

Preapproved
8 hrs

CORONERS' EDUCATION BOARD
PROPOSAL FOR COURSE APPROVAL

To be ratified
9/23
2026 - 50

NAME OF COURSE: FORENSIC DEATH INVESTIGATIONS

TOTAL HOURS: ~~40-45~~ 8

COST: 699.00

LOCATION (ADDRESS): 100 GEORGE DESALVIA WAY
ORLANDO, ORLANDO 32807

DATE(S) OF COURSE: MONDAY, NOV. 2 - FRIDAY, NOV. 6, 2026

PRESENTER: MARK CRIDER

ADDRESS:

CONTACT PERSON TO ENROLL IN COURSE: PHIL SANFILIPPO

TELEPHONE NO OF CONTACT PERSON: (800) 438-7884

SUBMITTED BY: EMILY CIANGIARULO

EMAIL ADDRESS: EMILY.CIANGIARULO@ALLEGHENYCOUNTY.US

TELEPHONE NO: (412) 491-9664

DATE: 08/06/2026



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Host a course

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Forensic Investigations

Instructor:

Mark Crider

November 2-6, 2026

Hours: 8 am - 5 pm | Tuition: \$699

Course Location:

Orlando Police Department

100 George DeSalvia Way | Orlando, FL 32807

Logistics Info:

Hampton Inn & Suites Downtown Orlando

43 Columbia St | Orlando, FL 32806

407.270-6460



To register
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Phil Sanfilippo
800.438.7
1025 or by email
phil@tritechnical.com

ABOUT

A leading
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scene investigation
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classes

FORENSICS

Modern Forensics Professional

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This 5-day course provides students with a systematic, real-world approach to homicide and death investigations, including homicide, child deaths, overdose fatalities, and suicide, from initial response through courtroom testimony. Emphasis is placed on scene management, evidence recognition, crime scene reconstruction, victimology, suspect development, forensic resources, interview, and case preparation for prosecution.

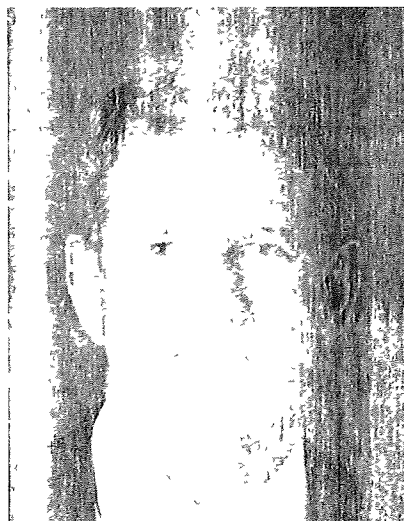
Students will learn to recognize and mitigate confirmation bias and understand its impact

on investigative decision-making. The course also addresses ethical considerations in interviewing and interrogation, with a focus on corroborating information obtained during interviews through independent evidence.

Instruction is interactive and discussion-based, led by an instructor with a strong passion for death investigations. Student participation is emphasized throughout the course, with students expected to engage in case discussions, practical exercises, and the sharing of investigative experience.

COURSE INSTRUCTOR

MARK CRIDER



Mark Crider is a highly accomplished recently retired Homicide Detective with the Denver Police Department, bringing 34 years of distinguished law enforcement experience to his work as an investigator, instructor, and subject matter expert. His career began with honorable service in the U.S. Air Force Security Forces, followed by his role as a patrol officer with the St. Petersburg Police Department. In 1995, he joined the Denver Police Department, where he spent more than 23 years as a detective—over 21 of them in the Homicide Unit.

Mr. Crider has served as the lead investigator in more than 120 homicide investigations, consistently achieving a clearance rate well above the national average. He has also responded to and investigated hundreds of suspicious deaths, accidental deaths, suicides, overdoses, and Officer-Involved Critical Incidents. His extensive investigative background is supported by several hundred hours of specialized training in Homicide

Advanced Homicide Investigation, Interview and Interrogation, Child Death Investigation, and Crime Scene Management and Reconstruction. He has testified in District Court on hundreds of occasions and has been recognized as an expert witness in Bloodstain Pattern Analysis and Crime Scene Reconstruction.

