

IMPROVING THE INVESTIGATION OF MURDER:  
AN ANALYSIS OF THE EFFECT OF TIME AND DISTANCE RELATIONSHIPS IN  
MURDER INVESTIGATIONS

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## Abstract

### An Analysis Of The Effect Of Time And Distance Relationships In Murder Investigations

by Robert D. Keppel

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The purpose of this research was to improve the investigative understanding of murder in order to effectively manage, coordinate, and solve murder investigations and, thereby, apprehend murderers. The main objective of the research was to determine the critical solvability factors present in murder investigations.

The research methods involved collecting data from approximately 273 police and sheriff departments in Washington State on over 1300 murder cases from 1981 through 1986. The large sample facilitated comprehensive and rigorous statistical analyses. The research was unique in its conceptualization and empirical examination of data on the salient characteristics of murder investigation.

Out of this research a model for the investigation of murder was developed. The model considered the crime of murder as an incident that contained five components: (1) the location where the victim was last seen, (2) the point of contact between the offender and the victim, (3) the initial assault on the victim by the offender, (4) the actual death producing injuries or murder site, and (5) the location where the body was recovered. The location, time and distribution of these components were exclusively controlled, either consciously or unconsciously, by the offender. From this model, a general proposition was formulated: the more information (dates, time spans and intervals of distance) that is known about the components of a murder incident, a significantly higher percentage of investigations will more

likely result in solution.

Five issues were explored and analyzed based on this general proposition. The findings supported the proposition that having more information about short time spans and intervals of distance between certain components enhanced the probability of solution in murder cases.

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## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

The research on criminal investigation emphasizes the central role of information in the apprehension of offenders. The more and better the information, the more likely a case will be solved. However, the lack of coordinated investigation activities, systematically organized records, and quick and easy access to all potentially useful information have typically prevented the most efficient and effective utilization of available information. Obviously, the connections that investigators usually try to make between pieces of information can be accomplished much faster and more productively with a computer, improving the ability to solve crimes and apprehend offenders.

To deal specifically with problems involving the apprehension of murderers, the Washington State Attorney General's Office was awarded a federal grant in September 1987 from the National Institute of Justice for a project, entitled "Improving the Investigation of Homicide and the Apprehension Rate of Murderers." The grant enabled the Attorney General's Office to establish the Homicide Investigation and Tracking System (HITS) which is a statewide, computerized information system that was designed and implemented as the central investigation and research component of the project. A primary objective of the project was to describe and assess the implementation and utilization of the HITS in murder investigations in Washington state. Other research objectives

included the empirical identification of "solvability factors" in successful homicide investigations, and the development of a better social scientific understanding of murder incidents, victims and offenders. Data input of the HITS information was analyzed to address the latter objectives. The results that pertained to the factors of time and distance between crime scene components of a murder incident, which was only a small portion of the total analyses of the overall project, were the focus of this study.

The discovery of a victim's body is only one phase in the process of homicide investigation and prosecution of the offender. After the murder,<sup>1</sup> the actual identification of the offender and the investigation surrounding the behavior of that offender are what provide the most insight into reasons why the violent act was committed. Without identifying the perpetrator and understanding the motives behind the murder, citizens are uninformed about answers as to why murders continue.

The investigation of murder seeks information about the identity of the killer, real and circumstantial evidence which proves that a particular person committed the act, and the motive or reason why the murder took place. The procedures

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<sup>1</sup>"Murder" is defined as the intentional killing of one person by another where one of the following three conditions exist: (a) there is a premeditated intent to kill, (b) the killer engaged in an act inherently dangerous to others and shows a wanton disregard for human life and (c) the murderer perpetrated (or attempted) a felony against the victim such as robbery, burglary, rape or arson.

utilized by police officers in the investigation and solution of murder cases were the major foci of this study. Those factors in murder investigations that are critical to their solution and the apprehension of a murderer have not been examined rigorously in any previous empirical research. The goal of this research was to improve the investigation of murder in order to more effectively manage, conduct and solve murder investigations.

Chapter 2 is a review of literature on the investigation of murder. Social scientific research has neglected the criminal justice response to murder as an object of inquiry. Previous research has dealt mainly with police productivity studies about the effectiveness of detective work for crimes other than murder. Murder investigations and reasons for their solution have not been the major focus of past research.

Chapter 3 outlines the conceptional framework and issues that were explored in this research. A model for solving murder investigations was established and classified murder as an incident with five component parts: the location where the victim was last seen, the point where the victim and the offender had their initial contact, the site where an initial assault occurred, the location of the murder, and the site where the victim's body was recovered. The model was offender-based; that is, the murderer, either consciously or unconsciously, separated all or some of the components, or they occurred simultaneously at the same location. The model

operated on the premise that each of these components were present in every murder case, but sometimes information about some components was not discovered during the process of the murder investigation and, therefore, affected the solution of the case. The solvability of murder investigations (cases that are "solved" and "unsolved" which are defined in Chapter 8) was the dependent variable used for the data analyses.

The data were collected from each of the 274 law enforcement agencies in Washington state who, unanimously, agreed to participate in the Homicide Investigation and Tracking System and research. The cooperation of every agency was critical to a comprehensive and successful implementation of the research. Therefore, the first steps in implementation focused on maximizing the cooperation of all the police and sheriff's departments. In general, this was accomplished by informing the person who was responsible for the investigation of murders in each agency of the objectives of the project and their anticipated role in the HITS. Chapter 4 details the specific strategies utilized for implementation.

Also discussed in Chapter 4 is a parallel implementation effort that attempted to determine the number of murders, and to identify the victims, for each police jurisdiction between January 1, 1981 and December 31, 1986. An accurate list of 1,295 victims was produced with some difficulty, by verifying and cross-checking the often discrepant reports of the State Bureau of Vital Statistics, the Uniform Crime Reports (UCR)

section of the Washington Association of Police Chiefs and Sheriffs, all of the medical examiner/coroner offices, and individual police and sheriff's departments. The final list was used to organize and guide the collection of data from each of the victim case files.

The information that was entered into the HITS computer was collected from individual case files with a data collection instrument that was designed for both investigation and research purposes. The HITS Form was used to record comprehensive, detailed information on 467 items that tap the essential characteristics of a murder and its investigation. Chapter 5 explains the extensive development work on the HITS Form and pretests that were accomplished on sample case files. Following this, the final version and its accompanying coding manual were used in intensive coder training and reliability testing.

In Chapter 6, the selection process for coders is discussed. The selection of coders was based on a comparison of the coding reliability of different types of candidate coders: homicide investigators, general investigators, criminologists, and university students. After initial training and the coding of two test cases, the observed variation in reliability scores and motivation levels of each of the groups led to the decision to use homicide investigators as coders, exclusively. Their experience with murder investigation, familiarity with murder case files, and

knowledge of law enforcement protocol made it easier to train them and also, apparently, made them the most reliable coders.

The training of homicide investigators occurred at four locations across the state, with each training session attended by more than 10 detectives. Not all trainees became coders for the research, and of those who did, 13 coded 95% of the cases. Two homicide investigators in Seattle, King County Area, where many of the murders were located, coded 60% of the total number of cases. The reliability of coding was monitored in two ways throughout the data collections process: first, a minimum of 10% of each coder's completed HITS Forms were reviewed and evaluated for coding accuracy; and second, every case that was coded was checked for internal consistency on every item by comparing the original HITS Form with its corresponding printout. On both measures the average coding reliability was greater than 99% -- an impressive level of accuracy.

The collection of data from murder case files, as outlined in Chapter 7, began in the summer of 1988 and, with data cleaning and corrections, took more than a year to complete. As HITS Forms were returned, data entry operators entered the information that was recorded on each form into the computer. There were 38 categories of information, each with multiple items, on the victim, offender, incident, methods of operation, weapons, medical examiner findings, evidence, investigation procedures, and so on. For the

research and HITS, the standards for data entry accuracy had to be higher than usual for the system to be efficient and effective -- errors would impede investigations. Therefore, every data entry for every HITS Form was verified and corrected, by once again comparing every item on the HITS Form with its printout (Chapter 8). The reliability checks and comprehensive verification of data entry have produced one of the most accurate data sets on murder that has been compiled.

The data analyses, which is detailed in Chapter 9, was performed on the total sample of 967 single-victim murder cases in Washington state from January 1, 1981 through December 31, 1986. The data analyses consisted of (1) determining the extent to which any information was known about each of the components in solved and unsolved cases, (2) examining the sample for those cases in which time information was known for each component by solvability, (3) analyzing the degree to which solved and unsolved cases differed when information about the span of time between any two components was known, (4) determining the degree to which short and long distances between pairs of components affect solvability, and (5) examining the variables of short and long spans of time simultaneously with short and long intervals of distance for pairs of components for their affect on solvability.

Chapter 10 summarizes the important implications revealed by this research. The utility of knowing information about time and distance for some components in murder cases was

significant to solvability.

## CHAPTER 2

### REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE ON THE INVESTIGATION OF MURDER

Historically, social scientific research on murder has emphasized the ecological, demographic, social structural, and psychopathological characteristics of murder incidents, victims or offenders.<sup>2 3 4 5 6</sup> These studies typically rely on aggregate-level data or, at the other extreme, clinical case-studies, neither of which are very informative regarding the control of murder, particularly by the criminal justice system. The problem is that researchers, for whatever reasons, have neglected the criminal justice response to murder as an object of inquiry.

Consequently, there is not one rigorous, empirical study that focuses on the formal reaction to homicides by those agencies and agents responsible for solving the crime and

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<sup>2</sup>Wolfgang, M.E. Patterns in Criminal Homicide, Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. 1958.

<sup>3</sup>Block, R. "Homicide in Chicago: A Nine Year Study (1965-1973)" Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology 66:496-510. 1976

<sup>4</sup>Messner, S.F. and K. Tardiff, "The Social Ecology of Urban Homicide: An Application of the 'Routine Activities' Approach." Criminology 23,2. 1985

<sup>5</sup>Loftin, C. and R. H. Hill, "Regional Subculture and Homicide: An Empirical Examination of the Gastil-Hackney Thesis." American Sociological Review 39:714-724. 1974

<sup>6</sup>Krahn, H., T. F. Hartnagel, and J. W. Gartrell, "Income Inequality and Homicide Rates: Cross-National Data and Criminology Theories." Criminology 24,2. 1986.

apprehending the offender. Put another way, prior research has not focused on the processes, procedures and factors that characterize the investigation of murder. To the author's knowledge, there is only one study of murder investigation, but it was somewhat limited in scope and, therefore, generalizability, because it focused only on the investigation of "serial" murder, did not deal with how they were caught, and depended on the veracity of information provided by 36 convicted serial-murderer interviewees.<sup>7</sup> That study may illuminate the understanding of some aspects of the investigation of serial murder, but it cannot address the whole process of investigation of all types of murder.

An unexpected source of information affecting the solution of murder investigations is the case law on murder convictions. Although the procedures used by police in murder investigations have not been studied empirically, they are a common source of appellate issues raised by those convicted of murder. The case law is replete with appeals that attack the quality of police investigation in murder cases. Frequently, they illustrate that the successful completion of a murder investigation is dependent upon a combination of several solvability factors: (1) the quality of police interviews of eyewitnesses;<sup>8</sup> (2) the circumstances which led to the initial

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<sup>7</sup>Federal Bureau of Investigation, "Violent Crime," FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, August 1985.

<sup>8</sup> Bundy v. State, 455 So.2d 330 (Fla. 1984).

stop and arrest of the murderer;<sup>9</sup> (3) the circumstances which established the probable cause to search and seize physical evidence from the person and/or property of the murderer;<sup>10</sup> (4) the quality of the investigation at the crime scene(s);<sup>11 12</sup> and, (5) the quality of the scientific analysis of the physical evidence seized from the murderer and/or his property and its comparison to physical evidence recovered from the victims and the murder scenes.<sup>13</sup> It is surprising that empirical research has not been generated from the appellate cases which have criticized the quality of police investigations. Nor have detectives, traditionally, researched these investigative factors to make themselves more effective. To date, advances in the quality of detective work have been motivated and accomplished only by the ingenuity and drive of individual detectives.

Fortunately, there has been some work on criminal investigation in general that may inform the empirical study of murder investigation. This work is found in two sources -- textbooks on criminal investigation and empirical studies of the investigation of crimes other than murder.

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<sup>9</sup> People v. Eyler, 477 N.E.2d 774 (Ill. App. 2d, 1985).

<sup>10</sup> People v. Gacy, 468 N.E. 2d 1171 (Ill. 1984).

<sup>11</sup> Williams v. State, 312 S.E. 2d 40 (Ga. 1983).

<sup>12</sup> Bundy v. State, 10 FLW 269 (1985).

<sup>13</sup> Ibid, Willimas v. State

A controversial body of literature exists in textbooks on criminal investigation in the police science field. These textbooks deal with highly selective elements of murder investigation, for example, the preservation of evidence at the murder scene and various methods of analyzing and handling that evidence.<sup>14 15</sup> The basis for each of these texts is limited to the practical experiences of each author and is not the result of generalizations made from empirical research. Very little information is presented in these texts which relates to the actual steps, beyond the original crime scene investigation, that detectives should follow. The logical steps necessary to effectively follow the clues that can be found during the formative stages of the murder investigation are not specifically detailed or analyzed in any of these texts or in any empirical research studies.

The empirical research on criminal investigation over the past 15 years has focused on (1) the description of the investigative process, (2) the actions of investigators and information sources used by them in solving crimes, and (3) the management of criminal investigations. Although most of this research is not directly applicable to the investigation of murder and is often flawed methodologically, it does point

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<sup>14</sup> Geberth, V. J., Practical Homicide Investigation, Elsevier Publishing Co.: NY, 1983.

<sup>15</sup> Fisher, B., Svensen, A., and O. Wendel, Techniques of Crime Scene Investigation, Elsevier Publishing Co.: NY, 1986.

to a number of important research issues and questions. The early studies of criminal investigation were primarily descriptive accounts of the process of law enforcement efforts to solve crimes. This research has been highly critical of the police role in apprehending criminals. The investigation of crime is described as a serendipitous process, wherein the actions of police have little to do with solving crimes.<sup>16 17</sup>

From this, a number of controversial evaluations of police productivity have reiterated the conclusion that the detective function is relatively ineffective in solving crimes.<sup>18 19</sup> But no studies have examined whether the quality of detective work is related to the apparent declining solution rate of murders. Recent estimates are that, from 1960 to 1983, the solution rate for murders has declined from over 90 percent to approximately 76 percent for all types of murder.<sup>20</sup> In a related study in San Diego, the major

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<sup>16</sup> Greenwood, P. W., An Analysis of the Apprehension Activities of the New York City Police Department, New York: Rand, 1970.

<sup>17</sup> Greenwood, P., J. Petersilia and J. Chaiken, The Criminal Investigation Process, D.C.: Lewington, MA. 1977.

<sup>18</sup> Skogan, W. and G. E. Antunes, "Information, Apprehension, and Deterrence: Exploring the Limits of Police Productivity," Journal of Criminal Justice 7,3. 1979.

<sup>19</sup> Geller, W. Police Leadership In America: Crisis and Opportunity, Praeger, 1985.

<sup>20</sup> Holmes, R. M. and J. E. DeBurger, "Profiles in Terror: The Serial Murderer," Federal Probation 49,3. 1985.

conclusion was that there had been a rapid growth of urban criminal homicide between 1970-1980 coupled with a corresponding decrease in homicide cases cleared by the police.<sup>21</sup>

A number of recent studies have focused on the critical elements in solving crimes. For example, research has been conducted on solvability factors in the investigations of burglary and robbery. This research concludes that patrol officers and detectives contribute equally important work toward the solution of these crimes, a finding contrary to the earlier studies which emphasized the importance of patrol officers and preliminary investigation while minimizing the value of follow-up investigation.<sup>22</sup> The research on solving crimes typically explores the routine police techniques used in identifying solvability factors, for example, canvassing for eyewitnesses, developing informants, and contacting other police agencies, but totally neglects the characteristics of the crime that may be important to the solvability of the case.

Given this basic premise, I hypothesize that there is an important relationship between the potential for solving

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<sup>21</sup> Gilbert, J. M., "A Study of the Increased Rate of Unsolved Homicide in San Diego, California and its Relationship to Police Investigative Effectiveness," American Journal of Police II,11. 1983.

<sup>22</sup> Eck, J. Solving Crimes: The Investigation of Burglary and Robbery, Washington D.C.: Police Executive Research Forum, 1983

murders, on one hand, and the other hand information about where the body is discovered, the place where the victim was last seen, the initial contact point between the offender and the victim, the initial assault site, and the location where the murder actually occurred. For example, if a female is found bludgeoned to death in her bedroom and the initial contact between that victim and her boyfriend was at the same place and minutes before the murder, statistics would most likely demonstrate that, in a significant number of these types of cases, the boyfriend was the perpetrator, and the investigation of the boyfriend should receive the highest priority in the investigation process. The avenues of approach and the priorities of the investigative steps can be developed, both prospectively and retrospectively, from information about the various locations.

There is a small but growing literature concerned with the intra- and inter-agency coordination and organization of crime investigation. These studies emphasize the efforts to improve the management of the process and procedures of investigation, toward the end of improving the effectiveness of police in solving crimes.<sup>23 24</sup>

Overall, even though the prior empirical research on the

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<sup>23</sup> Stewart, J. K. "A Management Plan: Effective Criminal Investigation," Police Chief 47,8. 1980.

<sup>24</sup> Repetto, T. A. "The Influence of Police Organizational Style on Crime Control Effectiveness," Journal of Police Science and Administration 3,3. 1975.

process of investigation, the identification of solvability factors, and the effective management of investigations, suffers from many of the usual methodological problems of inadequate samples, inappropriate data, weak research designs, and simplistic analyses,<sup>25</sup> <sup>26</sup> it points to a number of important issues in criminal investigation. Among the most critical is the role of information in solving crime.

Police agencies have neglected a very important source of information... a great deal of information used in successful investigations is obtained by members of the police agency discussing cases with each other and by detectives using police records. More emphasis should be placed on cooperation and information sharing among police officers and detectives. Additionally, police managers and executives should pay close attention as to how criminal records are filed and organized to make sure that they are easily accessible by investigators and that they contain information investigators need. To lose a case because a witness is not available is unfortunate. To lose a case because a detective cannot find information that the department already has in its files is inexcusable.<sup>27</sup>

It is apparent that the most prominent reason why detectives do not solve cases is the manner in which they gather and use information. The key to solving crimes and making arrests is to understand how much and what kind of information is available and how to organize it to make it

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<sup>25</sup> Ibid, Eck, 1983.

<sup>26</sup> Gates, D. F. and L. Knowles, "An Evaluation on the Rand Corporation's Analysis of the Criminal Investigation Process," Police Chief 43,7. 1976.

<sup>27</sup> Duffy in Eck, J. Ibid, 1983.

more accessible and useful.<sup>28</sup>

More specifically, Willmer in his work with information theory and solving crimes focused his criticism directly on records that are supposed to contain information about identified criminals. The search for this information may be futile because the availability of such information is in question. It is mostly stored in the minds of individual police officers who obtain information from many sources other than the scene of a crime. These sources are (1) beat patrol officers, (2) cultivated informants who give valuable tip-offs, and (3) detectives who accumulate information over time. To improve police effectiveness better methods to receive, collate and disseminate this type of information are essential for solving crimes.<sup>29</sup>

The main flaw in studies that are critical of the investigator's ability to process information is that they have primarily used crimes other than murder as the basis for research. Burglary, larceny and robbery are the most frequently mentioned crimes. The investigative response to these crimes is different than for murder. Not always is a detective assigned immediately to follow-up these cases, unlike murder where all murders are assigned for follow-up, no matter the degree to which solvability factors are present.

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<sup>28</sup> Ibid, Geller, 1985.

<sup>29</sup> Willmer, M.A.P. (1970) Crime and Information Theory, Edinburgh University Press: Edinburgh, Great Britain. 13-34.

