



Australian Government

POLFOR057 Examine forensic scene

Release: 1

POLFOR057 Examine forensic scene

Modification History

Release	Comments
1	This unit was released in POL Police Training Package release 8.0

Application

This unit describes the skills required to assess, control, and manage forensic scenes, including preliminary assessment, triage, and review. It applies to police personnel and forensic staff involved in forensic investigation. The skills and knowledge described in this unit must be applied within the legislative, regulatory, and policy environment in which they are conducted. Jurisdictional policies and procedures must be consulted and adhered to, particularly those related to workplace health and safety. Candidates undertaking this role would work autonomously while retaining the responsibility to report to senior staff. They would demonstrate adaptability across a broad range of contexts while performing a variety of tasks.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Not applicable

Competency Field

Not applicable

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 scene	1.1 Conduct initial assessment of scene to gather information. 1.2 Identify items and areas of interest to inform examination of scene

	and evidence. 1.3 Assess information to determine priority and sequence of examinations. 1.4 Assess resource requirements to facilitate forensic examinations. 1.5 Identify sequence of events prior to arrival to record potential contamination or movement of evidence. 1.6 Identify secondary or alternate areas for examinations. 1.7 Identify requirement for specialist assistance for scene examination. 1.8 Identify whether evidence is suitable for recording or collection.
2. Control scene	2.1 Identify scene boundaries to maintain integrity. 2.2 Establish scene entry and exit paths to control movement of persons. 2.3 Implement control measures to minimise evidence contamination or loss. 2.4 Communicate control measures to stakeholders to ensure compliance.
3. Manage scene	3.1 Apply scientific methods to inform decision making. 3.2 Conduct examinations according to priority and sequencing requirements. 3.3 Identify hazards to examinations to control risks. 3.4 Review examinations to identify if further actions are required. 3.5 Record examination details on information management systems. 3.6 Communicate with stakeholders to release or handover scene.

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.

The ability to interpret messages and text, record observations and evidence, communicate with purpose to different communities and audiences, plan and schedule tasks according to estimated timeframes, continuously seek to learn through on-the-job observations, solve problems, work with others in a team, plan and organise activities and self-manage behaviour are core foundation skills relevant to the policing context.

Skill	Description
Reading	Read and comply with jurisdictional policies and procedures related to forensic examination and scene management. Read, analyse and evaluate information to inform forensic examination and scene management plans.

Writing	Prepare written forensic examination plans to process scene and define responsibilities of stakeholders. Record information on jurisdictional information management systems.
Oral communication	Use clear and concise language to control incident/scene, boundaries and parameters. Communicate information requirements to stakeholder to facilitate release scene. Adapt oral language to communicate with stakeholders according to the purpose of interaction.

Range of Conditions

Not applicable

Unit Mapping Information

This unit replaces but is not equivalent to *POLFOR027 Assess and control incident/crime scene*.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

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

Assessment Requirements for POLFOR057 Examine forensic scene

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Performance Evidence

The candidate must provide evidence on at least one occasion that they have met the elements and performance criteria and have demonstrated the ability to:

- conduct a preliminary assessment to gather information
- analyse information to inform examination plan
- identify when specialist assistance is required to examine scene
- prioritise and sequence actions and examinations
- identify and control scenes and boundaries to preserve evidence
- communicate with stakeholders
- identify hazards and control risks
- review and critically evaluate examinations and actions
- record information on jurisdictional information management systems
- apply scientific methods and models of inquiry to inform planning and decision making.

Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must provide demonstrated evidence that they have knowledge of:

- jurisdictional legislation, policies, and procedures relating to forensic examination and investigation, workplace health and safety, quality systems, standard operating procedures, reviews, handovers or briefings, information security and management systems, scene management, digital evidence, and evidence recording, documentation and retention
- application, requirements, and limitations of forensic examinations
- factors affecting prioritisation and sequencing of forensic examinations
- roles, responsibilities, and requirements of specialist forensic disciplines
- investigative and evidentiary requirements for the collection and preservation of exhibits
- scene management, control, and preservation methods
- scientific methods relating to scene and evidence examination and investigation, including models of scientific inquiry.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment must occur in operational workplace situations or, where this is not available, in simulated situations that replicate workplace conditions. Assessors of this unit must satisfy relevant vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

Links

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