A dedicated instructor since 2015, Mr. Crider has developed and taught courses at the Denver Police Academy in death investigations, interview and interrogation techniques, and new criminal investigator development. His expertise extends internationally as well. In 2018, he was selected by the U.S. State Department's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) as a Subject Matter Expert to design and teach a 40-hour Homicide Investigation course for police officers, investigators, prosecutors, and judges in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. He was later chosen to create an Advanced Homicide Investigation course for INL in San Salvador, El Salvador, and has delivered this program multiple times to participants from numerous Central and South American nations.

Mr. Crider is widely recognized for his investigative excellence, instructional leadership, and commitment to elevating professional standards in death investigation both domestically and internationally.



Date: Monday, November 2, 2026 to Friday, November 6, 2026

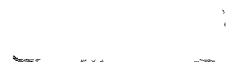
Hours: 8:00am - 10pm (everyday)

Tuition: \$699.00

Orlando Police Department
 301 George DeSalvia Way
 Orlando, FL 32807

www.orlandopolice.com

Registrations open through 11/6/2026 11:59 PM
 Eastern Time (US & Canada)



This course is designed to provide students with a

systematic, real-world approach to homicide and

This 5 day course provides students with a
 systematic, real-world approach to homicide and

death investigations, including homicides, child deaths, occupational fatalities, and suicides, from initial response through courtroom testimony. Emphasis is placed on scene management, evidence recognition, crime scene reconstruction, victimology, suspect development, forensic resources, interviews, and case preparation for prosecution.

Students will learn to recognize and mitigate confirmation bias and understand its impact on investigative decision-making. The course also addresses ethical considerations in interviewing and interrogation with a focus on corroborating information obtained during interviews through independent evidence.

Instruction is interactive and discussion-based, led by an instructor with a strong passion for death investigations. Student participation is emphasized throughout the course, with students expected to engage in case discussions, practical exercises, and the sharing of investigative experience.

Day 1

Introductions, Manner and Cause of Death, Death Investigative Team, 911 Call Analysis, Best Practices for Death Investigations, Crime Scene Security, Search Warrant Considerations, Wound Characteristics, Understanding Confirmation Bias, Homicide Case Presentation

Introductions & Course Goals

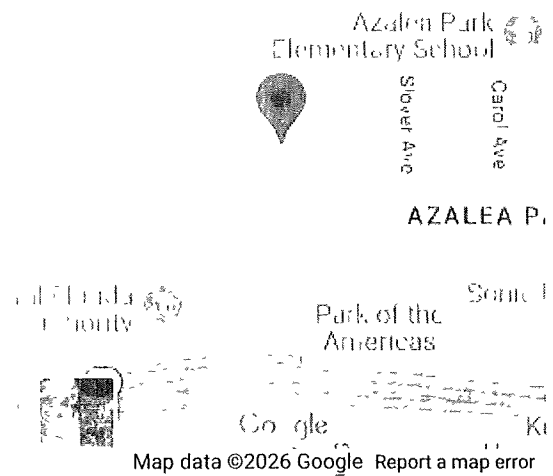
- Instructor introduction and course overview
- Student introductions and individual learning objectives
- Discussion of students' agency homicide investigatory processes
 - Overview of best practices for death investigatory teams
 - Homicide and suicide statistics

'Every death scene is investigated as suspicious until proven otherwise.'

Manner and Cause of Death

- Homicide
- Suicide
- Accidental (toxicologic deaths, child deaths, overexposures, industrial accidents)
- Natural

[Open in Maps](#)



Hampton Inn and Suites Downtown Orlando

43 Columbia Street
Orlando, FL 32806
407-270-6460

Room Rate: \$140 per night

Amenities: Free Breakfast, Free Wi-Fi, Free Parking (Normally \$15 per night)

Booking Info: Call the hotel and mention the Orlando Police Training course or use link below to receive the special rate

Booking Link: [Click here for hotel booking](#)

Event Date: Oct 2, 2026

- Undetermined

Investigative Team Roles

- Roles and responsibilities of patrol officers, detectives (including specialized units), detective supervisors, crime scene investigators, crime laboratory scientists and technicians, prosecutors and victim advocates at death scenes
- Importance of establishing roles and responsibilities prior to call-out
- Why professional relationships are critical to successful investigations
- How homicide investigators can improve inter-agency relationships
- Importance of homicide investigators providing training to the investigative team —the more “buy-in,” the better the outcome

“There is a systematic approach to death investigations.”