Murder investigations and reasons for their solution have not been the major focus of any study but have been included as part of other research on murder. For instance, the factors of time and distance have been mentioned with time as the most frequently reported factor that affects the solution of murder cases. The reference to time, however, has only been expressed in terms of its relationship to the chances for solution of the case when the time of the arrest of the offender is compared to the time when the murder was discovered. The research has shown that, in 66 percent of solved murder cases, a suspect is in custody within 24 hours and, if the murder is not solved within 48 hours, the chances of it ever being solved fall markedly.<sup>30 31</sup> Time and its relationship to murder cases have not been considered in any scientific research as they relate to other factors, such as information about the time and place of death in comparison to the time and location where the body recovery site was discovered, which are elements vital to any murder investigation.<sup>32 33 34 35</sup>

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<sup>30</sup> Danto, B. L., Bruhns, J., and A. H. Kutscher, The Human Side of Homicide, NY: Columbia University Press, 1982.

<sup>31</sup> Lunde, D. T., Murder and Madness. NY: Norton, 1975.

<sup>32</sup>Ibid, Geberth, 1983

Intervals of distance between certain crime scene locations in a murder case have not been routinely included as part of any research project on murder. The importance of distance was first emphasized by the National Serial Murder Advisory Group for the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (VICAP).<sup>36</sup> The actual intervals of distance among the victim's last known location, the initial contact point between the offender and victim, the initial assault location, the death site, and the body recovery site are recorded on the VICAP Crime Report and submitted to the FBI by local law enforcement officers.<sup>37</sup> The data are used in conjunction with other data on the form to analyze a case to determine if it is similar in method of

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<sup>33</sup>Adelson, Lester, The Pathology of Homicide, Charles C. Thomas, Publisher.: Springfield, Illinois, 1974.

<sup>34</sup>Spitz, Werner U. and Russell S. Fisher, Medicolegal Investigation of Death, Charles C. Thomas, Publisher: Springfield, Illinois, 1973.

<sup>35</sup>Ibid, Fisher, 1986.

<sup>36</sup>The National Advisory Group to the FBI's VICAP Program operated from 1981 until the VICAP unit's implementation in June, 1985. It recommended factors that were most important to the solution of murder cases, especially multiple murders. These recommendations were based on over 100 years of combined homicide investigation experience of the group's members. The members were Pierce Brooks (Los Angeles Police Department, Retired Captain), Lt. Terry Green (Oakland, California Police Department), Captain Robbie Robertson (Michigan State Police), Sgt. Frank Salerno (Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office), and the author, Chief Criminal Investigator Robert Keppel (Washington State Attorney General's Office).

<sup>37</sup>Vicap Crime Report, U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, June 1985.

operation to a case from another police jurisdiction. In the event a match is determined, the conclusions of the analysis are conveyed to the affected law enforcement agencies. This information enables detectives from different agencies to be aware that they may be investigating murders committed by the same offender. This process enhances the communication among police investigators, makes more information available to be pursued, and results in more effective murder investigations.

Agents of the FBI's Behavioral Sciences Unit have further highlighted time and location factors as crucial to the process of profiling violent offenders. A specific profile of an unnamed offender can point investigators in a certain direction and, thus, increase the chances of solving the case. They emphasize the importance of the analysis of the time it takes to kill and dispose of a victim in conjunction with the location of where the murder occurred, especially if it is different from where the body was discovered and the point of abduction.<sup>38</sup>

A more recent project was undertaken by the U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention that emphasized the importance of time and distance intervals in murder investigations. The purpose of the research was to conduct national incidence studies to determine various statistics, including the number of juvenile "victims of abduction by

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<sup>38</sup> Ressler, Robert K., Ann W. Burgess and John E. Douglas (1988) Sexual Homicide. Lexington, Massachusetts: D.C. Heath and Company. 135-152.

strangers." The time that a child was detained and the distance that a child was transported after the abduction were major factors in this research. The research concluded tragically that 2% of the abduction cases where children were coerced or taken a distance of more than 20 feet or detained for more than an hour ended with the murder of those children.<sup>39</sup> This project did not consider the effect of time and distance or their relationship to the solution of child murder cases.

Finally, a major concern about solving crimes addressed in the literature on murder is that by some important measures the police are not doing these things very well. The most common indicator of their performance is the clearance rate, the barometer of successful investigation. The reporting of clearance rates is based on the investigating agency's case status. The most widely used reporting system is the Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Using UCR guidelines, the FBI's Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (VICAP) has developed five categories of case status for murder investigations. They are:

- (1) Open (active investigation),
- (2) Suspended (inactive investigation),
- (3) Open -- Arrest Warrant Issued,
- (4) Cleared by Arrest, and

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<sup>39</sup>Sweet, Robert W., "Missing Children: Found Facts," NIJ Reports, U.S. Department of Justice, No. 222: 15-18, November/December 1990.

(5) Exceptionally Cleared (By UCR Definition).<sup>40</sup>

Clearance rates for murder investigations, as described in the literature, look bad because they are declining. For example, in Illinois, clearance rates for murder have dropped from 90 percent to 77 percent since 1972.<sup>41</sup> In Washington State, the 1984 murder clearance rate was 77 percent and has dropped to 66 percent in 1987.<sup>42</sup>

When the murder clearance rates for cities over 250,000 population are examined, the low clearance rate of unsolved killings is disturbing. For example, New York City reported an unsolved rate of 43 percent in 1979. Also, the police in Denver reported an unsolved rate of 54 percent in 1980, a figure which represents a startling decade change of 179 percent in unsolved criminal homicides.<sup>43</sup>

Some references in the literature use more detailed descriptions about the status of the offender<sup>44</sup> to define

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<sup>40</sup> VICAP Crime Report, U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Rev. 3-11-86.

<sup>41</sup> Ibid, Skogan, 1985.

<sup>42</sup> Crime in Washington State, Annual Report, Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, 1984 and 1987.

<sup>43</sup> Ibid, Gilbert, J., 1983.

<sup>44</sup> For purposes of this research, "offender" is defined as an arrestee(s), perpetrator(s), suspect(s), or any person(s) the investigator has reasonable cause to believe is responsible for the commission of a murder(s). Types of individuals who are offenders include those who actively participate in the murder, look-outs, "get-away" car drivers, the "employer" in a murder for hire scheme, and co-conspirators.

solved and unsolved cases. The status of the offender varies from case to case depending on what is known about the offender and how conclusively a fact or combination of facts link a person(s) to the murder.

Marvin Wolfgang in his 1958 research of criminal homicide in Philadelphia also focused on the status of the offender. He made the distinction that unsolved criminal homicide had multiple components which were interpreted as:

- (1) a suspect has been arrested, brought to trial, but not convicted;
- (2) a suspect has been arrested, but has not been brought to trial;
- (3) a suspect is known to the police but has escaped arrest; or
- (4) no suspect has been identified by police.

For purposes of his research, he limited his definition "of unsolved cases to those cases of homicide in which no suspect, sufficiently subject to arrest if located, is known to the police." This definition is used by the Philadelphia Homicide Squad.<sup>45</sup> In a study of cluster-murders of children in Atlanta, unsolved murders were defined as those "without a perpetrator being apprehended."<sup>46</sup>

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<sup>45</sup> Ibid, Wolfgang, 1958. p.287

<sup>46</sup> Blaser, M. J. and others, "Epidemiologic Analysis of a Cluster of Homicides of Children in Atlanta," Journal of the American Medical Association, Vol. 251, No. 24, June 22/29, 1984.

The UCR categories of case status were the most frequently cited statistics on the status of murder investigations found throughout the criminal justice literature and the only categories that are used for reporting of statistics on murder by law enforcement agencies in the state of Washington. For these reasons, they were used in this study for determining if a case was solved or unsolved.

Several issues which flow from the above research were addressed in this study. They involved the extent to which time and distance factors of the various components of a murder incident affected solvability. These issues are detailed in Chapter 3.

These types of solvability factors in murder investigations and their relative contributions to solving murder cases will be a major function of this study. It is clear that rigorous, empirical research on murder investigation is needed to clarify the issues and problems identified in the research literature and raised in case law on murder conviction appeals. This study should improve the understanding of murder and its investigation, as well as the management and solution of murder cases.

## CHAPTER 3

### CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

Any research effort that is undertaken to analyze criminal investigation problems requires that the research first be carefully conceptualized and the terminology used specifically defined. But in the case of murder investigation, the process of conceptualization of the research revealed a disturbing conclusion. There is no scientific basis for the investigation of murder, only general operational procedures unique to a particular law enforcement agency and whatever practical experiences an officer brings to an investigation. Additionally, the problem of defining the word "information," which the collection of information is a basic function of law enforcement officials in every murder investigation, is highlighted in the literature of Information Theory. There appears to be a consensus that a strong definition of information that is unambiguous must precede any research on "information use."<sup>47</sup> Therefore, in order to develop a theory of murder investigation, an understanding of how murder investigation fits into the process of death investigation and clear definitions of its component parts are necessary.

What follows in this chapter are (1) the ways in which the investigation of a homicide is initiated by police officers, (2) a proposed model of murder investigation that is

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<sup>47</sup> Horne, Esther E. (1979) Information Need and the Function of the Question. University Microfilms International. 1-5.

the basis for this research, (3) definitions of the model's components and how those components interact in the process of murder investigation, and (4) the issues explored and tested in this research.

The Investigation of Homicide: Theory or Practice?

The customary way that the police become involved in the investigation of a death is in response to calls of shots fired, a missing person, a man down, or a dead body. The course of the investigation is reactive in nature in that investigators follow up the reported call after the incident has occurred.

The most frequent place for a death investigation to begin is at the site where the victim is found. This location is commonly referred to as the "body recovery site." The finding of a dead body is the starting point and initial focus of the death investigation.<sup>48</sup>

The type of death is determined and classified as homicide, suicide, accidental, natural, or undetermined. It is established through information investigated and developed by police and medical examiner/coroner personnel. Once a death has been classified as homicide (the killing of one human being by another), then a homicide investigation

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<sup>48</sup> Fisher, Barry A., Arne Svensson, and Otto Wendel, Techniques of Crime Scene Investigation, Elsevier Publishing Co: New York, 1987. p. 404

proceeds. Murder is one category of homicide. Other categories of homicide include, but are not limited to, justifiable, excusable, and vehicular homicide, when the criminal intent to kill another human being is absent.

The scene of a murder is, without a doubt, the most important crime scene a police officer or investigator will be called upon to respond to.<sup>49</sup> How a murder is investigated has traditionally relied heavily upon the role of logic and very little on theories of investigation based on empirical research. Detectives have not systematically researched investigative follow-up activities to make themselves more effective. To date, advances in the quality of detective work have been motivated and accomplished primarily by the ingenuity and drive of individual detectives.<sup>50</sup>

The closest homicide detectives have come to using any theory of investigation was when they have applied the principles of inductive and deductive reasoning to the follow-up activities of a murder investigation. The two types of reasoning are only useful to the extent that the reasoning applies to the individual murder case at hand. The investigation is not based on propositions applicable to a

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<sup>49</sup> Geberth, Vernon J. Practical Homicide Investigation, Elsevier Publishing Co: New York, 1990. p. 1

<sup>50</sup> Keppel, Robert D. Serial Murder: Future Implications for Police Investigations, Anderson Publishing Co: Cincinnati, Ohio, 1989. p.4

large number of cases.

Through inductive reasoning, the passage from the particular to the general, the detective develops from observed data a generalization explaining the relationships among events under investigation.

For example, a transient finds a body covered with tree branches in the woods and notifies the Seattle, Washington police. The male victim had been shot twice in the head with a .45 caliber pistol. No expended shell casings were found around the body which might indicate that the victim was killed elsewhere. While examining the trousers worn by the victim, a homicide detective found a three-inch long sliver of wood embedded in the fabric. The detective became curious about the sliver of wood and requested that the crime laboratory examine the wood to determine its possible origin. A laboratory expert informed the detective that the sliver was actually several layers of pressed wood, specifically, Southern Pine held together with a glue that was only manufactured on the east coast. The detective knew that Southern Pine trees did not grow in the Pacific Northwest.

The detective contacted the manager of the glue factory and was informed that the type of glue was only used at a wooden box manufacturing plant in Greensboro, North Carolina. After contacting the owner of the Greensboro plant, the detective received four locations on the west coast where the boxes were distributed, one of which was in Seattle,

Washington. The detective visited the Seattle distribution center and discovered that there was an employee whose first name and home telephone number appeared in the victim's address book. After interviewing several friends of the victim, the detective knew that the victim was probably involved in drug dealing with the employee at the plant. The detective found out from firearms records that the employee had recently purchased a .45 caliber automatic pistol three days prior to the murder.

The developing general theory based on the above particular facts was that a drug deal had gone bad. The employee probably shot the victim with his pistol, placed the victim originally in one of the wooden boxes, transported the victim in the box to a wooded area, and then dumped the victim out of the box and covered the victim with tree branches. When the employee was confronted with the facts, he confessed to the detective and provided information about the location of the pistol and box.

In deductive reasoning, the proceeding from the general to the particular, the detective begins from a general theory, applies it to the particular instance represented by the murder, and determines whether the truth of the instance is contained in the theory. For example, a female was found dead in her own bed. She was beaten with a baseball bat that was found near the bed. The body was discovered by the victim's mother. A general theory was that people were usually killed

by people they know. In the case of a female found bludgeoned in her own bed, an experienced detective would probably focus on the victim's husband or boyfriend first. In the present case, the victim had an estranged husband and had been romantically involved with another man. A bloody fingerprint was found on the baseball bat. Using the general theory, the detective requested that crime laboratory experts compare the bloody print with the fingerprints of the husband and boyfriend. The results were that the husband's fingerprints were a positive comparison and the dried blood that formed the ridges of the fingerprint matched the blood type of the victim and not the husband. The detective has verified that the truth of the instance is contained in the theory.

Unfortunately, the use of correct reasoning processes is not grounded in sound empirical research but must be learned through conscious application, and constant vigilance against the pitfalls of false premises, unjustifiable inferences, ignorance of conceivable alternatives, and failure to distinguish between the factual and the probable.<sup>51</sup>

For homicide investigators, there are no current theories of investigation that can systematically guide their follow-up procedures in every murder case. Traditionally, detectives have relied on the facts available in a particular case and

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<sup>51</sup> O'Hara, Charles E., Fundamentals of Criminal Investigation, Charles C. Thomas Publisher: Springfield, Illinois, 1977. p. 23

proceeded on avenues of follow-up investigation based on "gut feelings" and "common sense." The following new theory for the investigation of murder gives the detective a method to pursue leads in all types of murder cases. The new theory is the basis for research in this study.

#### Model for Murder Investigation

This research focuses on the investigation of murder as a process. The process is called a Model for Murder Investigation (MMI). The result of using MMI in the pursuit of follow-up leads in murder investigations is that the case will be approached systematically, thus making homicide detectives more effective.

The basic premise of the model proposed here is that the crime of murder is an incident. The murder incident contains multiple components that are locations of contact between the offender and victim. MMI emphasizes the search for clues or information about the major investigative components of a murder incident (See Figure 1). A thorough investigator collects all the necessary information that exists around each component. The presence or absence of information that establishes the existence of each component, coupled with when and where each component is located within the incident, and the manner in which their inter-relationships affect each other, will greatly influence the solution of the murder case.

Specifically, MMI involves the gathering of information

about various components that are locations of victim-offender contact. The important information crucial to the investigation of murder are:

- (1) where and when the victim was last seen,
- (2) where and when the offender initially contacted the victim,
- (3) where and when the offender first assaulted the victim,
- (4) where the murder took place, and
- (5) where and when the body was recovered.

VICTIM LAST SEEN SITE AND TIME
INITIAL CONTACT SITE AND TIME
INITIAL ASSAULT SITE AND TIME
MURDER SITE AND TIME
BODY RECOVERY SITE AND TIME

FIGURE 1: Components for the Incident of Murder

Components of the Murder Incident

1. The location where and time when the victim was last seen or Victim Last Seen Site (VLS) is developed from eyewitness information and records that reflect when and where the victim was last seen alive. For example, eyewitness accounts include visual sightings and telephone conversations, and records include official documents, such as traffic citations, police field interview reports, jail booking logs,

long distance telephone /toll records, credit card receipts, etc.

2. The place where and time when the offender initially contacted the victim or Initial Contact Site (IC) is established from evidence that the offender first met the victim at a certain time and at a specific location during the course of the murder incident. For example, if a husband killed his wife in their apartment after she returned home from work, the time and location for the initial contact within that murder incident is when the wife returned home from work and was confronted by her husband, not the date when they first met two years ago.

3. The Initial Assault Site (AS) is the location where and time when the offender, either at the time of, or after the initial contact, kidnaps or assaults the victim in any manner during the course of the murder incident. It is not defined as the place where the actual death producing injuries occurred. For example, a male customer picks up a female prostitute at a bus stop. The customer transports the prostitute in his car to a remote location where he slaps the prostitute and handcuffs her. This action is the initial assault.

4. The Murder Site (MS) is the place where and time when the victim sustains the death producing injuries. Using the previous example, what follows the initial assault by two hours is the shooting that causes the death of the prostitute

at the customer's home.

5. The Body Recovery Site (BR) is the location where and time when police, medics, or witnesses find the victim, dead or alive, prior to transportation to a medical facility or morgue. For example, if a living victim is found shot outside a tavern, transported to a hospital for treatment, dies in the emergency room, the body recovery site is the tavern, not the hospital.

The MMI theory of investigation operates on the premise that all of the above components occur in each incident of murder. Problems with any case's solution surface when investigators fail to locate information about the location and the time of each component within the sequence of the murder incident. Fortunately, in most cases, the events occur simultaneously, and the information that is available suggests that all events are located in the same place and are not separated by intervals of distance or spans of time.

#### Separation of Components by Time and Distance

The components within an incident of murder can become separated by time and distance (See Figure 2). The separation occurs in two ways.

First, the offender consciously separates the components. The killer believes that the separation of murder components prolongs the investigation by delaying the discovery of various components contribute to the destruction of evidence.

The separation also inhibits the investigation by causing problems in communication and cooperation among police agencies because the location of all components is not within the authority of one police agency. For example, multiple murderer Theodore Bundy intentionally contacted victims in different locations than where he killed them and disposed of their bodies. He contacted a female victim at Oregon State University in Corvallis, Oregon and then dumped her remains 265 miles away in rural King County near Seattle, Washington.

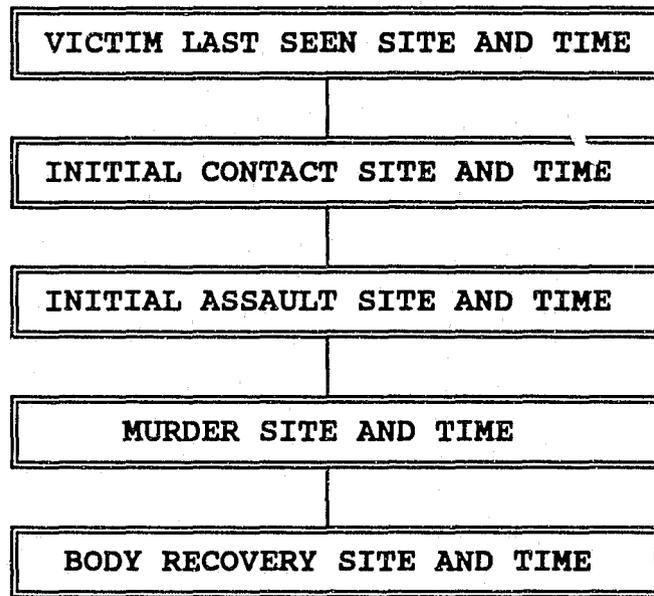


FIGURE 2: Components of an Incident of Murder Separated by Time and Distance

Prior to his execution in Florida, Bundy made statements about his murders. He revealed that he was aware that time and distance separation among the locations of disappearance, murder and body recovery resulted in more weathering and deterioration of human remains and physical evidence. He was

also mindful of the problems in cooperation and communication among police investigators when murderers use locations in different jurisdictions when contacting victims and disposing of their bodies.<sup>52</sup>

Second, the offender unintentionally separates the location of components by time and distance. For example, a man picks up a woman in a tavern. He transports her to a remote location to have consensual sex in his car. Then, argument ensues because she wants money for her efforts. The offender pulls out a gun and pushes the victim down. Her head strikes a rock, rendering her unconscious. The offender then transports the victim to a hospital where she dies. The offender has not intentionally separated the components of the incident to deceive investigators. Additionally, the discovery of a body after the murder may be delayed more by chance than by the efforts of the offender. For instance, an elderly woman, murdered in her own home, may not have immediate family in the neighborhood to check on her welfare. The checks may only be sporadic, so the discovery of her remains might take longer than if she had someone who checked on her daily.

