
	MESQUITE POLICE DEPARTMENT
	304.00 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE SECTION
	Effective Date: August, 2011
	Approved: _____ <div style="text-align: center;">  Chief of Police </div>

- I. An on-duty Physical Evidence investigator should participate in the investigation of all:
 - A. Suicides, murders, and deaths under questionable circumstances.
 - B. Shooting incidents involving a police officer.
 - C. Rapes (in a confined area such as a building, vehicle, etc.).
 - D. Robberies (in a confined area such as a building, vehicle etc.).
 - E. Assaults resulting in serious bodily injury.
 - F. Other incidents as required by the circumstances and current departmental procedures.
 - II. The preliminary investigating officer is responsible for recognizing the need for a Physical Evidence investigator. Physical Evidence personnel shall consult with the preliminary investigating officer on request.
 - III. Patrol officers trained and classified as Crime Scene Generalists should be utilized on routine calls, and/or when:
 - A. The Physical Evidence investigator needs assistance at the scene of multiple offenses.
 - B. The Physical Evidence investigator may request that a Generalist be utilized when other conditions exist which would hamper his ability to respond to a call. This request may be made to an on-duty Operations Bureau supervisor.
 - IV. When it has been determined by the preliminary investigating officer that a Physical Evidence investigator is required at a crime scene, it is his responsibility to maintain the security of the crime scene until the Physical Evidence investigator's arrival. Upon his arrival, the Physical Evidence investigator will assume responsibility for securing the scene. Only authorized persons who have first received clearance from the Physical Evidence investigator may enter or remain in the crime scene area. The scene may be released to investigators (or other interested parties) only after the Physical Evidence investigator indicates that it is permissible to do so.
 - V. When no Physical Evidence investigator is on duty, the ranking on-duty supervisor shall determine whether or not an off-duty call-out is warranted, based on the circumstances.
- EFFECTIVE: May, 1984; REVISED: September, 1990; FORMERLY: D/84-34, 78-34;
 REVISED: January, 1996; REVISED: August, 2011