The 911 Call – *Is Your Killer the Caller?*

- Review and analysis of 911 calls
- The 911 call may be the most unfiltered witness account
- Do not rely on checklists to determine guilt
- The 911 call is a statement and must be corroborated as all evidence
- Multiple 911 calls reviewed during this block

Responding Homicide Detective Responsibilities-Best Practices

- Immediate documentation of suspects (photograph, GSR considerations, clothing, injuries, cell phones, biological swabs)
- Witness identification at the scene
- Importance of initial patrol BWC statements
- Formal interviews conducted at the police department following critical incidents
- Search warrant considerations, default to obtaining a warrant on all suspicious deaths
- Scene security and allocation of adequate resources
- Fourth Amendment and search and seizure considerations
- Case presentation and BWC review of initial patrol response

Day 2

Initial Walk-Through with CSI, Crime Scene Search, Documentation,

Speaker Bio

Officer Order is a highly accomplished retired Homicide Detective with the St. Petersburg Police Department bringing over 20 years of distinguished law enforcement experience to his work as an investigator, instructor, and subject matter expert. His career began with honorable service in the U.S. Air Force Army Forces, followed by his role as a police officer with the St. Petersburg Police Department. In 1995, he joined the St. Petersburg Police Department, where he has served more than 23 years as a detective, 21 of them in the Homicide Unit.

• promote this course!

• link to download a course information flyer

Evidence Identification and Collection, Practical Reconstruction Techniques, Crime Laboratory Coordination Identifying Forensic Evidence & CSI Processing the Scene

- Shared but distinct responsibilities between detectives and CSIs
- Joint initial walk-through
- Scenes documentation: photography, video, and digital 3D scans
- Identification of forensic evidence (biological, trace, firearms, latent prints, digital)
- Factors influencing evidence collection decisions
- Evidence collection methods

Practical Reconstruction Techniques

(What occurred, where it occurred, and the sequence of events)

- Bloodstain pattern recognition
- Bullet trajectory and use of trajectory rods
- Weapons access and operability
- Cartridge case patterns
- Glass defects
- Correlation between wounds and evidence (blunt force, gunshot wounds, sharp force, strangulation)
- Inductive vs. deductive reasoning
- Case studies and group reconstruction exercises
- Hands-on practical applications

Crime Laboratory Capabilities

- Meeting with laboratory scientists (firearms, biology, latent prints, trace chemistry)
- Determining what items should be submitted and what analysis is needed
- Identifying the investigative question before submitting laboratory request

Day 3

Child Death Investigations, Suicides,
Staged Deaths, Overdoses, Accidental
Deaths, The Body on Scene,
Postmortem Changes, Attending the
Autopsy

Child Death Investigations

- Multi-disciplinary team roles (first responders, medical staff, social workers, medical examiner, district attorney)

- Differentiating natural, accidental, neglect-related, homicidal, suicidal, SUID, and SIDS deaths
- Traumatic deaths (blunt force, abusive head trauma, penetrating trauma, asphyxia, thermal injury, crush injuries, drowning, poisoning/overdose)
- Identification of red flags suggestive of abuse or foul play

Suicide Investigations

- Suicide methods and associated forensic evidence
- Injury patterns indicating self-inflicted vs. inflicted trauma
- Firearms (contact wounds, stippling, trajectory, gunshot residue, bloodstain patterns)
- Hanging and ligature strangulation
- Poisoning and overdoses (scene investigation, paraphernalia, drug history)
- Cutting and stabbing (hesitation marks, wound location)
- Jumping
- Carbon monoxide and suffocation
- Behavioral analysis and victimology