The importance of the information that identifies the location and time of each component cannot be overemphasized. Having confirmed through evidence the time, date and location

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<sup>52</sup> Interview with Theodore Robert Bundy at the Florida State Penitentiary, January 1989.

of a component prior to the identification of a possible suspect enables the investigator to more accurately check the whereabouts and verify or refute alibis of a suspect against that component.

### Issues

In general, the purpose of the research funded by the National Institute of Justice is to examine what kinds of information in the hands of police investigators contribute to the solvability of a murder case. More specifically, this study deals with the separation of the components of a murder incident by time and distance and their relationship to solvability. The study's general proposition is: the more information (dates, time spans, distance and intervals of distance) that is known about the components (victim's last seen site, initial contact site, initial assault site, murder site and body recovery site) of a murder incident, the higher the percentage of investigations resulting in solution.

Five issues that flow from this general proposition were explored and tested by this research:

1. When police investigators know the dates of initial contact, initial assault, and the murder itself, this knowledge will contribute to the solvability of the case, i.e., the percentage of cases solved will be greater given this knowledge than when the dates for these components are not known.

2. (a) When the time between a given pair of components is less than 24 hours, such relatively close proximity in time will contribute to the solvability of the case, i.e., the percentage of cases solved will be greater than when that pair of components is separated by more than 24 hours.

(b) The time proximity of components will contribute to the solvability of the case even if the components are not close in time.

3. When police investigators know the distance between the sites of any pair of the five case components, this knowledge will contribute to the solvability of the case, i.e., the percentage of cases solved will be greater given this knowledge than when the distances between pairs of components are not known.

4. When the distance between the sites of a given pair of components is less than 199 feet, such relatively close proximity of the components will contribute to the solvability of the case, i.e., the percentage of cases solved will be greater than when the sites of that pair of components are separated by more than 199 feet.

5. When the time between a given pair of components is more than 24 hours and the distance between that same pair is more than 199 feet, such relatively distant proximity in time and distance will not contribute to the solvability of the case, i.e., the rate of solvability diminishes sharply when both the time span and interval of distance are shorter for

that pair of components.

This chapter has set forth the theoretical foundations and issues that were explored by the data analyses reported in Chapter 8. The next chapter is the beginning of the explanation for the methodology employed to collect the data for this study. The methodology is divided into four parts and explained in the following four chapters.

## CHAPTER 4

### METHODOLOGY: PART I

The data were derived from a larger research project conducted by the Washington State Attorney General's Office, Seattle, Washington, from September 1987 to October 1991. Under the title of "Improving the Investigation of Homicides and the Apprehension Rate of Murderers," this research was funded by the National Institute of Justice (Grant No. 87-IJ-CX-0026). The three objectives of the research were (1) to describe and assess the development of a model statewide homicide investigation system, (2) to determine the critical solvability factors present in homicide investigations, and (3) to identify the salient characteristics of homicides. Some of the data that were derived from objective 2, to determine the critical solvability factors present in homicide investigations, were the elements used for this research.

To determine the critical solvability factors present in homicide investigations, data were collected on all solved and unsolved murders from law enforcement agencies in the state of Washington from January 1981 through December 1986. The final sample of murders totalled 1,309 victims. These six years were chosen for four reasons: first, the cases were sufficiently contemporary that accessing the records was not problematic; second, the unsolved cases in the sample were more investigable than older cases; third, the relatively large sample of murders facilitates more rigorous and powerful statistical analyses; and fourth, the system for collecting

murder information in Washington state began in 1981 with law enforcement agencies reporting to UCR.

### Implementation

The implementation of this research was preceded by contact with the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) and the Washington Sheriff's Association. It was determined that for the research to be comprehensive and effective, the full cooperation of these umbrella agencies was necessary and, definitely, a prerequisite. All the murder investigation files that were required for the research project were within the original authority of the Chiefs of Police and Sheriffs who were members of these associations. A presentation was made to the executive boards of the associations, requesting their cooperation in the project.

The prerequisite to their support was absolute security and proper dissemination of information in a way that did not detract from, but enhanced, each agency's ability to investigate. Investigators had to be confident that information taken from individual files, especially unsolved cases, was the sole property of the agency responsible for the investigation. Prior to the publication of any results which may reveal specific facts unique to a single unsolved murder case, as opposed to aggregate results, the investigating agency must be informed so as not to risk the successful resolution of that investigation. Before the grant proposal

was submitted to NIJ, the two associations sent letters of support (See Appendix A) affirming their cooperation and compliance.

After the grant was awarded in September 1987, the strategy and objectives for implementation of the research were identified. They were: (1) to develop the best method to maximize the cooperation among all of Washington state's police and sheriff's departments, and (2) to identify the number of murders for each police jurisdiction.

#### Maximizing Cooperation

The key to maximum cooperation was to inform each police officer, supervisor, detective, commander and executive officer who was ultimately responsible for the investigation of murders in each agency of the objectives of the research. This process was accomplished in a number of ways.

A "letter of introduction" describing the purposes of the research, the value of an information system to the investigation of murders and the existing VICAP system available for use was the first informative action taken (See Appendix B for sample letter). Letters were sent to 235 police and 39 sheriff's departments and to various police personnel within any one agency depending on the size of that agency. For example, the Seattle Police Department is the largest police agency in the state and investigates more murders than any other agency. Letters were sent to the Chief

of Police, the Criminal Investigation Commander and the Homicide Section personnel, i.e., captain, lieutenant, sergeants and detectives. On the other hand, the Garfield County Sheriff's Department received one letter because the department has only three full-time deputies besides the Sheriff.

Due to the large number of agencies and personnel that were contacted, it was essential to develop a database management program for the computer that was capable of tracking each person and agency and isolating different groups of agencies and persons for ease of corresponding on a continuing basis. The program that was designed was a master address directory file called **NAME** (See Table 1).

**NAME** is a name and address directory that contained information regarding a law enforcement person and/or agency. At the time of data entry, a code was assigned to each person or agency. For example, the code for police departments in Washington state was "P" and "S" was for sheriffs. An "X" was for agencies outside the state of Washington. An "H" was for homicide detectives.

The assignment of a code facilitated the creation of mailing lists, envelope labels, and address lists, and allowed for the limitation of correspondence to selected groups. The **NAME** file interfaced with other files that had the same fields as **NAME**. Since the research database also contained these fields, it was not necessary for either the coder or data

entry person to fill in the address information on the HITS form (data collection instrument, Appendix C) because the computer would automatically enter that information once the agency's identification number was recorded and entered. This process not only saved time but reduced the chance of data entry errors for the remainder of the address fields.

TABLE 1: NAME FILE

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S1 (Screen 1)

- |     |          |   |   |
|-----|----------|---|---|
| 1.  | @ID      | : | Agency's Identification Number                |
| 2.  | L.NAME   | : | Last Name of Chief, Officer, Detective, etc.  |
| 3.  | F. NAME  | : | First Name of Chief, Officer, Detective, etc. |
| 4.  | TITLE    | : | Person's Title, Chief, Sheriff, Det., etc.    |
| 5.  | DEPT     | ; | Agency Name, ie. Seattle Police Department    |
| 6.  | ADDRESS1 | : | Agency Street Address                         |
| 7.  | ADDRESS2 | : | Agency's Mailing Address                      |
| 8.  | CITY     | : | City  |
| 9.  | ST       | : | State   |
| 10. | ZIP      | : | Zip Code                                      |
| 11. | PHONE    | : | Person's or agency's telephone number         |
| 12. | County   | : | County of Jurisdiction                        |
- 

S2 (Screen 2)

Code

- |    |     |   |  |
|----|-----|---|--|
| 1. | --- | S, P, X, H, etc. :                                  | Code for the person or agency  |
| 2. | --- | Screen 1; The Agency or Person may be given several | different codes making it possible for the agency or person to be placed on various lists. |

A major advantage at this stage of the implementation was the availability of the VICAP information system at the Attorney General's office that could be used in homicide investigations. Investigators could actually use a system that was similar, in concept, but not as comprehensive as the proposed HITS system, to obtain important information for

murder investigations. Even investigators who did not have a murder case for the grant period could use the system. After becoming familiar with the VICAP system, they were able to design valuable information requests for their subsequent murder investigations.

Another method used to inform investigators was to hold demonstrations of the VICAP system at various law enforcement agencies throughout the state. The value of a serial murder tracking system was demonstrated, and investigators were given the opportunity to form homicide information requests to the system. This procedure revealed the limitations of the VICAP system and demonstrated how a more comprehensive homicide investigation and tracking system with additional data, richer in detail, could be utilized on a daily basis in murder investigations.

An informal homicide investigators' group was formed that held monthly meetings in western Washington locations. The meetings were organized by the author and attended by detectives from police and sheriff's departments from western as well as eastern Washington. The meetings were an excellent forum, not only to allow investigators to share information about the murders that they were currently investigating but, also, to inform them of the progress of the research and important results that were produced during the formative stages of the research project.

In addition to monthly reports at the meetings, bulletins

about murderers who were discovered travelling in Washington state were sent out periodically by the author and his staff to the state's investigators. The mailings increased the awareness of the state's investigators and kept the research and HITS profile very high.

During the research period, the Green River Murders Investigation was continuing. Frequently, meetings were held around the state that informed investigators of the status and information about those cases. These meetings were attended by the author and, once again, provided a suitable forum to exchange information about how a fully operational homicide investigation and tracking system and the results of the research would aid in that investigation and in more routine murder investigations.

Another strategy used to further cooperation was to allow various investigators to contribute to the formulation of questions on the HITS Form (Data Collection Instrument) prior to the final draft of the form. The intent was to have investigators actually answering questions on forms that they had a role in creating. More about this process will be discussed under Developing the Data Collection Instrument: The HITS Form.

#### The Number of Murders in Washington State

Several sources were used to determine the total number of murders and the identity of the murder victims in

Washington state for the time period of January 1, 1981 through December 31, 1986. These sources were used to verify and cross-check the names of victims on various lists in order to obtain the most reliable and accurate list of victims.

The first source contacted was the State Bureau of Vital Statistics. A request was made for the full name of victims and cause of death, date of death and county and city of occurrence for each victim. This request produced a list from Vital Statistics of 1099 murder victims on record.

The second source of information about the number of murders in Washington state was the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) section of the Washington Association of Police Chiefs and Sheriffs. The information supplied by UCR did not include names; it provided only the total number of murders for each police agency that reported to UCR. UCR reported a total number of 1,247 murder victims for the six year period.

The 39 medical examiner/coroner's offices in Washington were contacted for their murder victim totals. The total number of victims reported by them was 1,030.

The final source contacted was the individual police and sheriff departments. The total number of murder victims reported by those departments was 1,302. Table 2 represents the total number of victims reported by source.

Due to the discrepancy in the total number of victims reported by each source, an additional database management

TABLE 2: TOTAL NUMBER OF VICTIMS REPORTED BY SOURCE

<u>Vital Statistics</u>	<u>UCR</u>	<u>ME/Coroner</u>	<u>Police/Sheriff</u>
1,099	1,247	1,030	1,302

file was created, called **VICTIM LIST**. This file uses the victim's name as the record identification. It contains fields for investigating agency, agency case number, vital statistics county code, medical examiner/coroner county code, solved/unsolved classification, and several other fields dealing with the coding process.

The purposes of the **VICTIM LIST** file were (1) to provide a checklist of victims by the reporting source, (2) to verify that a reported victim was a murder victim instead of a suicide or accident victim, (3) to maintain a record of the coder and coder's accuracy, (4) to record those cases that the agency reports as solved, (5) to identify the differences among sources in reporting the names of murder victims, and (6) to reveal those victims who were murdered in one jurisdiction and the post mortem examination was conducted by the medical examiner or coroner of another jurisdiction. The fields in the **VICTIM LIST** file are shown in Table 3.

The first list entered into this file was the information from vital statistics records. The only fields entered from this list were the victim's name and the two digit identification number for the reporting county.

The next list entered was information from medical examiner/coroner records. If the name had already been

TABLE 3: VICTIM LIST FILE

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1.	RECORD ID	:	Victim's name (Jones, Betty) and alias
2.	INVEST	:	Investigating Agency's ID number
3.	INCD.DATE	:	The Date Reported for the Murder
4.	AGENCY CASE:	:	Investigating Agency's Case Number
5.	SUSPECT	:	Suspect's Name and alias
6.	ME/COR	:	Medical Examiner/Coroner County Number
7.	VITAL	:	Vital Statistics County Number
8.	CODER.NAME	:	Person's Name Who Entered Data on Form
9.	DATE.OUT	:	Date File Checked Out for Coding
10.	DATE.IN	:	Date File Returned after Coding
11.	XREF.NO	:	Reference Number Other Than Case Number
12.	SOLVED	:	"Y" or "N" indicates Yes or No
13.	PA#	:	Prosecutor's Cause Number
14.	REVIEW.DATE:	:	Date Form was Reviewed for Coder Errors
15.	ERRORS	:	Number of Coder Errors for this Case

entered from vital statistics, the record would automatically appear on the screen. Then the ID number of the reporting medical examiner/coroner was entered in the ME/COR field. If the name entered was not on the vital statistics list, a new record was created. Then the record ID (name) and me/cor number was entered. This same process was used to enter more extensive information from the police agency lists, which including case number, incident date, and agency ID number. Again, if the name entered did not appear on either of the previously entered lists, a new record was created.

Periodically, an alphabetical list of names was printed out, and the information was cross-checked and verified. Any victim's record ID that needed editing or correction was identified.

Reasons for Discrepancies

The biggest problem found among the lists of victims that were provided by police and sheriff's departments, medical examiner/coroner's offices, and vital statistics was identifying the correct name of each victim. Frequently, one agency used a name which was later discovered to be an alias, and another agency used the true name. So there were two separate records for one actual murder victim. The victim's first, middle, and last names were in reverse order and mixed up on some lists. Also, the victim's name was spelled in various ways on, at times, all three lists. So the incorrect spelling of the name gave the appearance that there were three separate murder victims when, in fact, they were all the same person.

There were too many unidentified victims, John and Jane Doe's, reported by vital statistics. It was determined that vital statistic records were not systematically updated once the police and/or medical examiner/coroners discovered the real name of the victim.

Second, another frequent problem was that the original classification of death was not updated once the classification was known to have changed by another agency. For example, a death originally reported to medical examiner/coroner's office and vital statistics as suicide or accidental, and later reclassified by police as homicide, was not updated after the investigation was completed. Also, the

reverse was true. Those records originally reported as homicide and later reclassified by police and medical examiner/coroners to suicide or accidental, were never updated in vital statistics records. Therefore, some records from vital statistics were reported as murders when they actually were not supposed to be reported with a murder classification.

In conjunction with the classification problem, it was discovered that some agencies entered or coded the wrong classification when the correct classification was known. Whoever was responsible from each agency for coding the proper information onto forms miscoded the actual classification.

The last problem related to the discrepancies among lists was the failure to report or keep systematic records. Vital statistics records suffer not only from lack of updating of known victims but also from under-reporting of those persons who should be classified as deceased at the state level. As presented in Table 2, there are over 200 known murder victims in police/sheriff department records that were not reported by any agency to vital statistics.

Also, under-reported are those murder events where more than one victim has been killed. Additional victims or those who were fatally wounded and subsequently died were under-reported. The official departmental records may reflect one victim and the additional victim's names did not appear. For instance, in a multiple murder in which the husband kills his wife and two children, the wife's name appeared in vital

statistics records but the two children's names were not recorded.

Some coroner's offices did not keep systematic records of deceased persons filed by classification of death. In one instance, a coroner's office could report a person as a murder victim only if the name was known prior to the project's request for a list of the names of murder victims. Numerous coroner's offices could not report the number and names of murder victims for any one year. Their files were not organized by classification of death. Worse yet, some coroner's offices did not have any records because their predecessors did not keep records.

Data from all four sources helped to compile the final list of victims. The final total was 1,309 victims.

#### Level of Cooperation and Participation

Out of 274 police and sheriff's departments that participated in the implementation of the HITS system, only two agencies initially resisted cooperation with the project. A Chief of Police felt that his detectives were overburdened with paperwork and filling out the HITS form would be too time consuming. When he was informed that HITS staff would complete the forms, he fully cooperated.

A lieutenant in charge of a major crimes unit objected to anyone looking at the data in the department's murder files. After the lieutenant was transferred, the department has fully

cooperated. In both instances, the departmental investigators who worked for these two individuals wanted to cooperate fully. They did not feel pressure of limited time to complete the form or the need to protect information from another criminal justice agency. It appeared to be personality differences with only these two people.

Part I of the methodology has dealt with implementing the research, maximizing the cooperation of police agencies, and determining the extent of murders in Washington state. The second part of the methodology, developing the data collection instruments, follows in Chapter 5.

## CHAPTER 5

### METHODOLOGY: PART II

#### DEVELOPING THE DATA COLLECTION INSTRUMENT: THE HITS FORM

Most of the information that is input to the Homicide Investigation and Tracking System was collected from each murder case file with a data collection instrument that was designed for both investigation and research purposes. Consequently, the development process was labor intensive, including two homicide investigators (the Project Director and Program Manager) and two criminologists (the Research Director and Graduate Research Assistant), and spanned the creation of a prototype and 15 subsequent refined versions of what was to become the HITS Form. The final version was used to record comprehensive, detailed information on 467 items that tap the characteristics of a murder and its investigation (See Appendix C).

#### Building on Prior Experience

The origins of the HITS Form can be traced to the experience of the author and homicide investigators in other federal and state law enforcement agencies in using homicide investigation forms or checklists to collect standardized information on cases. Before the project began, the author had coded approximately 300 murder cases from Washington state using a modified version of the FBI's VICAP form. That information was stored in a computer in the state Attorney General's Office and used primarily by the author to

facilitate his investigations and, informally, those of other intra-state law enforcement agencies. This was a natural starting point for the development of a data collection instrument that would serve a wider variety of purposes: to coordinate the expansion of Washington state's participation in the VICAP program; to provide homicide investigators with a more comprehensive and accessible information system that could be used routinely as an investigation resource; and to construct the research data base that would be used to identify solvability factors in homicide investigations and develop a better descriptive and analytic understanding of murder.

The first step in the development process entailed the collection and review of homicide investigation forms and checklists that were being used by law enforcement agencies in other jurisdictions throughout the U.S. In addition to the VICAP form and the modified version of it used in Washington state, instruments from New York, California, Michigan, and Oregon were collected. Unfortunately, only a very small number of police agencies, particularly at the state level, have developed computerized information systems that are based on the systematic collection of standardized information on a comprehensive range of murder cases in their jurisdiction. Each of the forms was reviewed and compared for content and redundancy, the objective being a list of discrete items that covered the range of information recorded on those forms.

This merged list of items was the foundation upon which the HITS Form was constructed.

To facilitate continued participation in the VICAP and the accomplishment of project objectives, it was decided that basically all of the items on the VICAP Form would be included on the HITS Form. Of course, this meant that only one form, albeit longer, would have to be filled out on each murder case. However, the VICAP questions were taken out of their original sequence and placed in appropriate content areas of the HITS Form, and in some cases their wording and response categories were modified to simplify coding or collect more information. In order to produce a completed VICAP Form, a computer program was developed that extracts and converts all VICAP items back to their original wording, response categories, and sequence, and prints out a VICAP report that is in exactly the same format as the Form. This is what is forwarded to the FBI.

