

Standard 13 Vocabulary

1. **backing** marking photographs on their back with a felt-tip pen or label to indicate the photographer's initials, date photo was taken, a brief description of what it depicts and the direction of north. Evidence can be circled on the back of the photo in the same way.
2. **baseline (plotting) method** establishes a straight line from one fixed point to another from which measurements are taken at right angles.
3. **compass-point (plotting) method** uses a protractor to measure the angle formed by two lines.
4. **competent photograph** accurately represents what it purports to represent, is properly identified and is properly placed in the chain of evidence and secured until court presentation
5. **cross-projection** sketch presents the floor and walls of a room as though they were on the same surface.
6. **immersive imaging** 360-degree photographic view of a crime scene that allows viewers to virtually "walk through it" as though they were there.
7. **laser-beam photography** an imaging process that reveals evidence indiscernible to the naked eye, such as the outline of a footprint in a carpet.
8. **legend** that part of a crime scene sketch containing the case number, name of victim or complainant, location, date, time, investigator, person(s) assisting, scale, direction of north and name of the person making the sketch.
9. **macrophotography** photographic enlargement of a subject to show details of evidence such as fingerprints or tool marks.
10. **marker (photographic)** item included in a photograph to show accurate or relative size.
11. **material photograph** image that relates to the specific case and the subject being discussed.
12. **megapixel** pixels are the dots making up a digital image; one megapixel is about a million dots.
13. **microphotography** taking pictures through a microscope to help identify minute particles of evidence (e.g., hair or fiber).
14. **mug shots** photographs of those who have been taken into custody and booked.
15. **overlapping** photographic technique whereby the entire scene is photographed in a clockwise direction so that a specific object is on the right side of the first photograph, on the next photo the same object is on the left side of the photo and so on until the entire scene is photographed.
16. **pixel** smallest unit of a digital image, also referred to as a dot.
17. **PPI** pixels per inch.
18. **rectangular-coordinate (plotting) method** uses two adjacent walls of a room as fixed points from which distances are measured at right angles from each wall.
19. **relevant photograph** image that assists or explains testimony regarding the matter in question.
20. **resolution** fineness of image detail either captured with a camera, displayed on a monitor or printed on paper, commonly quantified by pixels.

21. **rogues' gallery** mug shots gathered in files and displayed in groups.
22. **rough sketch** first, pencil-drawn outline of the crime scene, which shows the location of objects and evidence. Basis for the finished scale drawing.
23. **scale** used in sketching, determined by taking the longest measurement at the scene and dividing it by the longest measurement of the paper.
24. **scale drawing (finished drawing)** final drawing, drawn to scale using exact measurements, done in ink and usually on a better grade paper.
25. **sketch drawing (noun), or to create a drawing (verb)** May be a rough or a finished sketch, and it accurately portrays the physical facts, relates to the sequence of events at the scene, establishes the precise location and relationship of objects and evidence at the scene, helps create a mental picture of the scene for those not present, is a permanent record of the scene and is usually admissible in court.
26. **trap photography** photos that prove an incident occurred, can assist in identifying suspects and the weapons used and can corroborate witness testimony and identification. Also called surveillance photography.
27. **triangulation (plotting method)** uses straight-line measurements from two fixed objects to the location of the evidence, creating a triangle. The evidence is in the angle formed by the two straight lines.
28. **ultraviolet-light photography** uses the low end of the color spectrum, which is invisible to human sight, to make visible impressions of bruises and injuries long after their occurrence. In addition, the type of weapon used can often be determined by examining its impression developed using ultraviolet light.