Course Title: (Lesson Domain #30: Crime Scenes, Evidence and Forensics)

Hours of Instruction: 2

Course Objectives:

I.

   a) Identify the goal of a criminal investigation

   b) Perform the steps of a preliminary criminal investigation, including

      1. Proceed safely to the scene

      2. Determine need for emergency medical services and aid any injured persons

      3. Verify that a crime, if any, has occurred

      4. Identify and arrest the suspect(s), if appropriate

      5. As soon as possible, provide dispatch with any suspect information including physical descriptions, direction of flight, mode of travel, and other pertinent information

      6. Contain and protect the crime scene and cause the proper collection of physical evidence

      7. Locate and interview victim(s) and/or witness(es) and identify other sources of information

      8. Collect all available information necessary to write a clear and accurate report (who, what, when, where, why and how)

   c) Demonstrate actions peace officers may employ to preserve possible physical evidence at a crime scene

   d) Identify the primary purpose of the:

      1. Initial survey of a crime scene

      2. Crime scene search

   e) Identify criteria for allowing crime scene photographs to be admitted as evidence by the court

f) Identify elements to be included on a crime scene diagram

II.

a) Demonstrate appropriate precautions that should be taken prior to collection and removal of physical evidence from a crime scene

b) Identify the purpose of collecting control/known samples

c) Identify the primary reason for establishing a chain of custody record

d) Prepare the information that should be noted on a chain of custody record

e) Identify the three forms of fingerprint impressions that may be found at a crime scene

f) Apply the basic steps for developing latent fingerprints

g) Identify general guidelines for collecting and processing physical evidence that may be located at a crime scene