#### Prototype and Revisions

Moving from the list of items culled from the various homicide investigation forms to a working prototype and, eventually, a final HITS Form was an arduous, time-consuming enterprise. After the original list of candidate items had been compiled and organized into content areas (e.g., M.O., victim characteristics, weapons), the project staff, working in committee, began the process of reviewing, deleting, and

adding items, organizing the content areas and format, and simplifying questions and instructions. All of these tasks were aimed at producing a reliable, user-friendly data collection instrument that would generate the information necessary to accomplish project objectives. In general, this meant the addition of content areas and items to the original list.

The prototype HITS Form not only included items pertinent to homicide investigation, but also those that reflected project emphases on the identification of solvability factors in homicide investigations and the development of a richer understanding of murder as a social phenomenon. For example, it is possible (or likely) that the nature and quality of the investigation is an important factor in solving murder cases - a number of items on investigation procedures and performance were added to the HITS Form. And many others were added that reflect a variety of practical, conceptual, and theoretical considerations.

The first working draft of the HITS Form included 273 items, ranging across a number of content areas, including the following:

- Case Administration Information
- Victim Information
- Offender Information
- Vehicle Information
- Offense M.O.

- Medical Examiner/Coroner Findings
- Forensic Evidence
- Investigation Procedures/Analysis

A copy of the draft was then sent to a group of "expert" reviewers, who received a cover letter explaining the objectives of the project and asking them to assess the form, suggest additions or deletions, and return the form with their comments. Copies were sent to investigators in a number of Washington state law enforcement agencies: Bellevue Police Department, King County Police Department, Pierce County Sheriff's Department, Seattle Police Department, Snohomish County Sheriff's Department, Spokane County Sheriff's Department, Thurston County Sheriff's Department, and Yakima County Sheriff's Department. Another group included forensic experts: A clinical psychologist, forensic psychiatrist, forensic pathologist, criminologist, and administrator of the Washington State Crime Lab. Finally, the review panel included an expert on murder and its investigation, from the offender's point of view, the late Theodore Bundy. Their suggestions for revisions led to a number of improvements in the form.

At this point, the project staff did a thorough item-by-item evaluation of the HITS Form, focusing on item content, wording, order, and face validity. Further changes were made and, then, it was pretested. In order to assess its efficacy as a data collection instrument, the consistency of item

interpretation between coders, the fit between items on the form and what is included in murder case files, and general user impressions of the degree of difficulty in using the form, two homicide case files of typical length and complexity were coded. Each of the four staff members (two homicide investigators, criminology professor, and former police officer/graduate student) coded both cases. Then the four complete forms for each case were compared, item-by-item, by the group. This review procedure required a number of lengthy meetings in order to clarify coder differences in item interpretation, specify intended meanings of ambiguous items, create additional response categories, construct new items, and modify format instructions. Although laborious, the pretest coding and related discussions of coding decisions were critical elements in the development of the HITS Form. They led to refinements in the instrument that could not have been produced in any other way, and as important, facilitated the completion of the HITS Coding Manual (Appendix F).

#### HITS Coding Manual

The extended, thorough procedure of developing the HITS Form made it absolutely clear that a detailed and prescriptive coding manual would be necessary to insure accurate and reliable coding of information from homicide case files. The general practice of providing guidelines and generic instructions for filling out data collection forms simply

would not suffice for either the project's research objectives or investigation activities. It was decided early in the development process to produce a coding manual that provided the definition, coding criteria, meaning, and examples for each item that was not unequivocally obvious in its interpretation. For example, "Initial Contact" (Item 22) is described as: "The initial contact is the date and time that the offender and victim make contact initiating this incident. For example, if a boyfriend kills his girlfriend, report the date and time that this incident began, not the date they first met."

The coding manual was created in conjunction with the development of the HITS Form. As the latter grew and changed, so did the former. Producing precise standardized interpretations of the items on the HITS Form was critical to the achievement of the very high levels of coding reliability that the project set for itself. With a variety of law enforcement personnel in a number of disparate agencies filling out the HITS Forms, the importance of a good coding manual is even more apparent. Needless to say, the HITS Coding Manual played a central role in the training of coders for the project.

#### Victim and Offender Supplements

Another complication that had to be addressed in the development of the HITS Form was the existence of multiple

victim and/or multiple offender homicides, which constitute approximately 15% of all murders in Washington state. The basic HITS Form was designed for the "typical" single victim-single offender homicide. Information on the victim and on the offender is recorded in separate Victim Information and Offender Information sections of the HITS Form. If there is more than one victim in a homicide, a Multiple Victim Supplementary Form (which is basically the Victim Information section of the standard HITS Form) is filled out for the additional victim and added to the standard form. For each additional victim or offender in a case, a supplement is completed and collated (Appendix D). For example, a mass murder case that occurred in Washington state in 1985 involved 3 offenders and 13 victims. In that case, there are 2 Multiple Offender Supplementary Forms and 12 Multiple Victim Supplementary Forms that have been completed and merged with the HITS form. Together, they describe that mass murder case. Of course, most multiple victim/offender cases are not nearly that complex; the great majority of them involved one victim and 2 offenders.

#### Preparing for Coding

Once the final version of the long HITS Form was completed (after approximately six months of design and development work, 16 versions of the HITS Form, and 4 versions of the HITS Coding Manual), preparations were made for the

coding of murder cases, beginning with intensive coder training and reliability testing. The coding, cleaning, and correcting of almost 1,300 murder cases began in the summer of 1988 and took more than a year to complete.

This chapter explained the development of the HITS form, its supplements and coding manual. Part III of the methodology, dealing with coder training will be covered in Chapter 6.

CHAPTER 6  
METHODOLOGY: PART III  
CODER TRAINING

The first decisions that were made about the coding of information from murder case files to the HITS form were to determine (1) what types of people should code, and (2) what kind of experience and training are necessary to assure the highest degree of reliability.

Qualifications, Selection and Training of Coders

The final selection of qualified coders was made only after training and examining the coding reliability of four separate groups of candidate coders: HITS personnel; university students; general investigators; and homicide investigators. The selection of coders and their training was conducted by the Project Director and the Research Director, who have had extensive experience in collecting data from a variety of criminal justice records, used the VICAP form, and produced the HITS form, the project's primary data collection instrument.

1. HITS Personnel

The Project Director, the author of this manuscript, and Program Manager have at least 20 years of homicide investigation experience between them; the Research Director has examined the literature on murder and its investigation and participated in previous criminal justice research; and

the Research Assistant was a former police officer and a current doctoral student in criminology.

The elements of training for this group included the development of the coding instrument (HITS Form) and the operational coding criteria for each of its 273 items and the production of the accompanying coding manual. After participating in this learning process, which took approximately 6 months to design and edit all of the many versions of the HITS Form and Coding Manual, the staff was instructed in the appropriate methods of application and then asked to practice on a "test" homicide case file. The Project Director and Research Director reviewed the coding of the case with the staff, item by item, to assess individual coding accuracy and to correct errors. The coding manual provided definitions, explanations, criteria for coding decisions, and examples.

After the practice case, the process of training to reliability began. The Project Director, who has vast experience in the investigation of homicide and has applied the VICAP form to more than 300 murder cases, served as the standard of reliability and ultimate arbiter of coding accuracy. Ninety percent reliability for each coder was set as an acceptable minimum coding reliability; that is, there must be a minimum of 90% agreement, across all items on the HITS Form, between the information recorded by a coder and the Project Director on a particular case.

Coders continued their training to acceptable reliability on two homicide files. The first case was a 1986 investigation by the King County Police Department, Seattle, Washington. The female victim had been stabbed numerous times and stuffed in the crawl space below her house. The case was solved when the killer confessed to Sacramento, California authorities a few days after the murder.

The second case was a 1984 homicide also investigated by King County Police. In this incident, the male victim was shot in the head with a large caliber handgun when he returned home from work. At this time, the murder is unsolved, and the investigation has been suspended.

After each of the four staff members had coded a HITS form for each murder, the responses for each item were compared for inter-rater reliability. The inter-rater reliability was measured in two ways: first, the overall agreement among the four coders, and second, each of the other coders' responses were compared to the Project Director's.

After reviewing the cases for individual reliability, it was determined that the Project Director had incorrectly coded five items in Case 1 and nine items in Case 2. For those 14 items, the other coders were given an incorrect answer only if their response disagreed with the response that was finally decided to be correct. Table 4 shows the overall and individual agreement among the four coders for both test cases.

TABLE 4: INTER-RATER RELIABILITY OF CODING DECISIONS

<u>Case 1</u>					
<u>Agreement Pattern Among 4 Coders on 273 Items</u>					
	All Agree (4-0)	Three Agree (3-1)	Two Pairs agree Internally (2-2)	Only One Pair In Agreement (2-1-1)	None In Agreement (1-1-1-1)
Number of Items in Each Pattern	201	37	18	9	8
Percent	73.6	13.5	6.6	3.3	3
<u>Individual Coder's Accuracy (N = 273 Items)</u>					
	<u>Project Dir.</u>	<u>Research Dir.</u>	<u>Research Asst.</u>	<u>Program Manager</u>	
N Correct	268	232	232	242	
% Correct	98.2	85.0	85.0	88.6	
<u>Case 2</u>					
<u>Agreement Pattern Among 4 Coders on 273 Items</u>					
	All Agree (4-0)	Three Agree (3-1)	Two Pairs Agree Internally (2-2)	Only One Pair In Agreement (2-1-1)	None In Agreement (1-1-1-1)
Number of Items in Each Pattern	214	31	8	15	5
Percent	78.4	11.4	3	5.5	1.8
<u>Individual Coder's Accuracy (N = 273 Items)</u>					
	<u>Project Dir.</u>	<u>Research Dir.</u>	<u>Research Asst.</u>	<u>Program Manager</u>	
N Correct	264	244	239	250	
% Correct	96.7	89.4	87.5	91.6	

There were five possible types of agreement among the coders about overall reliability: (1) all four coders could agree (4-0); (2) three could agree on one response and one have a different response (3-1); (3) two could agree on one

response and the other two on another (2-2); (4) two could agree on a response and the other two each have a separate response (2-1-1); and (5) all four coders could have completely different responses (1-1-1).

As Table 4 indicates, the coding accuracy of experienced homicide investigators is highest among the 4 coders. The Research Assistant was an ex-police officer whose murder investigation experience was limited to the preliminary phases of patrol work. The Research Director, who is a criminologist, had no homicide investigation experience. From these pre-test results, it was expected that people who do not have homicide investigation experience would be able to code reliably after proper training.

## 2. Criminology Undergraduate Students

Criminology students from the University of Washington's Department of Sociology volunteered to assist with the HITS program development. These students had taken an upper division course on murder prior to their acceptance into the program. Due to the sensitivity of the information contained in murder files and the fact that a great deal of the information was protected under the Washington State Criminal Information Privacy Act, each student signed an "Oath of Confidentiality," and their backgrounds were checked for criminal records.

In the beginning, students received an orientation class about the organization of murder files and the type of

documents in which certain information could be found. The training process included the reorganization of case files by the students according to the Attorney General's Office Death Investigation File System. Under this system, each case file was organized with a "Table of Contents," and the police reports, such as witness statements, case reports, autopsy reports, officer's statements, etc., were placed in their appropriate sections within the file. The students organized about 200 murder case files. (See Appendix E, Case File Organizer.)

Five students were recruited for a series of reliability tests for coding purposes. The students participated in a training session about the HITS form and manual. This version of the HITS form was the same as was used by the four HITS staff members. Every item was reviewed by explaining the information that was expected to be coded for that item. Then, the students were given a "test" case to code. Since this phase of the training was formative in nature, they asked questions about any ambiguous data as they proceeded to code. There was continuous monitoring of the responses for purposes of coding to reliability.

After the "test" case was completed, the five students coded a total of 26 cases with the HITS form. It became apparent that students were not sufficiently familiar with basic police investigation procedures, homicide case files, and law enforcement protocol to become reliable coders. In

addition, the students did not have the ability to interact effectively with the many police and sheriff's departments involved in the project.

The results after inspection of the cases coded by students were not favorable. The Project Director discovered a high of 128 errors in one case to a low of 30 errors in another, an average of 53 errors per case. In Table 5, the students' coding accuracy is presented. The error rate per case resulted in an average of 80.3% reliability, which did not approach the established standard of 90% reliability. Not one student reached the reliability standard.

TABLE 5: STUDENT'S CODING ACCURACY

	<u>Number Coded</u>	<u>Total # Fields</u>	<u>Total Errors</u>	<u>Ave. Errors</u>
N	26	7,098	1,398	53.76
%	100	100	19.7	19.7

Therefore, the sociology students were not used to code cases. The 26 cases that were coded by students were recoded by homicide investigators. The students remained with the project and continued to organize case files, perform computer data entry, and participate in other research activities.

### 3. General Investigators

Using police investigators as coders, rather than university students or lay persons, was considered as another option for data collection. Some familiarity with investigation procedures, case files, and law enforcement protocol, as well as the ability to interact effectively with

police agencies involved in the project, made it easier to train them. Three general investigators from police departments in the Seattle area volunteered to assist with the coding of cases.

The elements of training for this group included a briefing about the HITS form and manual, the completion of a "test" case, and the subsequent monitoring of two additional coded cases by the Project Manager. By the time the general investigator training began, the HITS form had been expanded to its final 467 items. Reliability testing occurred for every fifth case that was completed by the investigators, with each case reviewed by the Project Director for errors. Table 6 shows the overall coding reliability results for the general investigators.

TABLE 6: GENERAL INVESTIGATOR'S CODING RELIABILITY

	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Total Fields</u>	<u>Total Errors</u>	<u>Average Errors</u>
N	10	4,670	58	5.8
%	100	100	1.25	1

The more than 98% average reliability in coding was well above the established standard of 90%. In spite of the high reliability standard, the general investigator's group was difficult to motivate. They did not return case files or completed HITS forms in a timely manner, which was necessary for systematic collection of information. At times, they complained of technical language in some homicide records and

overall unfamiliarity with homicide investigations, since they were not a routine investigation done by these general investigators. It was difficult for general investigators to realize any benefit from the HITS program to their daily property crime investigations. Therefore, the use of general investigators as coders declined after the 10 cases were coded.

#### 4. Homicide Investigators

The decision to use homicide investigators as coders exclusively, was a critical element of the data collection process. Their familiarity with murder investigation procedures, homicide cases files, and law enforcement protocol not only made it easier to train them, but also made them better coders.

Training of homicide investigators was conducted at four different locations around the state. The training sessions were attended by over 10 homicide detectives at each site, even though not all who were trained became involved in coding for the project. The "meetings" enabled detectives to become familiar with the HITS program and its utility in murder investigations.

Homicide investigators were given training similar to that of the criminology students and general investigators. The homicide investigators were informed of each item on the HITS form, as well as the corresponding item's explanation in the coding manual. The "test" case for homicide detectives

was one they selected to code from their own department's files. It was requested that they avoid coding a case where they were directly involved in the investigation.

Table 7 presents the number of cases coded by each of the coders. Thirteen homicide investigators coded more than 10 cases each, for a total of 1,192 cases (or 95 percent of the sample). Two homicide investigators, whose initials are ET and JP, coded over 60 percent of the total number of cases. ET and JP were found to be highly efficient at coding cases and, at the same time, very reliable in coding responses to questions.

TABLE 7: CASES CODED BY CODER  
(N=1,271)

<u>Coder Initial</u>	<u>Number Coded</u>	<u>Percent Coded</u>	<u>Coder Initials</u>	<u>Number Coded</u>	<u>Percent Coded</u>
BV	1	.08	BR	1	.08
BB	1	.08	CK	1	.08
DK	9	.7	DI	2	.15
DJ	2	.15	DS	70	5.38
ET	399	30.6	ES	44	3.4
GT	5	.4	GB	6	.5
MH	3	.23	IA	13	1.0
JS	2	.15	JW	1	.08
JH	15	1.15	JD	2	.15
JP	396	30.4	JW	3	.23
JW	5	.4	JH	1	.08
JH	5	.4	JJ	1	.08
LI	5	.4	LL	28	2.15
LM	4	.31	LT	1	.08
MS	7	.54	MH	1	.08
PO	12	.92	PW	1	.08
RB	4	.31	RB	17	1.31
RK	28	2.15	RL	12	.92
RB	1	.08	RM	84	6.5
RS	7	.54	RR	1	.08
SM	2	.15	SG	1	.08
TJ	67	5.15			

Reliability was monitored throughout the duration of the coding process in two ways. First, the Project Director reviewed and assessed the reliability of 10% of each of the coders' completed data forms. Practically, this meant that approximately one form per coder was evaluated each week over a year of data collection. If consistent ambiguous answers were discovered, they were discussed with the coder for clarification. If the coder discovered ambiguous items, a collective review of coding procedures and applications was initiated to identify and correct the source(s) of disagreement. Monitoring reliability in this manner maximized the validity and reliability of the coded information and produced very accurate data on each of the homicides in the final sample.

Table 8 shows that of the 10 percent that were checked, 76 cases had coding errors. The overall reliability, even for those cases that had coding errors, was 99.0 percent, well above the established 90 percent minimum. Of course, the coding reliability would have even been higher if those cases where no errors were found were included. Needless to say, the reliability of coding is extremely high.

Second, reliability was monitored for "internal consistency" for literally every form that was coded. After a form was data entered, a printout of the entire form was obtained. Every item on the printout was compared to the handwritten corresponding item on the HITS form. And by

TABLE 8: CASES CHECKED WITH ERRORS BY CODER  
(N=76)

<u>Coder Initials</u>	<u>Total Cases</u>	<u>Total Fields</u>	<u>Total Errors</u>	<u>Average Errors</u>	<u>Reliability Percent</u>
GB	3	1,401	6	2	99.6
GT	1	467	7	7	98.5
JD	2	934	14	7	98.5
JH	3	1,401	8	2.8	99.5
JJ	1	467	8	8	98.3
JP	8	3,736	32	4	99.1
JS	2	934	10	5	99.0
LI	2	934	33	16.5	96.5
LL	12	5,604	59	4.9	99.0
LT	1	467	3	3	99.4
MH	1	467	4	4	99.1
MS	3	1,401	11	3.7	99.2
PW	1	467	7	7	98.5
RM	12	5,604	55	4.6	99.0
RR	1	467	6	6	98.7
RB	5	2,335	16	3.2	99.3
RS	3	1,401	16	5.3	98.9
SG	1	467	3	3	99.4
SM	2	934	13	6.5	98.6
TJ	12	5,604	25	2.1	99.5

inspecting the answer to a particular question, comparing it to answers to other questions for logical discrepancies, internal consistency was checked and monitored. For example, if a coder checked "No" for Question 330, "Was there an autopsy performed on the victim," and the subsequent autopsy questions were answered as though Question 330 had been answered "Yes," then a validation check on internal consistency was done, and appropriate corrections were made. If a question routinely lacked internal consistency for a coder, the coder was counseled and the coding error was corrected.

The total number of cases that were checked for internal

consistency are presented in Table 9. Every case that was coded was checked for internal consistency. The reliability of internal consistency was recorded at 99.5 percent. Homicide investigators proved to be the most reliable, consistent, and motivated coders.

TABLE 9: CASES MONITORED FOR INTERNAL CONSISTENCY

<u>Cases</u>	<u>Fields</u>	<u>Coder Errors</u>	<u>Average Errors</u>	<u>Percent Reliable</u>
1,271	587,486	2,821	2.2	99.5

In summary, after the training sessions, reliability checks, and coding process were evaluated, the actual users of the system (homicide investigators) were the best coders. They had a working knowledge of and experience with murder investigations. The completion of the HITS form was one of the natural steps in the entire investigation process. The homicide investigator had an investment in HITS because the investigators were the ones that used the system for assistance in murder investigations.

This chapter explained the process of choosing and training coders. Chapter 7 describes the strategies and procedures that were used to code data onto the HITS form from the files of murder cases.

## CHAPTER 7

### METHODOLOGY: PART IV

#### CODING STRATEGIES AND PROCEDURES

##### Location of Case Files

In order to determine the location of case files, it was first necessary to identify which police agencies in Washington state had investigated murders between January 1, 1981 through December 31, 1986. A letter was sent to 274 police and sheriff's departments, requesting a list of each agency's murder victims. The letter also requested that the agency identify the offender, if known, for each murder, the case or file number, and the incident date (Appendix G).

