
- Data analysis and probability
- Problem solving
- Reasoning and proof

- Communication
- Connections
- Representation

**Source:** NCTM Principles and Standards for School Mathematics. To view high school standards, visit: [standards.nctm.org/document/chapter7/index.htm](http://standards.nctm.org/document/chapter7/index.htm). Select "Standards" from menu.

### **Science Standards**

- Understands the principles of heredity and related concepts
- Understands the structure and function of cells and organisms
- Understands the structure and properties of matter
- Understands the nature of scientific knowledge
- Understands the nature of scientific inquiry

**Source:** McREL compendium of national science standards. To view and search the compendium, visit: [www.mcrel.org/standards-benchmarks](http://www.mcrel.org/standards-benchmarks).

### **Language Arts Standards**

- Students adjust their use of spoken, written and visual language (e.g., conventions, style, vocabulary) to communicate effectively with a variety of audiences and for different purposes
- Students conduct research on issues and interests by generating ideas and questions and by posing problems. They gather, evaluate and synthesize data from a variety of sources (e.g., print and nonprint texts, artifacts, people) to communicate their discoveries in ways that suit their purpose and audience
- Students use spoken, written and visual language to accomplish their own purposes (e.g., for learning, enjoyment, persuasion and the exchange of information)

**Source:** IRA/NCTE Standards for the English Language Arts. To view the standards, visit: [www.ncte.org/standards](http://www.ncte.org/standards).