

FOR1501

May/June 2015

FORENSIC METHODS AND TECHNIQUES

Duration : 2 Hours

100 Marks

EXAMINERS :
FIRST : MR M VAN DER WATT
SECOND : MR SG MOKUBELA
EXTERNAL : MR GH VAN WYK

Closed book examination.

This examination question paper remains the property of the University of South Africa and may not be removed from the examination venue.

The examination paper consists of four (4) pages.

The examination paper consists of twelve (12) questions. Answer all twelve (12) questions.

QUESTION 1

What are the responsibilities of corporate investigators? (8)

QUESTION 2

Working outside the scope of a specific mandate can expose investigators to a range of problems as result of illegal or unethical conduct. Give four examples of such problems. (4)

QUESTION 3

What is the purpose of investigation? (4)

QUESTION 4

List the seven broad steps that make up the investigative process. (7)

QUESTION 5

During your involvement in the investigation process, you will come across some of the following concepts that are fundamental to the investigation of crimes and other transgressions. Define the following concepts: (8)

5.1 Identification

5.2 Individualisation

5.3 Locard's exchange principle

5.4 Continuity of possession

QUESTION 6

Marais (1992:15) lays down certain guidelines for maintaining the chain of possession. Discuss these guidelines. (6)

QUESTION 7

Discuss the important requirements when witnesses want to refresh their memories by using notes or documents. (8)

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QUESTION 8

The "Five Whiskeys and One Hotel" principle (5WH) is fundamental to any investigator who endeavours to obtain complete information in a well-structured and systematic manner. Discuss this principle by providing a relevant example to the question associated with each category. (12)

QUESTION 9

List ten general rules that apply when it comes to interviewing and taking statements from suspects. (10)

QUESTION 10

Statement taking (20)

Mr James Gardener, the complainant, reported to you that his computer repair shop, called PC "XYZ", was broken into over the weekend between Sunday, 17 May 2015 and Monday, 18 May 2015. PC "XYZ" is situated at shop 9b, V&A Waterfront, Cape Town. The complainant informed you that he closed for business at 21:00 on the Sunday evening. He secured the premises, activated the alarm system and left at approximately 21:45. On his arrival at the said business premises on Monday, 18 May 2015 at 07:50, he found the security gate forced open and was surprised that the alarm had not been set off. Mr Gardener supplied you with a list of four (4) items that had allegedly been stolen. These items include two (2) laptop computers and two (2) Xbox gaming consoles used for rental purposes. Mr Gardener provided you with detailed descriptions. The complainant furthermore supplied you with the contact details and description of a potential suspect known only as Uncle Sam, and implicated him as he had installed the alarm system on Friday, 15 May 2015. He also informed you that Uncle Sam had asked him whether he could purchase a laptop for below cost price and had been very unhappy when Mr Gardener declined.

All details as provided in the scenario should be captured in the statement. Special attention should be given to the following:

- Elements of the crime
- Description of the scene

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- Description of the stolen property
- Description of the suspect
- Administering the affirmation or oath

Marks will be allocated as follows:

- Preamble – 5 marks
- Content of the statement – 7 marks
- Certification and conclusion of the statement – 8 marks

QUESTION 11

You have arrested John Goba for theft and detained him at Sunnyside police station. You are preparing yourself for the formal bail application and are considering a number of factors on which to oppose bail. List John Goba's rights in terms of section 35(1) of the Constitution. **(10)**

QUESTION 12

List three things that you as an investigator should not do at a crime scene **(3)**

TOTAL: 100