Staged Scenes & Red Flags of Homicide Disguised as Suicide

- Indicators of staged suicides
- Motivations for staging
- Scene contradictions and inconsistencies
- Weapon placement errors
- Ligature inconsistencies
- Digital evidence falsification
- Behavioral contradictions
- Reconstruction findings inconsistent with suicide

Overdose Death Investigations

- Scene management and evidence collection
- Controlled substances, prescription medications, paraphernalia, and packaging
- Digital evidence considerations
- Integration of toxicology and autopsy find

The Body on Scene

- Postmortem changes (lividity, rigor, skin slippage, pupae, mummification, etc.)
- Documentation of injuries and evidence on the body
- Coordination with the medicolegal team

Attending the autopsy

- Relationship with pathologists and medical examiner investigators
- Observation and documentation
- Evidence collection at autopsy (GSR, trace DNA, clothing)

Case Presentations: Child deaths, gunshot wounds, asphyxia (hanging, ligature strangulation, traumatic and positional asphyxia), sharp force injuries, jumpers, suicides, and staged deaths

Day 4

Victimology, Interview and Interrogation, Trauma-Informed Interviews

Victimology: Valuable and Often Overlooked

- Systematic study of the victim's life, behaviors, relationships, and circumstances
- Victimology as a means to understand motives

Interview and Interrogation Techniques

- Fifth Amendment – self-incrimination
- Sixth Amendment – right to counsel
- Current case law
- Proper Miranda advisements
- Ethical interviewing and interrogation practices
- Interview vs. interrogation
- Confession vs. admission
- Kapschubling
- Documentation, recording, and note-taking

Recorded interviews will be reviewed and discussed, followed by group discussion and mock interviews

Trauma-Informed Interviews

- Effects of acute stress and trauma on perception, memory, and communication
- Minimizing traumatization
- Preserving accuracy and investigative integrity
- Review and discussion of recorded trauma-informed interviews

Day 5

Digital Evidence, Case Management, Case Presentation to the District Attorney Trial Preparation, Courtroom Testimony

Preserving, Obtaining, and Analyzing Digital Evidence

- Cell phones, computers, tablets
- Cloud-based data and social media
- GPS and location data
- Call detail records
- Text messages, emails, photographs, videos, and application data
- Cell phone data extractions
- Legal authority to seize digital evidence
- Search warrant examples for digital service providers
- Time-sensitive preservation letters
- Analysis, storage, and discovery issues
- Use of digital evidence experts

Case Management

- Ongoing case review
- Management of complex and high-profile cases
- Case file organization
- Auxiliary records
- Review of homicide casebooks

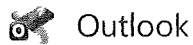
Case Presentation & Courtroom Testimony

- Case presentation to the district attorney
- Clear and concise timelines
- Use of PowerPoint when appropriate
- Pre-trial preparation and meetings
- Review of prior transcripts
- Professional demeanor
- Communicating effectively with jurors
- Investigator ownership of the case
- Speak for the victim

Courtroom Wrap-Up

- Open discussion
- Course feedback
- Written Final Exam – Passing Score 70%

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Outlook

OAG Coroners' Education Board Proposal For Course Approval Submission

From PA Office of Attorney General <no-reply@attorneygeneral.gov>

Date Thu 8/6/2026 2:35 AM

To Jury, Ali R <ajury@attorneygeneral.gov>

 3 attachments (2 MB)

2026-ceb-forensic-death-investigations-tri-tech-training_forensice-death-investigation-training-website-overview.pdf, 2026-ceb-forensic-death-investigations-tri-tech-training_forensice-death-investigation-training-pamphlet.pdf, coroner-course-application-Ciangiarulo.pdf,

Name of Course

Forensic Death Investigations

Total Hours

40-45

Cost

699.00

Address

100 George DeSalvia Way

Orlando, Florida 32807

United States

[Map It](#)

Date(s) of Course

Monday, Nov. 2 - Friday, Nov. 6, 2026

Presenter Name

Mark Crider

Contact Person to enroll in course

Phil Sanfilippo

Telephone Number of Contact Person

(800) 438-7584

Submitted by:

Emily Ciangiarulo

Email Address

emily.ciano@hughescounty.us

Date

08/06/2026

Telephone Number

(412) 491-0364