A total of 93 police agencies reported that murders had occurred in their jurisdiction for that period. Those agencies investigated 100 percent of the total murder cases. Fifty-two police agencies reported that 5 or less murders had occurred in their jurisdiction for a total of 113 murders. The remaining 41 agencies shared the balance of 1,190 murders for that period.

The process of collecting information on cases for coding occurred in three ways: 1) those cases that were located in close proximity to the Seattle metropolitan area so the original case file could be checked out by project staff at project headquarters; 2) those cases that were copied and sent to the HITS staff by police and sheriff office's record personnel; and 3) those cases that required "on-site" visits in order to code. On-site visits were required in those

instances where the investigating agency did not copy and send their cases because the files were too voluminous to copy, the department could not afford the expense of copying the file, or the department felt that the information in the file was too sensitive to reproduce or check out in any form.

#### Seattle Metropolitan Area Cases

Over 1/3 of the murder cases that were coded were located in King County, Seattle, Washington. Since the project headquarters was in Seattle, and the cases closest to Seattle were the most accessible, it was decided that all the cases from police jurisdictions in King County would be coded first. Also, an added benefit was that the Seattle and King County Police Departments were used as the barometer of cooperation since some police administrators inquired about the degree of cooperation exhibited by those departments. If they had not fully cooperated with the project's objectives, other departments would have viewed the project as futile and less effective without their participation.

The initial King County cases were obtained from the King County Prosecuting Attorney's office, and coding began in July 1988. These cases included all cases where charges were filed for murder for the research period, except the 320 cases investigated by the Seattle Police Department. The Seattle Police cases were coded on-site.

The King County Prosecutor's files were assembled in a

manner that was conducive to prosecution, which made coding difficult and extremely time-consuming. It was necessary to re-organize the files using the Seattle Police Department Death Investigation Case File Organizer. So, in order to save coder time, university students who majored in criminology and criminal justice were used to reorganize the files. Approximately 800 cases had to be reorganized in this manner.

The files were checked out several at a time to project staff or to homicide investigators who were to code case files. After the King County Prosecutor's files were coded, each police agency in King County was contacted to check out their open, inactive, and exceptionally-cleared cases. This same procedure was followed county-by-county throughout the state.

Several larger agencies with a substantial number of cases volunteered to code some of their own cases. The Tacoma Police Department coded 38 of their 85 total cases; Snohomish County Sheriff's Department coded all 29 of their cases; Yakima County Sheriff's Department coded all 42 of their cases; Bellevue Police coded 8 of their 14 cases; and Clark County Sheriff's Department coded 12 of their 33 total cases.

#### Cases That Were Copied

Police agencies having 5 or fewer murder cases were requested to code their own cases or to photocopy their case files and send them to the Attorney General's Office to be

coded. Five agencies chose to code their own cases. The remaining 47 agencies promised to copy and send their cases to the HITS unit.

The Spokane Police and Sheriff's Departments, with 109 cases between them, copied and delivered their cases to the Attorney General's Criminal Division in Seattle for coding by HITS staff.

#### On-Site Visits

Based on the number of cases coded by HITS staff in King County, the number of cases that were coded by participating agencies, and the number of cases that were copied and sent to the Attorney General's Office, it was estimated that 68 police agencies of the original 93 agencies that had murder investigations would require on-site visits in order to code cases. The 68 police agencies also included 27 of the 52 agencies with 5 or less cases that promised and failed to send in copies of their 72 cases. This meant their cases had to be coded by HITS staff and coders on site.

After the King County Cases were coded, it was determined that the average length of time required to code a case was about 2.5 hours. The number of cases left to code was known, so an itinerary was developed based on location of the cases and the amount of time to be spent coding at each agency. The affected police agencies were then mailed a list of their victims and case numbers, and given an approximate date

investigators would be arriving to code their cases, in order that the files would be pulled and ready for coding. The agencies were contacted systematically by HITS staff, and the cases for each agency were subsequently coded.

Table 10 presents the total cases coded and the source and/or location of the case files that were coded. The largest number of cases (N=673) were coded at the police agencies that investigated the murder cases. Only 38 cases out of 1,309 possible cases were not coded because they were either lost or not sent by the investigating agency. The coding process ended in November 1989.

TABLE 10: CODED CASES BY LOCATION AND/OR SOURCE

<u>Source/Location of Coded Cases</u>	<u>Total</u>
Cases Coded by the Investigating Agency	139
Cases Coded from Prosecution Files	317
Cases Sent to HITS to be Coded	142
Cases Coded On Site	673
Cases Not Coded Because They Were Not Received or they Were Lost by the Investigating Agency	38
Total Cases That Were Coded	1271

Quality and Condition of Files

There were no uniform procedures for the storage of case files among different jurisdictions. Murder cases were stored in locked and unlocked file cabinets in offices, safes, evidence rooms, record departments, and archives. The actual case files were kept in notebooks, boxes, file folders, and accordion files. The organization of paperwork contained within each file was not consistent and varied from agency-to-

agency or from file-to-file within some agencies. The Seattle and King County Police Departments had their paperwork organized according to the Attorney General's Death Investigation File Indexing System. Each murder case file was divided into sections labeled by subject. For example, any communications that occurred during the investigation, like teletypes, police bulletins, newspaper clippings, and correspondence, were filed in a discrete section (Appendix E). If information from a teletype was necessary, the coder opened the file to the appropriate section to find the teletype.

Various departments had similar case file procedures. Unfortunately, about 1/3 of the state's murder case files were not organized in any systematic fashion. Those files were reorganized by using the Seattle police procedures.

Some information from the original case files was difficult to retrieve because it was located in a detective's desk, home, car, or personal file. It was discovered that some cases were the "pet" cases of certain detectives, and certain information about those cases was in their possession. This information was gathered by departmental personnel and placed within the original case file as it should have been in the first place.

For coding purposes, only the information that was contained in the actual case file was used. No interviews of detectives were conducted to gain missing or additional information.

Chapter 7 examined the coding strategies and procedures used to access and obtain the data for this research. The next chapter gives specific coding procedures for recording information about dates, times and distances, verification of coded and entered data, and definitions of terms used for this research.

## CHAPTER 8

### METHODOLOGY: PART IV

#### SPECIFIC CODING PROCEDURES, DATA VERIFICATION AND DEFINITIONS

##### Specific Coding Procedures

The dates, times and locations of the components were recorded from data contained in various reports from the case file, such as case reports, investigator's follow-up reports, crime laboratory reports, crime scene diagrams, autopsy reports and witness statements.<sup>53</sup> On the HITS form, date and time information were entered in questions 22 through 26, and distances were entered in questions 281 through 285 (See Appendix C).

Date and time were recorded as the exact date and time that each component occurred as reported in documents from the case file, or as time frame estimates that were entered in the "approximate" area of the HITS form. For example, a witness reported that a victim was last seen on 2-13-86, but was unsure of the time and estimated it to be between 0230 and 0630. So 2-13-86 was entered in the "exact" date area, and the time frame of 0230-0630 was entered in the "approximate" time area.

Unlike the reporting of time which was frequently mentioned in the text of various reports, recording the

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<sup>53</sup>No information based on the offender's arrest or statement, was used to record where and when any of the five components occurred. Independent corroboration was necessary.

distance between components was a different matter. Some detective's reports reflected that they had traced the travel patterns of the offender, noting the distance and the time required to drive or walk from one location to another. This activity, however, was not the standard for the majority of investigations.

Since distance information was not systematically found within the case file of most murder investigations, distances between components were calculated in the following manner. Each component's location was plotted on the street map for the appropriate jurisdiction. The map's legend was used to measure the shortest distance between components as if the offender had travelled by county roads, city streets or highways. In those cases where the components were located on the same property or address, crime scene diagrams, drawn by investigating officers, were consulted for various measurements.

#### Verification of Data Entry

A computer printout of each HITS form was produced in order to monitor reliability and check for internal consistencies for every form that was coded. Likewise, every answer that was input into the computer was checked for data entry errors.

The impetus for verifying data entry came from trying to use the output program to analyze information about known

cases entered previously in the computer. Based upon a request for information about female murder victims, it was discovered that all female victims that had been entered in the system could not be retrieved. It was discovered that a data entry operator had entered "male" instead of "female" for Question 41, Victim Sex, or had left the question blank even though the sex of the victim had been coded on the HITS form.

Since some errors continued to be discovered during the retrieval program, a procedure was initiated in which one out of every 10 cases would be checked for data entry errors, in order to estimate the magnitude of data entry error and the need for more comprehensive verification. A low, but unacceptable level of data entry error was discovered during this limited verification procedure, leading to the decision to check every form that had been entered. Therefore, every HITS case that was entered into the system was printed out and cross-checked against its handwritten, coded form to assure that the data entry was correct for every item on the form. The process began in October 1989 and was completed in April 1990. Table 11 shows the number of data entry errors per HITS forms. In general, the error rate is quite low -- 505 (39%) forms were data entered with complete accuracy; 891 (70%) had 3 or less data entry errors; 94 (7%) had more than 10 errors; and only 18 (1%) had more than 20 data entry errors -- out of 2,968 possible data entries per form. And it should be noted that the average number of data entry errors was only 3.2 per

HITS Form before correction.

For purposes of a homicide investigation and tracking system, the standards for data entry need to be very high in

TABLE 11: DATA ENTRY ERRORS

<u>Number of Errors</u>	<u>Number of HITS Forms</u>
0	505
1	176
2	81
3	129
4	81
5	61
6	46
7	31
8	24
9	19
10	24
11-20	76
21-30	9
31-37	7
55	1
61	1
Total	4,116
	1,271

order for the system to be efficient and effective. The monitoring of reliability and checks for internal inconsistencies of coded forms and the comprehensive verification of data entry have produced what is probably the most accurate data base on murder that has been compiled.

#### The Dependent Variable

For purposes of this research, the variable used to measure solvability was the status of the murder case at the

time of coding. Each murder investigation was classified by Case Status into one of five categories: (1) Open (active investigation), (2) Suspended (inactive investigation), (3) Open -- Arrest Warrant Issued, (4) Cleared by Arrest, and (5) Exceptionally Cleared. These categories were captured by Question 464, Investigating Agency Case Status of the HITS form (See Appendix C).

Unsolved murders were defined as the Investigating Agency Case Status responses of "Open (active investigation)" and "Suspended (inactive investigation)." If a form was marked "Open (active investigation)," it meant that the police were actively following investigative leads at the time of coding the data collection instrument. "Suspended (inactive investigation)" was recorded if police officers were not actively following leads at the time of coding. The two answers were further interpreted to mean that the offender was either unknown and not witnessed, unknown but observed, or named and known to the police, but insufficient probable cause exists for arrest.

Solved murders were defined as "Open--Arrest Warrant Issued," "Cleared by Arrest," and "Exceptionally Cleared." The "Exceptionally Cleared" response was used in those cases when the offender committed suicide, was killed by police or witnesses, or was deceased for other reasons, such as from a traffic accident or natural causes.

These five categories were mutually exclusive and did not

suffer from problems with internal inconsistency; that is, for every murder investigation there was only one response that was possible.

Chapter 8 described specific coding procedures, data verification, and the definitions of terms that were used for the dependent variable. Chapter 9 will explain the results of the data analyses that were performed to explore tenability of the five issues.

## CHAPTER 9

### DATA ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

There were 1,309 victims of murder in the state of Washington from January 1981 through December 1986. The total number of victims coded for the research was 1,271 (See Table 12). The case files for thirty-eight victims were "missing" and could not be located by record's personnel from the affected law enforcement agencies. The investigations of 1,271 victims were part of the investigations of the 1,159 incidents of murder. For purposes of this research, only single victim--single offender cases (N = 967) were used for analysis. As shown in Table 12, the rate of solved single victim--single offender murder cases in the state of Washington for the six-year period was 74%. A nearly equal percentage of solved cases was noted for all victims (77%), which included multiple-victim murders.

TABLE 12: TOTAL NUMBER OF MURDER VICTIMS, INCIDENTS, AND SINGLE VICTIM CASES BY SOLVABILITY (1981-1986)

	VICTIMS		INCIDENTS		SINGLE VICTIM	
	N	(%)	N	(%)	N	(%)
Solved	976	(77)	881	(76)	712	(74)
Unsolved	295	(23)	278	(24)	255	(26)
Total N	1,271		1,159		967	

#### When Any Information Is Known About Components

Since the basic model for murder investigation consisted of the five components of a murder incident, the frequency for which any information was known about each component was

examined before exploring the five main issues in this research. The information used to determine the existence of a particular component was the date of occurrence (exact or approximate), the type of location (such as sidewalk, residence or wooded area) and/or address. Table 13 shows the findings for solvability when any information was known about each component.

TABLE 13: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOLVING A CASE AND KNOWLEDGE BY POLICE INVESTIGATORS ABOUT EITHER THE TIME OR THE PLACE OF THE FIVE COMPONENTS OF MURDER CASES  
(967 CASES; STATE OF WASHINGTON, 1981-86)

Components	Place or Time Known	Percent of Cases Solved	N	p	tau b
Victim Last Seen Site	Yes	75%	942	.00	.12
	No	40%	25		
Initial Contact Site	Yes	77%	914	.00	.31
	No	17%	53		
Initial Assault Site	Yes	75%	938	.00	.24
	No	14%	29		
Murder Site	Yes	75%	955	.00	.17
	No	8%	12		
Body Recovery Site	Yes	74%	966	.09	.05
	No	0%	1		

The component that was most often "known" was Body Recovery (N = 966), followed in decreasing numbers by Murder (N = 955), Victim Last Seen (N = 942), Initial Assault (N =

938), and Initial Contact (N = 914). The order of the components was expected since police officers usually started the investigation of a murder at the site of body recovery and used information gathered at that time to continue the inquiry for further information or leads about the remainder of the components.

When the findings for solvability of each component were examined, a more important order was revealed. Statistical importance was noted for Initial Contact which had the highest percentage (77%) of solved cases, followed by Initial Assault with a slightly lower effect, but still just as important; thus, any information about the location of the initial contact and/or assault between the offender and the victim meant more to the eventual solution of cases than information about other components. A more dramatic finding is the drop in percentage of solved cases by at least 60 percentage points, to 17 percent for the Initial Contact Site and 14 percent for the Initial Assault Site, when information about them was unknown. Even though the Initial Contact Site and Initial Assault Site were not as frequently discovered by the police during the course of murder investigations as were the other components, the pursuit of information about the Initial Contact and Initial Assault Sites should have received priority because there was a very low probability of solution when information about them was not known. The body recovery site was so rarely unknown that it was not an efficient way to

differentiate between solved and unsolved cases.

The Date of Occurrence

In exploring the first issue, the data was analyzed to determine whether solvability was enhanced when police investigators knew the dates for each of the five components. Table 14 shows the findings for solvability when the date of occurrence for each component is known. The most notable finding is the overwhelming statistical significance for the components of Initial Contact, Initial Assault, and Murder.

TABLE 14: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOLVING A CASE AND KNOWLEDGE BY POLICE INVESTIGATORS ABOUT THE DATE OF THE FIVE COMPONENTS OF MURDER CASES (967 CASES; STATE OF WASHINGTON, 1981-86)

Components	Time Known	Percent of Cases Solved	N	p	tau b
Victim Last Seen Site	Yes	74%	942	.01	-.08
	No	52%	25		
Initial Contact Site	Yes	78%	857	.00	-.24
	No	44%	110		
Initial Assault Site	Yes	79%	822	.00	-.26
	No	46%	145		
Murder Site	Yes	81%	800	.00	-.34
	No	41%	167		
Body Recovery Site	Yes	74	966	.09	.05
	No	0%	1		

The most efficient indicator of solvability was when the

date was known for the murder site, 81 percent of the cases were solved. Similar percentages were found for the Initial Contact and Initial Assault Sites, 78% and 79% respectively.

When the date was unknown for the component of Murder, the cases that were solved dropped alarmingly to only 41 percent. A similar percentage drop, but not as great, was found for the components of Initial Contact (44%) and Initial Assault (46%).

The remaining two components, Victim Last Seen and Body Recovery Sites, were not efficient indicators of solvability. Whether the date was known or unknown for these two components, placed the knowledge about their date information at a level of least importance for the process of murder investigation. In fact, their percentages were similar to the percentages for solved and unsolved cases used as the sample for this research. The findings supported the first issue: when police investigators know the dates of initial contact, initial assault and the murder itself, this knowledge will contribute to the solvability of the case, i.e., the percentage of cases solved will be greater given this knowledge than when the dates for these components are not known.

When information about the dates of Initial Contact, Initial Assault, and Murder was known, it was also implied that investigators had other information that more than likely confirmed their locations and occurrence, like eyewitness

accounts and/or physical evidence (blood stains) that strongly connected a particular offender to each location. The importance of finding information that identifies the date of those components cannot be overstated.

#### Spans of Time for Components

After determining that solvability was enhanced when police investigators know the dates for initial contact, initial assault, and murder, the next analysis involved the determination of whether solvability is enhanced when pairs of components are close in time, given that the times for both components were known. The time spans were examined by calculating the separation of time from one component to each of the other components. The duration of the separation of time was measured to the nearest hour. There were ten possible pairs of components for which a span of time was calculated:

1. Victim Last Seen Site to Initial Contact Site,
2. Victim Last Seen Site to Initial Assault Site,
3. Victim Last Seen Site to Murder Site,
4. Victim Last Seen Site to Body Recovery Site,
5. Initial Contact Site to Initial Assault Site,
6. Initial Contact Site to Murder Site,
7. Initial Contact Site to Body Recovery Site,
8. Initial Assault Site to Murder Site,
9. Initial Assault Site to Body Recovery Site, and
10. Murder Site to Body Recovery Site.

The original data set was coded by calculating the time for sixteen intervals of time span, ranging from zero to more than 2 years, for each of the ten pairs of components. For the analysis reported here, the spans of time were collapsed into broader intervals of 0-24 hours and more than 24 hours for analysis by solvability. These intervals were chosen for two reasons: (1) the literature on solvability of murder cases emphasized that the solution rate for murders decreased appreciably after 24 hours of the discovery of the body, and (2) the interval of more than 24 hours enabled a more powerful statistical analyses since there were sufficient cases within this cell than for the intervals of more than 48 hours, 72 hours, one week, and so on. Also, the percentage change was very small for the respective increasing intervals of time.

Table 15 presents the relationships between solving a case and the time span between seven pairs of components. The other three pairs of components were not presented because they were inefficient at differentiating between solved and unsolved cases. The pair of components with the highest statistical significance ( $p < .00$ ;  $\text{Tau-b} = .37$ ) was Victim Last Seen to Body Recovery. For those cases when the victim disappeared less than 24 hours previous to body recovery, 82% of the cases were solved. If the victim's body was discovered more than 24 hours after the disappearance, the rate of solved cases fell dramatically to only 42%. The results indicate that investigative problems with solvability increase

significantly when information revealed that the victim disappeared over 24 hours previous to the discovery of the victim's remains.

TABLE 15: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOLVING A CASE AND THE TIME SPAN BETWEEN PAIRS OF COMPONENTS OF A MURDER CASE (STATE OF WASHINGTON, 1981-86)

Component Pairs	Time Span Between Components	Percent of Cases Solved	N	p	tau b
Victim Last Seen and Initial Contact	0-24 hrs	76%	537	.00	.14
	More Than 24 hrs	51%	24		
Victim Last Seen and Initial Assault	0-24 hrs	76%	522	.00	.16
	More Than 24 hrs	46%	22		
Victim Last Seen and Murder Site	0-24 hrs	74%	527	.00	.11
	More Than 24 hrs	57%	47		
Victim Last Seen and Body Recovery	0-24 hrs	82%	498	.00	.37
	More Than 24 hrs	42%	83		
Initial Assault and Murder Site	0-24 hrs	76%	588	.01	-.08
	More Than 24 hrs	89%	56		
Initial Assault and Body Recovery	0-24 hrs	83%	569	.00	.29
	More Than 24 hrs	50%	75		
Murder Site and Body Recovery	0-24 hrs	81%	595	.00	.28
	More than 24 hrs	52%	101		

The findings for six of the above seven components

support the facts in section (a) of the second issue: when the time between a given pair of components is less than 24 hours, such relatively close proximity in time will contribute to the solvability of the case, i.e., the percentage of cases solved will be greater than when that pair of components is separated by more than 24 hours. In fact, compared to the pairs of components when the time spans were less than 24 hours, there was an average significant decrease of 30% in solved cases for six of the component pairs when the time span was more than 24 hours between each pair.

