



RON SMITH & ASSOCIATES, INC.



FORENSIC EXAMINATION OF VIOLENT CRIME SCENES

Course Description

Crime is typically divided into two categories: crimes against property and crimes against persons. While the former is serious and may indeed constitute the majority of departmental caseloads, it is the latter that frequently results in serious bodily harm or death. Therefore, it is imperative that appropriate forensic and law enforcement personnel be able to successfully recognize, document and/or interpret evidence found at these types of scenes. Furthermore, it may be important in a particular scene to be able to sequence a series of events to reconstruct how a crime may have occurred and the actions that were involved. This may allow the trained analyst/investigator to support or contradict statements offered by suspects, victims and/or witnesses, thereby providing further insight into an investigation.

This advanced course will present both the theory and practical application of several techniques that are essential to crime scene examination and reconstruction of violent crimes. Practical exercises and case studies will be utilized to reinforce the material presented.

Target Audience

This course is designed for anyone who is tasked with investigating and processing violent crime scenes, particularly those crimes involving bloodshed. Although it will be beneficial to have prior training and experience in bloodstain pattern analysis, it is not a requirement for participation in the course. Even if you are not the person who will be interpreting bloodstain and shooting evidence, you should attend this course if you will be responsible for documenting these types of crime scenes.

Should be Able to Perform

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be (better) able to:

- Properly classify, document and interpret bloodstains patterns
- Determine the sequence of events in a crime involving bloodshed
- Determine points of convergence and origin for reconstruction purposes
- Utilize the appropriate blood reagent(s) in the proper order, if necessary
- Properly document and interpret a shooting scene
- Determine, demonstrate and document trajectories using the best method for a particular scene
- Utilize basic methods for shooting scene reconstruction

Must Bring to Class

Students should bring their camera (digital preferred), lenses, batteries, digital media, off-camera flash with remote cord, tripod (if available), and flashlight.

Students should also bring the instruction manuals for their specific camera and flash, if available.

Also, practical exercises will be conducted both inside and outside. Students are advised to bring clothing suitable for possible soiling as well as inclement weather.



Class Instructor:
Douglas Young, CCSI



Course Logistics

When:

August 4-6, 2026

Class Times:

08:00 AM - 05:00 PM

Where:

North Las Vegas City Hall
2250 Las Vegas Boulevard North
5th Floor
North Las Vegas, NV 89030

Tuition:

\$450.00

Local Contact

Theresa Graziano
Criminalistics Division Supervisor
North Las Vegas Police Department
702-633-1880
grazianot@cityofnorthlasvegas.com

Daily Schedule

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
8:00 - 9:00	Introductions / Housekeeping / restrooms, etc.	Bloodstain practical exercises	Photographic Protocols for Strings, Rods and Lasers
9:00 - 10:00	Crime Scene Documentation	Bloodstain practical exercises	Shot Sequencing
10:00 - 11:00	Bloodstain Pattern Analysis – physical properties of blood	Bloodstain practical exercises	Shooting Reconstruction Practical Exercise
11:00 - 12:00	Types of bloodstains	Bloodstain practical exercises	Shooting Reconstruction Practical Exercise
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:00 - 2:00	Determining Directionality	Introduction to Shooting Reconstruction	Macro Photography
2:00 - 3:00	Determining points of convergence	Ballistics	Painting with Light
3:00 - 4:00	Determining areas of origin	Establishing and Demonstrating Trajectories	Alternate Light Source Examination
4:00 - 5:00	Chemical development and enhancement	Establishing and Demonstrating Trajectories	Officer-Involved Shootings

Helpful Lodging Information

Although we cannot endorse any particular hotel property, we have confirmed that the following lodging is within a reasonable commuting distance to the training site.

Downtown Grand Hotel
 206 N 3rd St.
 Las Vegas, NV 89101
 (702) 719-5100

Please click [here](#) for reservations

Springhill Suites
 2910 E. Craig Rd.
 North Las Vegas, NV 89030
 (702) 522-9200

Please click [here](#) for reservations