



Australian Government

POLINV028 Manage incident scenes

Release:

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Modification History

Release 1. This is the first release of this unit of competency in the POL Police Training Package release 9.0.

Application

This unit describes the skills required to manage incident scenes to secure evidence for investigations, including conducting initial assessments, controlling scenes, coordinating investigations of incident scenes, and managing evidence. Terminology use differs between jurisdictions; incident scenes may also be referred to as crime scenes.

This unit applies to those working as police staff, generally in a designated investigation role, who are required to assess, control and coordinate incident scenes.

The skills and knowledge described in this unit must be applied within the legislative, regulatory and policy environment in which they are carried out. Organisational policies and procedures must be consulted and adhered to, particularly those related to work health and safety (WHS) investigation procedures and evidence management.

Those undertaking this unit would demonstrate strong autonomy in making decisions and accessing support from a broad range of services. The individual would be required to possess supervision and management skills, leadership abilities and robust communicative competence. The individual would work on complex tasks, requiring strong adaptability across a broad range of unpredictable contexts.

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Pre-requisite Unit

Not applicable.

Competency Field

Investigation

Unit Sector

Not applicable.

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Elements describe the essential outcomes of the unit

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element

1 Assess incident scenes

1.1 Identify scenes for investigation purposes

1.2 Define scenes to determine investigative approach and establish resource requirements

1.3 Identify risks affecting scenes to address safety concerns and preservation of evidence

1.4 Evaluate scenes to determine actions required for preservation of life, property, and evidence

2 Control incident scenes

2.1 Secure boundaries of scenes to prevent contamination of prospective evidence

2.2 Manage risks affecting scenes to preserve safety of self, colleagues and public

2.3 Control suspects to facilitate further investigation

2.4 Control persons at scenes to safeguard their welfare and prevent contamination of scenes

2.5 Coordinate stakeholders to manage scenes

2.6 Record activities at scenes to support investigation

2.7 Preserve potential evidence to prevent contamination

3 Coordinate incident scene investigations

3.1 Formulate informal/formal plans to select methods and resources for processing scenes

3.2 Communicate with stakeholders to contain scenes and identify roles and responsibilities

3.3 Coordinate stakeholders to process and restore incident scenes

3.4 Identify entities relevant to scenes and initial investigation

3.5 Interview identified persons to determine possible avenues of inquiry and offences/defences

3.6 Assess information collected to initiate investigative action

3.7 Conduct briefings in accordance with jurisdictional reporting processes

3.8 Refer persons to relevant support agencies for welfare purposes

4 Manage evidence

4.1 Identify evidence at scenes using investigative methods

4.2 Process evidence to maintain continuity and integrity

4.3 Record identified evidence for investigative purposes

4.4 Seize and secure identified evidence to ensure continuity and integrity

4.5 Address hazards associated with evidence

4.6 Examine evidence to collect information and identify further investigation requirements

4.7 Record handling of evidence

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential to performance. Foundation skills essential to performance in this unit, but not explicit in the performance criteria are listed in the table below.

Skill	Description
Reading	Read and apply organisational policies in which incident scenes are managed and investigated. Manage information for planning, recording and reporting purposes.
Writing	Record activities in writing at scenes to support investigation. Record identified physical evidence for investigative purposes and handling information.
Oral Communication	Use clear and concise language to control persons and suspects at incident, including searching, separating and securing them. Use a range of communication strategies to coordinate stakeholders to manage and contain scenes and identify roles and responsibilities. Use appropriate language to coordinate stakeholders to process and rehabilitate incident scenes. Refer persons verbally to relevant support agencies for welfare

	purposes.
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Range of Conditions

Range is restricted to essential operating conditions and any other variables essential to the work environment.

Non-essential conditions may be found in the Companion Volume Implementation Guide.

Unit Mapping Information

This unit supersedes and is equivalent to POLINV003 Manage incident scenes.

Links

Companion Volume Implementation Guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=98c3984e-2cf1-48a8-8ed1-85e4b92e7351>