

Presentation of Investigative Findings

Section A: True/False

Directions: Write True or False on the blanks provided; if false, write the correct statement on the lines provided.

1. _____ News outlets never complicate the work of an investigation. (417)

2. _____ Investigators should provide information as necessary without divulging confidential information about victims' identities or details about the ignition scenario. (417)

3. _____ Before the press conference begins, the investigator should decide whether to take questions at the end of the conference. (419)

4. _____ The investigative file is a compilation of all edited data related to the incident. (421)

5. _____ The primary purpose for writing a report is to relay all relevant information obtained during a particular fire investigation. (422)

6. _____ Investigators in the private sector are always required to write reports. (423)

7. _____ When selecting information from notes to include in the written report, the investigator should be careful to include all the details. (426)

8. _____ Audio and video interviews may also be included and referenced in the written report. (426)
- _____
9. _____ Surveillance camera footage and security alarm data are examples of electronic data that may be relevant to the investigation. (426)
- _____
10. _____ The plaintiff is not required to establish through a preponderance of the evidence that the defendant did commit the alleged wrongdoing. (427)
- _____
11. _____ Deposition questions are typically based on the facts surrounding the allegation. (428)
- _____
12. _____ As the plaintiff has the burden of proof, the plaintiff's evidence must be presented last. (428)
- _____
13. _____ Probable cause is a logical belief that sufficient information or facts indicate that the party is responsible. (428)
- _____
14. _____ A person charged with a felony may be entitled to a preliminary hearing at which time the prosecution must establish that a crime has been committed. (429)
- _____
15. _____ Expert witnesses answer questions posed by an attorney regarding what they saw, heard, touched, smelled, or tasted. (430)
- _____

Section B: Fill in the Blank

Directions: Write the correct answer on the blanks provided.

1. Some departments have a designated _____ who maintains training and formal contacts with local news agencies. (417)

2. A complete _____ file contains data that will form the basis of many decisions over time. (421)
3. The investigator should maintain a neutral focus when determining what information should be included in a report. Any _____ must tie directly to established facts. (422)
4. An investigator should follow the requirements of _____ if report requirements are not otherwise made available from the AHJ. (423)
5. When writing a report, investigators should select _____ that illustrate the in-text conclusions and opinions. (424)
6. In civil proceedings, the _____ is the person or party filing the lawsuit and the defendant is the person or party being sued. (427)

Section C: Matching

Directions: Write the correct answers on the blanks provided.

Part I: Legal Proceedings

Match the type of legal proceeding with its definition.

Choices:

- A. Depositions
- B. Trials
- C. Summary Offense
- D. Misdemeanor
- E. Felony

Questions:

- _____ 1. A serious crime punishable by a fine, incarceration, and/or death, depending on the severity of the offense and the jurisdiction. (429)
- _____ 2. An out-of-court testimony made under oath and recorded for later use in court. (428)
- _____ 3. The lowest form of offense in most legal systems. These offenses are minor infractions of laws or local ordinances. (429)
- _____ 4. During this phase of the civil proceeding, the judge makes determinations based on law as to the evidence that will be presented to the jury. (428)
- _____ 5. Generally viewed as a lesser crime punishable by a fine or a term of less than one year in jail or prison. (429)

Section D: Multiple Choice

Directions: Write the correct answers on the blanks provided.

- _____ 1. When is it recommended to start a press conference? (418)
- A. Whenever the conference room is full
 - B. Five minutes after the scheduled time
 - C. Ten minutes before the scheduled time
 - D. At least 15 minutes before the scheduled time
- _____ 2. The body or content of the media release contains the: (419)
- A. subject of the media release.
 - B. date the media release is being disseminated.
 - C. name and telephone number of a contact person.
 - D. facts that the investigator wants the public to know.
- _____ 3. What is a style guideline to improve the readability qualities of a media release? (420)
- A. Write in a narrative style
 - B. Write in an investigative style
 - C. Include personal opinions and conclusions
 - D. Include quotes from other similar investigations related to the case
- _____ 4. Which legal proceeding may result if one or more parties alleges a tort, a breach of contract, or product liability against another person or entity? (427)
- A. Civil
 - B. Criminal
 - C. Mercantile
 - D. International
- _____ 5. The most common forms of summary offenses include: (429)
- A. public intoxication.
 - B. fifth degree domestic assault.
 - C. speeding or parking violations.
 - D. destruction of another person's property.

Section E: Short Answer

Directions: Write the correct answers on the lines provided.

1. List three good practices an investigator can use to prepare for an interview. (418)

2. List two best practices the fire investigator should consider when planning to answer questions in a press conference. (419)

3. What metrics should the investigator confirm after crafting a media release? (419-420)

4. What four components should the fire investigator include within each investigative file? (421)

5. Peer reviews of investigation files can be accomplished through what three parties? (421)

6. According to NFPA 1033, what are four items a written report should contain? (423)

7. According to NFPA 921, what should be emphasized in the content of the written report? (423)

8. List documented information that may be relevant to a written report. (424)

9. List four other diagrams used to support report findings. (425)