The next notable finding did not support section (a) and supported section (b) of the second issue: the time proximity of components will contribute to the solvability of the case even if the components are not close in time. This finding was for the elapsed time between the pairs of components when the murderer initially assaulted the victim and when the murder actually occurred (AS-MS). When the time of the assault was less than 24 hours in time from when the murder occurred, the solved rate was 76%. When the initial assault was more than 24 hours before the murder occurred, a surprising rise to 89% of the cases were solved. These findings suggest that in those cases when the offender did not murder the victim within 24 hours from the time of the initial assault, the murderer kept the victim in captivity for a period of time, which increased the physical contact between the victim and offender. This longer contact caused the

amount of incriminating evidence to increase and, therefore, enhanced solvability.

### The Intervals of Distance

The next issue explored was to determine when solvability is enhanced when police investigators know the distances between the sites of pairs of the five case components. The same ten possible pairs of components that were used to calculate spans of time were used for the intervals of distance: (1) VLS to IC, (2) VLS to AS, (3) VLS to MS, (4) VLS to BR, (5) IC to AS, (6) IC to MS, (7) IC to BR, (8) AS to MS, (9) AS to BR, and (10) MS to BR.

As Table 16 shows, there were 728 investigations when the intervals of distance were known for all ten pairs of components. Those cases had a significantly high percentage (88%) of solved cases in comparison to the overall solved percentage of 74% for the 967 cases in the sample.

The distribution of murder cases that contained pairs of components for which the interval of distance was known ranged from those that had the interval of distance for only one pair of components to cases where the intervals of distance for ten pairs of components were known. In general, when the interval of distance was known for cases with fewer than ten pairs of components, a large decrease in percentage (61%, 29% and 4%) of solved cases was noted.

TABLE 16: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOLVING A CASE AND THE NUMBER OF PAIRS OF COMPONENTS IN A CASE FOR WHICH THE DISTANCES SEPARATING THE SITES OF THOSE COMPONENTS WERE KNOWN BY POLICE INVESTIGATORS (967 CASES; STATE OF WASHINGTON, 1981-86)

Number of Pairs of Components for which the distance separating the sites was known	Percent of Cases Solved	N
0	0%	11
1	4%	81
2	50%	2
3	29%	58
4	-	0
5	33%	3
6	61%	81
7	-	0
8	-	0
9	-	0
10	88%	728

$p < .00$

$\tau b = .57$

The findings here confirmed the premise of the third issue: when police investigators know the distance between the sites of more pairs of the five case components, this knowledge will contribute to the solvability of the case, i.e., the percentage of case solved will be greater given this knowledge than when the distances between pairs of components are not known.

As pairs of components were analyzed by dichotomized

distance information (Table 17) for five or less pairs and more than five pairs of components, an overwhelmingly high

TABLE 17: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOLVING A CASE AND THE NUMBER OF PAIRS OF COMPONENTS IN A CASE FOR WHICH THE DISTANCES SEPARATING THE SITES OF THOSE COMPONENTS WAS KNOWN BY POLICE INVESTIGATORS (BY DICHOTIMIZED DISTANCE INFORMATION) (967 CASES; STATE OF WASHINGTON, 1981-86)

Number of Pairs of Components for which the Distance separating the Sites was known	Percent of Cases Solved	N	p	tau b
0 - 5 Pairs	14%	155	.00	.59
6 - 10 Pairs	85%	812		

statistical efficiency ( $p < .00$ ; Tau-b = .59) occurred, further supporting the third issue statement. When the interval of distance was known for more than five pairs of components within each investigation, a high percentage (85%) of cases were solved. When the distance was known for the category 0-5 pairs of components, a dramatic drop of 71 percentage points in solved cases to only 14% was noted.

After determining the significance of just knowing information about distances between pairs of components, the next analyses that were examined were the actual distances for the intervals between known pairs of components. The interval of distance was measured in feet or miles for each pair of components. Then, the actual distance was converted to one of the following categories:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Distance</u>
1	0 to 199 feet
2	199 feet to < 3/4 mile
3	3/4 mile to < 1 1/2 miles
4	1 1/2 miles to < 12 miles
5	12 miles to < 70 miles
6	70 miles or more

A frequency distribution in order by distance for each pair was completed. Categories 1 through 6 were based on natural breaks in the frequency of distribution. For instance, distances for a large number of pairs of components were recorded at 0 feet, 30 feet, 100 feet, 1/4 mile, 1/2 mile, 1 mile, 2 miles, 5 miles, 10 miles, 15 miles, 20 miles, 50 miles and 100 miles.

Category 1, 0 - 199 feet, was also based on the collective experience of several homicide detectives.<sup>54</sup> The consensus of the detectives was that the maximum distance any killer was known to physically carry a dead body from the place where the victim was killed to the victim's final resting place or site of body recovery was no farther than 150 feet. They concluded that any victim's body carried a distance of 150 feet or less was considered for investigative

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<sup>54</sup> Interviews with John Douglas, FBI Behavioral Sciences Unit; Robert Ressler, FBI Research Unit; Pierce Brooks, Retired Los Angeles Police Homicide Unit; Frank Salerno, Los Angeles Sheriff's Homicide Unit; and Robert Gebo, Seattle Police Homicide. 1988.

purposes to have been found in the same crime scene area as if it had not been moved at all. Therefore, the distance would be considered the same as zero. The reason for this distinction was because there were no geographical, psychological, or investigative differences in significance to separate those cases where the victims were found within 150 feet from where they were killed. In addition, if a killer used a vehicle to transport a dead body to another location and carry the body into a wooded area, there were no cases in recent memory of a killer physically carrying the body any further than 150 feet from the vehicle.

Although the findings about distance to this point demonstrate that just knowing information about distance for pairs of components is important to solvability, Tables 18 through 22 show the relationship between solving a case and the actual distance between the sites of Victim Last Seen to Initial Contact, Victim Last Seen to Initial Assault, Victim Last Seen to Murder, Victim Last Seen to Body Recovery, and Initial Contact to Body Recovery, respectively. These five pairs of sites were listed because the other five sites were not statistically efficient for solved and unsolved cases. Also, Tables 18 through 22 show the relationship to solving a case and the distance between the pairs of components after the distance categories from 200 feet to over 70 miles had been collapsed into one category of distance, which was dichotomous with the distance of 0 - 199 feet.

The most statistically significant pair of components was Victim Last Seen to Body Recovery (VLS-BR) in Table 21. The distance from where the victim was last seen to the area where the body was recovered had a high statistical significance and strength of relationship ( $p < .00$ ;  $\tau b = -.43$ ). What is notable about VLS-BR is that the distance of 0 - 199 feet resulted in an 86 percent solution rate, 12 percentage points higher than the average for all single-victim murder cases. The distance beyond 200 feet had a negative impact on solvability. More specifically, as the distance increased, the rate for solved cases was reduced strikingly low to 40 percent.

TABLE 18: RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOLVING A CASE AND THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THE SITES OF "VICTIM LAST SEEN" AND "INITIAL CONTACT"

Distance between Sites	Percent of Cases Solved	N	With Distance Dichotomized	
			Percent of Cases Solved	N
0 - 199 Feet	87%	706	87%	706
200 Feet - .74 Mi.	61%	18	}	
.75 Mi. to 1.4 Mi.	80%	10	}	
1.5 Mi. to 11.9 Mi.	70%	20	}	61
12 Mi. to 69.9 Mi.	91%	11	}	
70 Miles or more	100%	2	}	
Total		767		767
	$p < .01$		$\tau b = -.09$	

TABLE 19: RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOLVING A CASE AND THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THE SITES OF "VICTIM LAST SEEN" AND "INITIAL ASSAULT"

Distance between Sites	Percent of Cases Solved	N	With Distance Dichotomized	
			Percent of Cases Solved	N
0 - 199 Feet	87%	714	87%	714
200 Feet - .74 Mi.	63%	19	}	}
.75 Mi. to 1.4 Mi.	62%	13		
1.5 Mi. to 11.9 Mi.	75%	40		
12 Mi. to 69.9 Mi.	64%	14		
70 Miles or more	100%	1		
Total		801		

p < .00                      tau b = -.14

TABLE 20: RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOLVING A CASE AND THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THE SITES OF "VICTIM LAST SEEN" AND "MURDER"

Distance between Sites	Percent of Cases Solved	N	With Distance Dichotomized	
			Percent of Cases Solved	N
0 - 199 Feet	85%	633	85%	633
200 Feet - .74 Mi.	62%	29	}	}
.75 Mi. to 1.4 Mi.	79%	29		
1.5 Mi. to 11.9 Mi.	83%	87		
12 Mi. to 69.9 Mi.	67%	27		
70 Miles or more	60%	5		
Total		810		

p < .00                      tau b = -.09

TABLE 21: RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOLVING A CASE AND THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THE SITES OF "VICTIM LAST SEEN" AND "BODY RECOVERY"

Distance between Sites	Percent of Cases Solved	N	With Distance Dichotomized			
			Percent of Cases Solved	N		
0 - 199 Feet	86%	689	86%	689		
200 Feet - .74 Mi.	50%	32	}	}		
.75 Mi. to 1.4 Mi.	47%	15				
1.5 Mi. to 11.9 Mi.	47%	93			40%	218
12 Mi. to 69.9 Mi.	27%	66				
70 Miles or more	24%	12				
Total		907				907

$p < .00$

tau b =  $-.43$

TABLE 22: RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOLVING A CASE AND THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THE SITES OF "INITIAL CONTACT" AND "BODY RECOVERY"

Distance between Sites	Percent of Cases Solved	N	With Distance Dichotomized			
			Percent of Cases Solved	N		
0 - 199 Feet	89%	650	89%	650		
200 Feet - .74 Mi.	83%	23	}	}		
.75 Mi. to 1.4 Mi.	88%	8				
1.5 Mi. to 11.9 Mi.	75%	48			74%	119
12 Mi. to 69.9 Mi.	62%	34				
70 Miles or more	83%	6				
Total		769				769

$p < .00$

tau b =  $-.15$

In addition, Tables 18 through 21 show that the component of Victim Last Seen (VLS) was paired with every other component in a manner that, as reported above, all were statistically significant. The remaining pairs of components were not statistically significant, except for Initial Contact to Body Recovery (IC-BR). The significant presence of VLS and its distance relationship with every other component suggests that police investigators should immediately pursue information that leads to the location where the victim was last seen. A lack of knowledge about when and where the victim was last seen does not enhance solvability.

Only to the extent that the significant pairs shown in Tables 18-22 were considered, the findings here partially supported the fourth issue: when the distance between the sites of a given pair of components is less than 199 feet, such relatively close proximity of the components will contribute to the solvability of the case, i.e., the percentage of cases solved will be greater than when the sites of that pair of components are separated by more than 199 feet. It must be noted, however, that for all the pairs of components shown in Tables 18 through 22, except for VLS-BR which had a 40 percent solved rate for cases, the average solution rate for the collapsed distance category greater than 199 feet did not markedly differ from the 74 percent solution rate for the entire sample of single-victim murders.

The advantage for solvability was with those pairs that

were less than 200 feet in distance. They were all at least 11 percentage points higher in solved cases than the general sample of cases, with the highest percentage (89%) recorded for Initial Contact to Body Recovery.

#### Time Spans and Distance Intervals for Pairs of Components

The fifth issue explored was to determine whether solvability was enhanced when pairs of components were not close in time and distance, i.e., separated by more than 24 hours and 199 feet. The spans of time (0-24 hours and >24 hours) and intervals of distance (0-199 feet and >199 feet), whose relationship to solvability were previously analyzed as separate factors, were used simultaneously to determine their importance to solvability for the pairs of components.

A statistical analysis for each of the ten pairs of components was completed for the time periods of 0-24 hours, > 24 hours to less than 1 month, and more than 1 month and for the distance intervals of 0-199 feet, 200 feet to 1.49 miles, and more than 1.5 miles. Time was used as the independent variable, solved-unsolved as the dependent variable, and distance as the control variable. Therefore, a total of thirty separate analyses were conducted.

Of the ten possible pairs of components for a murder incident, only the pair, Victim Last Seen to Body Recovery, made a difference to solvability and shown in Table 23. The nine other pairs either made no significant

percentage difference between solved and unsolved cases or had so few cases within each cell of a table that no interpretation could be drawn.

TABLE 23: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOLVING A CASE AND THE TIME AND DISTANCE WHEN ANALYZED SIMULTANEOUSLY BETWEEN THE SITES OF "VICTIM LAST SEEN" AND "BODY RECOVERY"

Distance between the Sites of Victim Last Seen and Body Recovery	Time Separating Victim Last Seen and Body Recovery	Percent of Cases Solved	N	p	tau b
	0 - 24 hours	86%	505		
0 - 199 feet	> 24 hours to less than 1 month	69%	52	.00	-.12
	More than 1 month	78%	9		
200 Feet to 1.5 miles	0 - 24 hours	53%	28		
	> 24 hours to less than 1 month	30%	10	.43	-.14
	More than 1 month	50%	4		
More than 1.5 miles	0 - 24 hours	58%	55		
	> 24 hours to less than 1 month	45%	60	.00	-.40
	More than 1 month	4%	47		
Total			770		

Table 23 shows the relationship between solving a case and the time and distance between the sites of Victim Last Seen and Body Recovery. The most frequent number of cases (505) and the highest percent (86%) of solved cases were found in the shortest period of time (0-24 hours) and shortest

interval of distance (0-199 feet). Therefore, in incidents of murder where the span of time and the interval of distance for the Victim Last Seen site to the Body Recovery site were the shortest, the components occurred almost simultaneously within close proximity in time and distance, thus enhancing the solvability to a significantly high percentage of solved cases. Also, for the short distance category, there is a significant decrease of 17 percentage points to 69 percent for solved cases when the time span ranged from greater than 24 hours and less than one month. Having short distance and time was the key to enhanced solvability.

Generally, for the sites of Victim Last Seen and Body Recovery, the findings here for each time span and interval of distance category were not markedly different in percentage of solved cases from the findings for time span and distance previously analyzed separately and shown in Tables 15 and 21. But there was one exception: when the distance was more than 1.5 miles and the time was more than one month in separation, a shocking and statistically significant percentage reduction in solved cases was noted. Only 4 percent of the 47 cases for those categories were solved. This finding favored those murderers who separated the locations where their victims were last seen to the place where the body was discovered by over 1.5 miles in distance and over one month in time.

The findings here only partially supported the final issue explored as they pertained to the pair of components,

Victim Last Seen and Body Recovery: when the time between a given pair of components is more than 24 hours and the distance between that same pair is more than 199 feet, such relatively distant proximity in time and distance will not contribute to the solvability of the case, i.e., the rate of solvability diminishes sharply when both the time span and interval of distance are shorter for that pair of components.

## CHAPTER 10

### CONCLUSIONS AND SUMMARY

This research developed a model for the investigation of the crime of murder and assessed its five major components to solvability. The components examined were: (1) the location where the victim was last seen, (2) the point of initial contact between the offender and victim, (3) the location of an initial assault, (4) the actual murder site, and (5) the body recovery site. The relationship of each component to solvability was analyzed by information that was available about time, time spans and intervals of distance.

To explore those relationships, murders in Washington state were examined over the period beginning January 1981 through December 1986. The theoretical model was drawn from over 18 years of homicide investigation experience of the author. Essentially, the location and time that each component occurred were controlled by the actions of the offender. The location and time of occurrence were dependent on the murderer's particular motivations and the conditions under which the each murder transpired. No previous research or literature has dealt with any model of murder investigation or addressed the major factors dealing with the solution of murder cases.

In light of the demonstrated influence of prior research on investigations of crimes other than murder, and given the pressure from the victim's advocates, responsible governmental

officials, and intense media coverage of high profile murder investigations, it is surprising that no attention had been directed toward studying the methods by which police officers investigate more effectively and, thus, solve murder cases. The present research partially addressed the question of what factors are important to the solution of murder cases by examining how time and distance information about the components of a murder incident affected solvability. The standard for solvability was the entire sample of 967 single-victim murder cases in the State of Washington for the years 1981-86, which had a solution rate of 74 percent. This research yielded several major findings.

First, the frequency of occurrence in murder cases of the five sites were examined for their relationship to solvability when any information (date of occurrence, locations, and distances) was known about them. The percentage of solved cases when information about each of five sites was known did not have a significant percentage difference from the 74 percent for the 967 murder cases in the sample. What was remarkable was the very low percentage (17 and 14 percent) of solved cases when no information was known about the Initial Contact and Initial Assault sites.

The latter finding does challenge some pre-existing notions. The impact of this finding seriously questions the investigative value of curricula contained in training courses and seminars for homicide investigators. Previous training

has emphasized the techniques for processing the body recovery site or crime scene for physical evidence. The typical course agendas included instruction in protecting the crime scene, photography, measuring and collecting physical evidence, autopsy protocols, and specialized investigation techniques, such as locating buried bodies, processing outdoor crime scenes, and collecting blood evidence for purposes of a DNA examination.<sup>54 55 56</sup> No special instruction was given that focused on what information was vital to locating the initial contact and initial assault locations between the offender and victim and how information about those sites to enhance solvability. This observation does not make the above procedures irrelevant; it just suggests that they are incomplete.

The second finding related to whether solvability was enhanced when police investigators know the dates of occurrence for each of the five components. Knowing the dates for three components was significant to solvability: the murder site, the initial assault site, and the initial contact site between the offender and the victim, with murder site identified as most significant.

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<sup>54</sup> Georgia Police Academy, Outline for Homicide Investigation Training, 1990.

<sup>55</sup> Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission, Basic Homicide Investigation Training Class Outline, 1989.

<sup>56</sup> Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, Homicide Investigation Manual, April 1981.

If investigators could not determine when the murder occurred, this fact dramatically decreased the chance that the case was solved. The murder site is the specific location where the offender comes into the most violent contact with the victim. Knowing the actual date of the murder enhances the investigator's ability to verify or refute the alibis of potential suspects. They use this information to determine if a particular person was available to commit the murder. For example, in a case where it was determined that the murder occurred on Thursday, October 3, 1991, anyone who was in a hospital or prison, or was out of town on October 3rd could be eliminated as a suspect through corroboration of the alibi.

The third finding involved the period of time between the time when the victim was last seen and the time that the body was discovered, the most significant pair of components to solvability. If the offender, either consciously or unconsciously, separated the components by more than a 24 hour span of time, the chance of solution dropped to alarmingly low levels. This meant that the victim's body recovery was separated in time more than 24 hours from the last known location where he or she was last seen alive by anyone. The reduced solvability rate may not only be the result of evidence deterioration, but more likely the inability of witnesses to recall events surrounding the disappearance of the victim.

It is commonly known that clear recollection of events by

witnesses is affected by the passage of time.<sup>57</sup> The longer it takes investigators to discover the body, the more likely witnesses will not recall pertinent information about the circumstances of the victim's disappearance. In the present study, it can be concluded that the murder investigations were made more difficult to solve because witness statements or information about the time that the victim disappeared were not useful in developing information about the offender or other components. Therefore, it would be wise to spend more investigative energy to discover quickly the identity of the victim after the body is discovered which will enhance the probability of finding out the circumstances of the victim's disappearance.

Conversely, for the components of initial assault site to murder site, a significant rise in percentage of solved cases was noted when these components were separated by more than 24 hours. This implied that the offender was with the victim a longer period of time between when the victim was first assaulted and when the death inflicting injuries were produced. Therefore, more information about these two components and information about the time between them was discovered. The longer an offender was with the victim while the victim was still alive, the more likely that additional information and evidence about what happened between the two

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<sup>57</sup>Loftus, Elizabeth F. and Gary L. Wells, Eyewitness Testimony: Psychological Perspectives, Cambridge University Press: NY, 1984.

components were revealed.

