

COURSE REFERENCE CODE

EHP (Evidence Handling and Photographing Samples)

COURSE OVERVIEW

No matter how much evidence an investigator or team compiles, it is imperative that such evidence is properly handled, collected and sealed, in order to prevent the risk or accusations that improper handling has ruled such vital evidence valueless to the investigation objectives, or worse, inadmissible in a court of law.

While it is usually the role of conventional law enforcement to gather evidence and preserve evidence, the private investigator in the course of his or her work, may well be involved in evidence collection activity before a report is made to law enforcement. Additionally, even if the evidence collected is not going to be produced to support a law enforcement complaint, judicial proceedings, or internal disciplinary hearing, it is still vital that an investigator is capable of demonstrating to the employer or client that the manner in which evidential material was obtained ethically and with the highest professional standards.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

In this module students will learn the fundamentals of proper and ethical evidence collection, documentation, and storage, including basic photography as part of the documenting process. This module will teach the student the fundamentals of:

- Pre-collection preparation;
- Describing the evidence collection field;
- Briefing those involved in evidence collection activity;
- Basic searching skills;
- Evidence seizure protocols;
- Documenting seizure activity;
- Preparing photographic records; and
- Evidence storage and post seizure handling.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION

The aim of this practical course is to demonstrate the most efficient and effective methods to identify, preserve, and handle evidential materials. This hands-on course takes a practical approach with a number of scenarios to aid and assess student understanding of the principals involved.

On conclusion of the module participants will receive a comprehensive set of student notes and certificate of completion.

COURSE DURATION	COURSE VALUE
1/2 day module	This module will be of value to both investigation managers and investigators who are likely to be involved in locating and seizing items that could be used as exhibits in an enforcement complaint, production in judicial proceedings, internal disciplinary hearings, or similar.