

Introduction to case management

"Investigators are the justice systems primary instrument of action

Truth is central to justice

Investigation is an art and a science. Investigators must be able to articulate and critically think

limitations on	not all crimes are reported, some are reported but not investigated, some are investigated but not prosecuted.
Law	Agent motivation and agency disagreements
enforcement	limited resources
	lack of skills or knowledge

Goals of a criminal investigation/ steps required

the primary goal is to SOLVE A CRIME with the purpose of proving or disproving an allegation(s).

to accomplish this the criminal investigator must legally and systematically identify, collect, preserve, and evaluate evidence for the purpose of bringing crime to justice

1. Case Initiation	private sector referral proactive agent development Internal agency referrals External agency referral
2. Assessment of Allegation/information	check the source/victims reliability who has the authority (power to enforce) and jurisdiction (area/location and type of offense) to pursue the allegation agency policy statutory limitations

Goals of a criminal investigation/ steps required (cont)

3. Development of an investigative plan	documents initial allegation and opens the investigation with a written report and management approval this is the "road map" developing a systematic approach to conducting the criminal investigation. Will likely include: case number subjects name potential violations checklist of tasks possible interviews potential problems
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4. Conduct the investigation safely	at this stage use appropriate techniques to gather evidence
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three basic critical errors are:	-statute of limitations(failure to investigate and refer the case in time -identify health issues in defendant or critical witnesses -failure of evidence to meet the critical elements of proof
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identifying a probable suspect look for 3 critical elements:	Motive, Means, Opportunity
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investigative techniques and procedures include	Interviewing, Public records research, Informants, Surveillance, Mail covers ,trash pulls, search and seizure warrants, grand jury subpoenas, digital forensics, undercover operations, crime scene processing, crime lab forensics. storefront operations, financial investigations, asset forfeiture, report writing
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Goals of a criminal investigation/ steps required (cont)

5. **prepare an Investigative Summary (IS)** Summarize, memorialize evidence, determine if the AUSA want to take the case. Convey all relevant facts favorable or u favorable reports will include:
subjects name, synopsis, violations, evidence, background information, list of witnesses

6. Formal Referral to the US Attorneys Office

7. Processing Suspects through the Judicial process

8. Processing Criminal/Civil Assest Forfeitures

9. Close Investigation

Investigation, Judicial, post-judicial functions

Criminal investigator's role in the Investigative Process

Conduct an objective professional complete, detailed investigation
prepare report presenting the results in a logical sequence

Criminal investigator's role in the Judicial Process

prepare original documents for trial admission
assist the AUSA in pretrial interviews
obtain and serve subpoenas
manage witnesses
maintain evidence

Elements of case Managment

art of balancing the investigating and administrative aspects of criminal ivestigation whil simultaneoulsy conducting multiple invest-igations given limited man power

Knowledge understanding weaknesses/defenses, elements of the crime, what is enough proof

Organized and complete case file must be easy to follow and understand if picked up by anyone else

Legally obtained and secured evidence must ensure a chain of custody, secure case file information. lock away sensitive inform-ation

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