The time span of first 24 hours after the discovery of the body has been the focus of prior research. The research has only dealt with the solvability of murder investigations as it related to the arrest of the offender within 24 hours of the murder. The present research did not examine or use the data related to the arrest of the offender as a basis for determining the location and time of occurrence to the five components. The results of the prior research showed that in 66 percent of solved cases the offender was in custody within 24 hours. The prior study did not differentiate between the where the murder occurred and the place where the victim's body was discovered. The findings here substantiated the importance of the period of time up to 24 hours after the discovery of the victim's body. The percent of solved cases was over 80 percent when the time span between the Body Recovery and the three components, Victim Last Seen, Initial Assault and Murder, was less than 24 hours.

The next major finding dealt with information known about the interval of distance between any two components. In those cases where the interval of distance was known, the more likely they were solved. Having distance information meant that investigators knew more about the connection between and the routes to and from the components. The specific address of each component within a pair was known. More specifically, short distance (0-199 feet) resulted in the highest solution

rate. Therefore, when the offender separated any component from another component by an interval of distance less than 200 feet, higher solution rates were revealed than for longer intervals of distance between the same pair of components. When the distance between components is long, such as in miles, it usually means that the components are located within different law enforcement jurisdictions. This may cause confusion about who is the primary investigating agency in a particular case. Policies are interpreted differently based on institutionalized procedures. Some agencies assume jurisdiction because the body is found in their city. Others have the location of the murder as the governing factor. Some of the more sophisticated murderers are well aware of the problems that police agencies have with cooperation in investigations and intentionally plan their murders accordingly with long distance distribution of the components.

The last notable finding dealt with a reduction in solvability when pairs of components were not close in time and distance. Specifically, the only significant pair of components was Victim Last Seen to Body Recovery. It was found that for this pair of components an astounding 96 percent of murder cases were unsolved when the interval of distance was more than 1.5 miles and the time span was longer than one month. These results may have extreme implications for police supervisors and should affect the prudent use of resources and manpower in investigations of this type. Police

administrators have to determine if a long and protracted investigation is necessary in those cases where the components of Victim Last Seen and Body Recovery are not in close proximity in time and distance.

In conclusion, the data presented here support this study's general proposition: the more information (dates, time spans, and intervals of distance) that is known about the components (victim's last seen site, initial contact site, initial assault site, murder site and body recovery site) of a murder incident, a significantly higher percentage of investigations will more likely result in solution.

#### Summary

This research adds significantly to our understanding of the process of murder investigation. The findings showed that having information about time and distance factors between the components of a murder incident were important to the solution rate of investigations. The research results are useful to homicide detectives, many of whom investigate homicides on a daily basis and are primarily responsible for the apprehension of murderers. This study also provides police management personnel with the kinds of information necessary to more efficiently allocate homicide-investigation resources and manpower.

The results of this study will lead to improvements in criminal justice training curricula for law enforcement

investigators. The identification and prioritization of solvability factors will assist homicide detectives in identifying avenues of proper and logical follow-up. This study offers the homicide detective alternatives to the traditional reactive nature of murder investigations. The results of this study aid the detective in developing more proactive strategies in the formative stages of an investigation, rather than waiting for something to happen to which the detective must react. The findings from this project can easily be used in forming a police department's guidelines and procedures for follow-up in homicide investigations. In view of the results of the data presented here, the efficacy of conventional practices and training in murder investigation is doubtful. It seems ineffective and wasteful to proceed reactively in a murder investigation without understanding the importance to solvability of finding information that relates to the time of occurrence and location of all five components as soon as possible.

A few experienced investigators know that each component exists somewhere within the chronology of a murder event. Unfortunately, the first time that police investigators become involved in an investigation is upon notification of a location where a body is discovered. At this point, a traditionally reactive investigation begins where the police attempt to identify the victim and the offender as quickly as possible. The structure of the investigation is usually

dictated by the conditions present at the site of body recovery. How the investigators determine when and where the components are located within the murder incident is governed by the manner in which they pursue leads or clues that are present at the body recovery site. If investigators are inexperienced, they may have trouble identifying evidence in a timely manner that proves the existence of each component.

As a result of this study, an interactive model of murder investigation is available for the benefit of all investigators. For those law enforcement officers that do not experience a high frequency of murder investigations, a model of murder investigation is accessible that has proven data on solvability rates.

Fortunately, for investigative purposes, most murders are motivated by argument, rage, and heat of passion, and these five components are likely to occur at the same time and location. But as the motivations change to drug-related, gang-related, or sexually sadistic, the murderers will begin to take special precautions when contacting, assaulting, murdering, disposing of the victim by preventing evidence from being discovered about them and further separating certain components by time and distance. Therefore, it will be more difficult to solve murder cases.

The version of murder investigation presented here is an initial statement of this perspective and does not represent a complete model of all the factors that are associated with

the investigation of murder. For example, there is the possibility that knowledge of dates and distances become known when other information becomes known, and it is the other information that might contribute to solvability. The role of other variables of investigation, especially the presence or absence of witnesses, confessions and physical evidence, has to be fully explicated to better understand the solvability of murder cases. These factors, among others, are the focus of expanded research on the solvability factors in murder cases currently under investigation in the research project entitled "Improving the Understanding of Homicide and the Apprehension Rate of Murderers."

Similarly, greater attention needs to be paid to the influence of how many resources a law enforcement agency is willing to expend at the beginning of a murder investigation and how that commitment is sustained through the continuing investigation since it is increasingly clear that fiscal decisions by responsible governmental officials effect the quality of police function. These considerations are yet to be investigated.

The findings from this study and future research provide the foundation for a better understanding, both from the public and from within the criminal justice system, of the complex process of murder investigation and its accompanying high costs, emphasizing the high priority to be given to appropriate and timely budget decisions within law enforcement

agencies and by the various governmental bodies which establish those agencies' budgets.

Finally, for the experienced investigator, the findings from this research are not at all surprising. One should expect that those cases about which law enforcement officials have more information most likely would be solved. Additionally, a murder case is most likely to be solved if most events associated with it are compact in time and space. This is because such compact murders are committed on the spur of the moment in times of argument and, hence, are crimes in which the offender has used less calculating skill and cunning in generating a plausible alibi, destroying evidence, and generally laying a smokescreen avoiding detection.

Certain murder cases, such as those committed by an angry offender and are precipitated on the spur of the moment, are just easier to solve than others, such as planned and calculated murders. The differential solvability of murder cases resides, not just in the way they are investigated, but in certain features of the cases themselves. While more information is better than less information, getting more information is inherently more difficult in some cases and the lower solvability rate for less compact cases derives, not from the absence of skill and cunning on the part of police investigators, but from the presence of skill and cunning on the part of the offender.

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APPENDIX A

LETTERS OF SUPPORT



## WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF SHERIFFS & POLICE CHIEFS

POST OFFICE BOX 826 • OLYMPIA, WA 98507 • PHONE 459-6386 SCAN 585-6386

February 25, 1987

*President*  
S. R. "JOHNNY" JOHNSTON  
Sheriff - Okanogan County

*President Elect*  
DON PIERCE  
Chief - Tukwila

*Vice President*  
STEVE KERNES  
Sheriff - Clallam County

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JAN DEVENY  
Dir. of Public Safety  
Mercer Island

LARRY LOVELESS  
Chief - Ellensburg

RONALD PEASE  
Chief - Kalama

VERN THOMAS  
King County Sheriff

DON S. TOKUNAGA  
SAC-FBI

GEORGE TELLEVIK  
Chief - WSP

EUGENE A. COTTON  
Executive Director

James K. Stewart, Director  
National Institute of Justice  
633 Indiana Ave. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20531

RE: Research Program on Apprehension and Prosecution

Dear Director Stewart:

I am writing to express the support of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs and its members for a research proposal entitled "Improving the Investigation of Homicide and the Apprehension Rate of Murderers." Dr. Joe Weis of the University of Washington and Robert Keppel of the Washington Attorney General's Office have agreed to cooperate with them in this project by making our records available to them.

We in Washington State are acutely aware of the tremendous tragedy that results in a homicide and especially serial killings such as we have experienced. We agree with research proposal identification of need in the area of homicide investigation. We believe the results of this proposal will have practical as well as academic benefit.

Again, we are highly supportive of this research proposal and are standing ready to aid Dr. Weis and Mr. Keppel in their research.

Sincerely,

Donald G. Pierce, President-Elect  
Tukwila Police Chief

DGP:td



King County  
Department of Public Safety  
Vernon Thomas, Sheriff-Director  
W 116 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, Washington 98104-2312

February 19, 1987

Robert D. Keppel  
Chief Criminal Investigator  
Office of the Attorney General  
1300 Dexter Horton Bldg.  
Seattle, WA 98104

RE: Grant Proposal

Dear Mr. Keppel:

Thank you for the opportunity to support your request for a grant for Improving the Investigation of Homicide and the Apprehension of Murderers.

Effective management techniques in homicide investigation, I believe, will enhance the likelihood of the apprehension of murderers. A statewide homicide information system will benefit all agencies in coordinating homicide data.

As President of the Washington Sheriffs' Association, I will urge the cooperation and support of local police and sheriff's departments on this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Vern Thomas".

VERN THOMAS  
Sheriff-Director

VT:jcm



King County  
Medical Examiner Division  
Department of Public Health  
335 Ninth Avenue  
Seattle, Washington 98104  
(206) 223-3222

12 February 1987

James K. Stewart  
Director  
National Institute of Justice  
633 Indiana Avenue N.W.  
Washington, DC 20531

Dear Mr. Stewart:

This letter is written in support of the grant proposal, entitled "Improving the Investigation of Homicides and the Apprehension of Murderers", prepared by R. Keppel and J. Weiss. As King County Medical Examiner and Chairman of the Washington State Death Investigation Council, I strongly support their proposal since it would provide a foundation for standardizing information obtained at the time of autopsy. The State of Washington is a hybrid of death investigations which include lay coroners in smaller, less populated jurisdictions and medical examiners in larger, more populated areas. Consequently, there is a great deal of unevenness in the manner and method in which scientific death investigations are conducted and in the method in which forensic autopsies are performed. This proposal would begin to provide a data base which would require medical examiners and coroners to standardize information obtained at the time of autopsy. Such criteria as clearly defining injury patterns, characteristics of injuries, and the collection of trace evidence would greatly enhance the value of data collected from various jurisdictions. This proposal would initiate standardization.

Sincerely,

  
Donald T. Reay, M. D.  
Chief Medical Examiner

DTR:pl



Ken Fikenberry

## ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON

TEMPLE OF JUSTICE • OLYMPIA, WA 98504-0521 • PHONE 206/753-6200

February 19, 1987

James K. Stewart, Director  
National Institute of Justice  
633 Indiana Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20531

Dear Mr. Stewart:

This letter shall serve as endorsement of the research proposal titled "Improving the Investigation of Homicides and the Apprehension Rate of Murderers".

The Washington State Attorney General's Office possesses the legal authority to apply for the grant and I have appointed Mr. Robert Keppel, an investigator with this office, to be the official representative and program director of the grant project. He will coordinate the collection of data, and enlist the support of local prosecutors, police chiefs and sheriffs for the duration (two years, beginning July 1987) of this project.

This office will comply with the assurances listed in Part V of the grant application and other requirements of the National Institute of Justice.

We are hopeful the research conducted under this grant program will ultimately improve existing homicide data sources, make law enforcement homicide investigations more effective, add to the understanding of homicide investigation, and increase the probability that murderers will be apprehended.

To the best of Mr. Keppel's and my knowledge, this research project is unique among any previous or ongoing studies in police homicide investigation effectiveness and has not been duplicated.

The criminal division of this office will administer the grant with the cooperation of the University of Washington Center for Law and Justice.

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

James K. Stewart  
February 19, 1987

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Page 2

I would like to thank you and the National Institute of  
Justice for this opportunity.

Very truly yours,



KENNETH O. EIKENBERRY  
Attorney General

/blw

APPENDIX B

LETTER TO POLICE CHIEFS AND SHERIFFS



Ken Eikenberry

**ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON**

DEXTER HORTON BUILDING, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98104-1749

June 7, 1988

James R. Graham  
Chief of Police  
Woodland Police Dept.  
P.O. Box 9  
Woodland, WA 98674

Re: Homicide Information And Tracking System (H.I.T.S.)

Dear Chief Graham:

The Washington State Attorney General's office, as a result of a U.S. Department of Justice grant, is presently conducting research and development of a computerized Homicide Information & Tracking System. Our first objective is to research each of the nearly 1400 homicide cases that occurred in the State of Washington between 01-01-81 and 12-31-86. From the data collected we will: 1) examine the critical solvability factors present in homicide investigations; 2) identify the salient characteristics of murder; and 3) record information unique to a particular suspect, suspect M.O., or evidence that can be used to determine if a suspect or piece of evidence is associated with murder cases in jurisdictions statewide. We believe this study will also aid in improving the investigative understanding of homicide, homicide management and, coordination of information between agencies. Thus, more homicides will be resolved and murderers apprehended.

In order to complete this research we will, in the near future, be requesting that agencies that had homicide(s) during the applicable time period, make their homicide files available to Robert Keppel or myself.

We are interested in both solved and unsolved cases, which involve any degree of murder and cases where the cause of death is suspicious or the classification of death is undetermined. We are also interested in missing persons cases where foul play is suspected. The information extracted from these case files will provide the data necessary to build a computerized homicide database. This "Homicide Information & Tracking System" database will give homicide investigators throughout the state the ability to make immediate inquiries relative to either general or specific information about any or all homicides within the state. The following are only a few examples of situations in which this system will be of assistance:

## OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

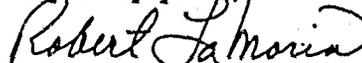
- 1) Police and sheriff departments frequently receive inquiries from other police agencies requesting information about a certain homicide. For example: The inquiring agency is interviewing an arrested suspect in a burglary case. He has expressed interest in providing the police with information about a homicide in exchange for having his current charges dropped. The suspect has given only partial information to bait the police and/or confuse them. Therefore, the immediate verification that the homicide exists is necessary. Presently, without a centralized homicide information system, even if the exact location of the alleged incident is known an attempt to verify the information is time consuming, if not impossible. If, on the other hand, within a few minutes you were able to verify that a homicide had in fact occurred at that location, an unsolved homicide might be resolved.
- 2) A police agency has just arrested a suspect for menacing with a knife. An investigation reveals that his knife has what is believed to be human blood on it, and the suspect has spent the past four months hitchhiking around the state and sleeping in state parks. If an investigator wants to know if there has been a stabbing murder in any of the state parks, there is currently no place to find this information; instead, each jurisdiction that has a state park within its boundaries must be contacted.
- 3) Police find a .45 caliber pistol wrapped in plastic and covered with brush in the woods. An inquiry to determine if this weapon may have been used in a homicide is essential. At this time no central place of inquiry exists.
- 4) Police frequently impound found property, i.e. identification cards and drivers' licenses. The names on these pieces of identification should be checked to determine if the owner is a homicide victim. At present there is no system available that keeps track of this type of information.
- 5) Frequently, as in serial or drug related killings, a killer(s) may kill in several different and widespread jurisdictions with each jurisdiction having information and/or evidence, but too little of either to identify a suspect. They will also probably be unaware of the other jurisdiction having similar cases and/or suspect(s). At present, to obtain such information could take days or even weeks. However, with immediate access to a Homicide Information & Tracking System, a phone call from any of the affected jurisdictions would alert the inquiring agency of those other jurisdictions having similar cases and/or suspects. It would also increase the possibility that information or evidence from a single jurisdiction, when combined with information and/or evidence from several jurisdictions, may lead to the identity of a suspect(s) and the possibility of clearing several homicides.

## OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The above-cited problems are not unique to homicide investigation within the State of Washington but are generic to homicide investigations nationwide. Presently, to respond to any one of the above hypothetical cases might require months of investigation by the traditional means of telephoning a myriad of law enforcement agencies, sending out teletypes, and mailing bulletins. The answer to these inquiries would only take a matter of seconds with a computerized homicide information system. Therefore, the primary objective of the research project is to establish and evaluate a model statewide Homicide Information & Tracking System.

We anticipate the system to be functioning at or near full capacity by mid 1989. In the meantime there is a smaller but similar system now operating at the Attorney General's office in Seattle. This system contains approximately 340 homicide cases and will eventually be merged with the new system. Currently this system is being used with varying degrees of success by numerous agencies. If you are unfamiliar with or haven't as yet used the current system, please contact this office as we would be happy to assist in any way we can. The number to call is: (206) 464-6209 or (206) 464-7676; ask for either Robert LaMoria or Robert Keppel.

Very truly yours,



Robert LaMoria  
Program Manager  
Criminal Division

jo

APPENDIX C

DATA COLLECTION INSTRUMENT: THE HITS FORM

WASHINGTON STATE  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
HOMICIDE INFORMATION & TRACKING SYSTEM

1. HITS # \_\_\_\_\_
2. Date form completed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(mo) (da) (yr)
3. Coders name: \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Title: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Phone #: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_
- |        |       |       |          |         |          |       |       |
|--------|-------|-------|----------|---------|----------|-------|-------|
|        | no.   | da.   | mil hrs. |         | mil hrs. | hrs   | min   |
| Log-in | _____ | _____ | _____    | Log-out | _____    | _____ | _____ |
| Log-in | _____ | _____ | _____    | Log-out | _____    | hrs   | min   |
| Log-in | _____ | _____ | _____    | Log-out | _____    | hrs   | min   |
| Log-in | _____ | _____ | _____    | Log-out | _____    | hrs   | min   |
| Log-in | _____ | _____ | _____    | Log-out | _____    | hrs   | min   |
7. Date completed: \_\_\_\_\_ no. da. yr. 8. Total: hrs \_\_\_\_\_ min \_\_\_\_\_

CASE ADMINISTRATION

9. Reporting agency's ORI number: \_\_\_\_\_
10. Reporting agency: \_\_\_\_\_
11. Address: \_\_\_\_\_ 12. City: \_\_\_\_\_
13. County: \_\_\_\_\_ 14. State: \_\_\_\_\_
15. Zip: \_\_\_\_\_
16. Reporting agency's case number(s): \_\_\_\_\_
17. NCIC number if victim is missing or an unidentified dead body: \_\_\_\_\_
18. H.I.T.S. ID CODE (leave blank) \_\_\_\_\_
19. Reporting agency's phone number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_
20. H.I.T.S. crime analysis Report type:
- 1\_\_ Original submission of this case
  - 2\_\_ Supplement to previously submitted information
  - 3\_\_ Correction to previously submitted information
  - 4\_\_ Request for information from outside agencies



VICTIM IDENTIFICATION & CHARACTERISTICS

38. Status of this victim:

- 1  Deceased (as a result of this incident)
- 2  Survivor of attack
- 3  Missing

39. Victim name:

\_\_\_\_\_ (last, first, middle)

40. Victim's alias(es) (including maiden and prior married names)

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_

41. Sex:

- 1  Male
- 2  Female
- 99  Unable to determine

42. Date of birth:

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ (mo) \_\_\_\_\_ (da) \_\_\_\_\_ (yr)
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_
- 99  Unable to determine

43. Age (or best estimate) at time of incident: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (years)  
99  Unable to determine

44. Race:

- 1  Black
- 2  Caucasian
- 3  American Indian
- 4  Oriental/Asian
- 5  Hispanic
- 88  Other \_\_\_\_\_
- 99  Unable to determine

45. Ethnic background: \_\_\_\_\_

Victim's address at time of death:

46. Street: \_\_\_\_\_

47. City: \_\_\_\_\_ 48. State: \_\_\_\_\_ 49. Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

50. Victim's residence:

- 1  Single-family dwelling
- 2  Multi-family dwelling
- 3  Temporary or transient housing
- 4  Motor vehicle
- 5  Street
- 88  Other \_\_\_\_\_
- 99  Unable to determine

Victim's previous addresses:

51. Street: \_\_\_\_\_
52. City: \_\_\_\_\_ 53. State: \_\_\_\_\_ 54. Zip: \_\_\_\_\_
- Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_
- Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

VICTIM'S PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

55. Height (or best estimate): \_\_\_\_\_ ft. \_\_\_\_\_ in. 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine
56. Approx. weight: \_\_\_\_\_ lbs 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine
57. Build:
- |              |                            |
|--------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ Small  | 3 ___ Large                |
| 2 ___ Medium | 99 ___ Unable to determine |
58. Hair length: (check all that apply)
- |                                |                            |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ No hair (bald or shaven) | 5 ___ To Shoulders         |
| 2 ___ Balding                  | 6 ___ Past shoulders       |
| 3 ___ Above collar             | 99 ___ Unable to determine |
| 4 ___ Collar length            |                            |
59. Hair shade:
- |             |                            |
|-------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ Light | 3 ___ Medium               |
| 2 ___ Dark  | 99 ___ Unable to determine |
60. Predominant hair color:
- |                         |                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ Gray and or white | 5 ___ Black                |
| 2 ___ Blond             | 88 ___ Other _____         |
| 3 ___ Red               | 99 ___ Unable to determine |
| 4 ___ Brown             |                            |
61. Abnormalities of the teeth: (check all that apply)
- |                         |                             |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 ___ None              | 6 ___ Noticeable gaps       |
| 2 ___ Braces            | 7 ___ Some or all missing   |
| 3 ___ Broken or chipped | 8 ___ Stained               |
| 4 ___ Crooked           | 88 ___ Other _____          |
| 5 ___ Decayed           | 99 ___ Unable to determine. |
62. Glasses normally worn by or associated with the victim: (check all that apply) (if victim is unidentified skeletal remains go to #97)
- |                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ None           | 6 ___ Metal frame          |
| 2 ___ Prescription   | 7 ___ Rimless              |
| 3 ___ Contacts       | 88 ___ Other _____         |
| 4 ___ Bifocals       |                            |
| 5 ___ Plastic frames | 99 ___ Unable to determine |

VICTIM'S SCARS AND/OR BIRTHMARKS

63. Does the victim have any scars and/or birthmarks (not tattoos):  
 1 \_\_\_ Yes            2 \_\_\_ No            99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

Location of scars or birthmarks:  
 (Using the following list, indicate the location of each scar or birthmark in the space provided below)

- |                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1) Face, head, neck | 5) Buttocks             |
| 2) Arm(s), hand(s)  | 6) Feet or leg(s)       |
| 3) Torso front      | 88) Other               |
| 4) Torso back       | 99) Unable to determine |

64. Location	65. Description
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

VICTIM'S TATTOOS

66. Does the victim have any tattoos?  
 1 \_\_\_ Yes            2 \_\_\_ No            99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

Tattoo locations and designs:  
 (Using the numbers and letters as provided in the two lists below, indicate the location of each tattoo with its corresponding number and design with the corresponding letter.)

- |          |                     |                         |
|----------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Location | 1) Face, head, neck | 5) Buttocks             |
|          | 2) Arm(s), hand(s)  | 6) Feet or leg(s)       |
|          | 3) Torso front      | 88) Other               |
|          | 4) Torso back       | 99) Unable to determine |

- |        |                            |                         |
|--------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Design | A) Initials or words       | D) Other _____          |
|        | B) Number(s)               | 99) Unable to determine |
|        | C) Picture(s) or design(s) |                         |

67. Location	68. Design	69. Description
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

VICTIM'S OUTSTANDING PHYSICAL FEATURES

70. Did the victim have outstanding physical features or was there something about the victim that would attract attention?

1 \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
 2 \_\_\_ No            99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

VICTIM'S CLOTHING

71. Generally preferred clothing style:

- |                       |                             |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1__ Business suit     | 5__ Western wear            |
| 2__ Casual            | 6__ Work clothes or uniform |
| 3__ Gaudy or garish   | 88__ Other _____            |
| 4__ Sport or athletic | 99__ Unable to determine    |

72. Generally preferred predominant color tone of clothing:

- |             |                     |                          |
|-------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ Whites  | 5__ Purples/Violets | 99__ Unable to determine |
| 2__ Yellows | 6__ Reds/Oranges    |                          |
| 3__ Greens  | 7__ Browns/Tans     |                          |
| 4__ Blues   | 8__ Grays/Blacks    |                          |

If this case is unsolved or a missing person case where foul play is suspected, list victim's clothing description: (using the number(s) from the color list in the above question, place the appropriate number for the color on the line of the corresponding victim clothing item. More than one color/number may be used per article) (describe logos and brand names in space provided)

73. 1\_\_ None

74. Special Characteristics  
(spots, rips, brands, logos, etc.)

Color	Clothing Item	
2__	Shirt	_____
3__	T-shirt	_____
4__	Blouse	_____
5__	Bra	_____
6__	Panties	_____
7__	Under shorts	_____
8__	Skirt	_____
9__	Pants	_____
10__	Socks	_____
11__	Shoes	_____
12__	Jacket/coat	_____
13__	Hat	_____
88__	Other	_____

VICTIM'S BACKGROUND

75. Sexual history: (check all that apply)

- |                  |                  |                          |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ Prepubescent | 5__ Homosexual   | 9__ Asexual              |
| 2__ Heterosexual | 6__ Prostitute   | 10__ Pedophile           |
| 3__ Bisexual     | 7__ Promiscuous  | 88__ Other _____         |
| 4__ Bondage      | 8__ Transvestite | 99__ Unable to determine |

76. Was victim employed at time of death:

- 1\_\_ Yes                      2\_\_ No                      3\_\_ Unable to determine

77. Occupation

78. Employer & city

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_

79. Previous occupation  
 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_
80. Previous employer & city  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
81. Social security number(s):  
 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
 3 \_\_\_\_\_
82. Military service:  
 1 \_\_\_ No  
 2 \_\_\_ Army  
 3 \_\_\_ Navy  
 4 \_\_\_ Marines  
 5 \_\_\_ Air force  
 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine  
 6 \_\_\_ National Guard  
 7 \_\_\_ Coast Guard  
 88 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
83. Time in service: From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
84. Did the victim have a history of drug or alcohol abuse?  
 1 \_\_\_ No  
 2 \_\_\_ Alcohol  
 3 \_\_\_ Drugs  
 4 \_\_\_ Both  
 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine
85. At the time of this incident the victim was under the influence of:  
 1 \_\_\_ Nothing  
 2 \_\_\_ Alcohol  
 3 \_\_\_ Drugs  
 4 \_\_\_ Both  
 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine
86. Was the victim ever a member of a subversive group or gang?  
 (check all that apply)  
 1 \_\_\_ No  
 2 \_\_\_ Youth \_\_\_\_\_  
 3 \_\_\_ Mob/syndicate \_\_\_\_\_  
 4 \_\_\_ Motorcycle \_\_\_\_\_  
 5 \_\_\_ Religious cult \_\_\_\_\_  
 6 \_\_\_ Prison \_\_\_\_\_  
 7 \_\_\_ Terrorist \_\_\_\_\_  
 88 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

**VICTIM'S CRIMINAL HISTORY**

Was the victim, as a juvenile, ever arrested?

87. Crime	88. Date	89. City	90. State
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Was the victim, as an adult, ever arrested?

91. Crime	92. Date	93. City	94. State
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

95. Victim's FBI number: \_\_\_\_\_

OFFENDER INFORMATION

For the purposes of this research, "offender" is defined as and includes arrestee(s), perpetrator(s), suspect(s) or any person the investigator has reasonable cause to believe is responsible for the commission of this crime.

OFFENDER - VICTIM RELATIONSHIP

96. From the list below indicate which category best describes the victim and offender's relationship?

1 Offender was \_\_\_\_\_

99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| 1 Husband            | 18 Brother   |
| 2 Wife               | 19 Sister  |
| 3 Ex-husband         | 20 Other Family member _____                               |
| 4 Ex-wife            | 21 Boyfriend   |
| 5 Common-law husband | 22 Girlfriend  |
| 6 Common-law wife    | 23 Friend  |
| 7 Mother             | 24 Mother's boyfriend                                      |
| 8 Father             | 25 Mother's live-in boyfriend                              |
| 9 Step-father        | 26 Baby sitter   |
| 10 Step-mother       | 27 Hitchhiker  |
| 11 Guardian          | 28 Prostitute  |
| 12 Son               | 29 Casual acquaintance _____                               |
| 13 Daughter          | 30 First time acquaintance                                 |
| 14 Step-son          | 31 One way acquaintance, victim<br>does not know offender. |
| 15 Step-daughter     | 32 Total stranger  |
| 16 In-law            | 88 Other _____   |
| 17 Estranged spouse  |  |

OFFENDER'S IDENTIFICATION & CHARACTERISTICS

97. This is offender \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ offender(s) in this incident.  
(number) (total)

98. The offender: (if the offender(s) is unknown/not seen go to #171)

- 1 \_\_\_ is unknown -- not seen  
 2 \_\_\_ is unknown -- seen  
 3 \_\_\_ is known to police but there is insufficient evidence to arrest  
 4 \_\_\_ is known left area, police unable to locate  
 5 \_\_\_ is known left area, police locate him but do not pursue  
 6 \_\_\_ was arrested but not charged (P.A. decline)  
 7 \_\_\_ was charged but not arrested (fled unable to locate)  
 8 \_\_\_ was charged is awaiting trial  
 9 \_\_\_ was tried and convicted  
 10 \_\_\_ was deceased at incident scene (self inflicted)  
 11 \_\_\_ was killed at or near scene by the police  
 12 \_\_\_ was killed fleeing the scene \_\_\_\_\_  
 13 \_\_\_ was killed other \_\_\_\_\_  
 88 \_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_

99. Offender's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(last, first, middle)



OFFENDER'S PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION AT TIME OF INCIDENT

120. Height (or best estimate): \_\_\_\_\_ ft \_\_\_\_\_ in to \_\_\_\_\_ ft \_\_\_\_\_ in  
99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine
121. Approx. weight: \_\_\_\_\_ lbs 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine
122. Build:            1 \_\_\_ Small (thin)                            3 \_\_\_ Large (stocky)  
                         2 \_\_\_ Medium (average)                            99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine
123. Hair length: (check all that apply)
- |                                |                            |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ No hair (bald or shaven) | 5 ___ To Shoulders         |
| 2 ___ Balding                  | 6 ___ Past shoulders       |
| 3 ___ Above collar             |                            |
| 4 ___ Collar length            | 99 ___ Unable to determine |
124. Hair shade:    1 \_\_\_ Light                            3 \_\_\_ Dark  
                         2 \_\_\_ Medium                            99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine
125. Predominant hair color:
- |                         |                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ Gray and or white | 5 ___ Black                |
| 2 ___ Blond             | 88 ___ Other _____         |
| 3 ___ Red               |                            |
| 4 ___ Brown             | 99 ___ Unable to determine |
126. Eye color:        1 \_\_\_ Blue                            5 \_\_\_ Hazel/green  
                         2 \_\_\_ Gray                            6 \_\_\_ Maroon  
                         3 \_\_\_ Brown                            88 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
                         4 \_\_\_ Black                            99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine
127. Was wearing glasses: (check all that apply)
- |                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ None           |                            |
| 2 ___ Prescription   | 6 ___ Metal frame          |
| 3 ___ Contacts       | 7 ___ Rimless              |
| 4 ___ Bifocals       | 88 ___ Other _____         |
| 5 ___ Plastic frames | 99 ___ Unable to determine |
128. Facial hair: (check all that apply)
- |                |                    |                            |
|----------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ None     | 3 ___ Beard        | 99 ___ Unable to determine |
| 2 ___ Mustache | 88 ___ Other _____ |                            |
129. Appeared well groomed:
- |           |          |                            |
|-----------|----------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ Yes | 2 ___ No | 99 ___ Unable to determine |
|-----------|----------|----------------------------|
130. Did the offender wear a disguise or mask:
- |                 |                            |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ Yes _____ |                            |
| 2 ___ No        | 99 ___ Unable to determine |

131. Was a description of the offender's clothing obtained?  
1 \_\_\_ Yes                    2 \_\_\_ No                    99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

Offender's clothing description at time of incident:  
(using the letters from the color list below, place the letter for the appropriate color on the line for the corresponding offender clothing item. More than one color/letter may be use per article)  
(describe logos and brand names in space provided)

- A) Whites
- B) Yellows
- C) Greens
- D) Blues
- E) Purples/Violets
- F) Reds/Oranges
- G) Browns/Tans
- H) Grays/Blacks
- 99) Unable to determine

132.	Color	Clothing Item	133. Special Characteristics (spots, rips, brands, logos, etc.)
	1 _____	Shirt	_____
	2 _____	T-shirt	_____
	3 _____	Blouse	_____
	4 _____	Bra	_____
	5 _____	Panties	_____
	6 _____	Under shorts	_____
	7 _____	Skirt	_____
	8 _____	Pants	_____
	9 _____	Socks	_____
	10 _____	Shoes	_____
	11 _____	Jacket/coat	_____
	12 _____	Hat	_____
	88 _____	Other	_____

**OFFENDER'S SCARS AND OR BIRTHMARKS**

134. Does the offender have any scars and/or birthmarks (not tattoos):  
1 \_\_\_ Yes                    2 \_\_\_ No                    99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

Location of scars or birthmarks: (Using the following list, indicate the location of each scar or birthmark in the space provided below)

- 1) Face, head, neck
- 2) Arm(s), hand(s)
- 3) Torso front
- 4) Torso back
- 5) Buttocks
- 6) Feet or leg(s)
- 88) Other
- 99) Unable to determine

135. Location	136. Description
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**OFFENDER'S TATTOOS**

137. Does the offender have any tattoos?  
1 \_\_\_ Yes                    2 \_\_\_ No                    99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine



145. Was the offender employed at the time of incident:

1\_\_ Yes                      2\_\_ No                      99\_\_ Unable to determine

146. Occupation

147. Employer & city

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

148. Previous occupation

149. Previous employer & city

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

150. Social security number(s):

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

151. Military service:

1\_\_ No

99\_\_ Unable to determine

2\_\_ Army

6\_\_ National Guard

3\_\_ Navy

7\_\_ Coast Guard

4\_\_ Marines

88\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

5\_\_ Air force

152. Time in service: From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

OFFENDER'S CRIMINAL HISTORY

Was the offender, as a juvenile, ever arrested and/or convicted of a crime?

153. Crime

154. Date

155. City

156. State

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Was the offender, as an adult, ever arrested and/or convicted of a crime?

157. Crime

158. Date

159. City

160. State

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Other than previous arrests or convictions, do the police suspect the offender of any past or present crimes?

161. Crime	162. Date	163. City	164. State
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

165. Was the offender charged in another related offense, but not charged or eliminated from this incident?

1\_\_ Yes                      2\_\_ No                      99\_\_ Unable to determine

166. At the time of this incident the offender was:

- 1\_\_ On parole or probation
- 2\_\_ On furlough
- 3\_\_ On work release - State
- 4\_\_ In a halfway house
- 5\_\_ An escapee
- 6\_\_ Out on bail
- 7\_\_ Out on appeal bond
- 8\_\_ Non offender status
- 88\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- 99\_\_ Unable to determine

167. Offender's:

- 1. FBI number: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. SID number: \_\_\_\_\_

Offender admits other serious crime(s):

168. Crime	169. City/State	170. Date of crime
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____

**VEHICLE INFORMATION**

**VEHICLE'S USED IN THIS INCIDENT**

171. Was a vehicle used in this incident?

1\_\_ No                      99\_\_ Unable to determine  
2\_\_ Yes - how many?    1\_\_ 2\_\_ 3\_\_ 4 or more\_\_

172. By what means or type of vehicle did the offender arrive at the crime scene? (check all that apply)

- 1\_\_ Vehicle (car, pickup)
- 2\_\_ Motorcycle
- 3\_\_ Cab
- 4\_\_ Bus
- 5\_\_ Bicycle
- 6\_\_ Airplane
- 7\_\_ Walk
- 8\_\_ Hitchhike
- 88\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_
- 99\_\_ Unable to determine

173. By what means or type of vehicle did the offender leave the crime scene? (check all that apply)

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ Vehicle (car, pickup) | 6__ Airplane             |
| 2__ Motorcycle            | 7__ Walk                 |
| 3__ Cab                   | 8__ Hitchhike            |
| 4__ Bus                   | 88__ Other _____         |
| 5__ Bicycle               | 99__ Unable to determine |

174. Vehicle #1 is: (if no vehicle was used or seen go to #210)

- |                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ A newer/late model | 3__ An older model       |
| 2__ 4 to 7 yrs old     | 99__ Unable to determine |

175. The owner of vehicle #1 is:

- |                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1__ Offender                 | 4__ Friend (of the victim) |
| 2__ Victim                   | 5__ Stolen                 |
| 3__ Friend (of the offender) | 99__ Unable to determine   |

Vehicle #1:

176. Lic. No. \_\_\_\_\_ 177. Lic. State \_\_\_\_\_

178. Veh. Yr. \_\_\_\_\_ 179. Make \_\_\_\_\_ 180. Model \_\_\_\_\_

181. Did vehicle #1's license plates match the registration and serial number?

- |         |        |                          |
|---------|--------|--------------------------|
| 1__ Yes | 2__ No | 99__ Unable to determine |
|---------|--------|--------------------------|

182. Vehicle #1's body style:

- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1__ Passenger car                              | 5__ Tractor-trailer      |
| 2__ Van  | 6__ Motorcycle           |
| 3__ Pick-up truck                              | 88__ Other _____         |
| 4__ "Jeep" type<br>(i.e., Bronco, Blazer, etc) | 99__ Unable to determine |

183. Vehicle #1's color: \_\_\_\_\_ (top) \_\_\_\_\_ (bottom)

184. Vehicle #1's condition:

- |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|
| 1__ Exceptionally well maintained |
| 2__ Well maintained               |
| 3__ Average                       |
| 4__ Not well maintained           |
| 99__ Unable to determine          |

185. Unusual characteristics of vehicle #1: \_\_\_\_\_

186. Vehicle #2 is: (if only 1 vehicle used go to #210)

- |                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ A newer/late model | 3__ An older model       |
| 2__ 4 to 7 yrs old     | 99__ Unable to determine |

187. The owner of vehicle #2 is:

- |                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1__ Offender                 | 4__ Friend (of the victim) |
| 2__ Victim                   | 5__ Stolen                 |
| 3__ Friend (of the offender) | 99__ Unable to determine   |

Vehicle #2:

188. Lic. No. \_\_\_\_\_ 189. Lic. State \_\_\_\_\_  
 190. Veh. Yr. \_\_\_\_\_ 191. Make \_\_\_\_\_ 192. Model \_\_\_\_\_

193. Did vehicle #2's license plates match the registration and serial number?

- 1\_\_ Yes                      2\_\_ No                      99\_\_ Unable to determine

194. Vehicle #2's body style:

- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1__ Passenger car                              | 5__ Tractor-trailer      |
| 2__ Van  | 6__ Motorcycle           |
| 3__ Pick-up truck                              | 88__ Other _____         |
| 4__ "Jeep" type<br>(i.e., Bronco, Blazer, etc) | 99__ Unable to determine |

195. Vehicle #2's color: \_\_\_\_\_ (top) \_\_\_\_\_ (bottom)

196. Vehicle #2's condition:

- 1\_\_ Exceptionally well maintained  
 2\_\_ Well maintained  
 3\_\_ Average  
 4\_\_ Not well maintained  
 99\_\_ Unable to determine

197. Unusual characteristics of vehicle #2: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

198. Vehicle #3 is: (if only 2 vehicles used go to #210)

- |                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ A newer/late model | 3__ An older model       |
| 2__ 4 to 7 yrs old     | 99__ Unable to determine |

199. The owner of vehicle #3 is:

- |                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1__ Offender                 | 4__ Friend (of the victim) |
| 2__ Victim                   | 5__ Stolen                 |
| 3__ Friend (of the offender) | 99__ Unable to determine   |

Vehicle #3:

200. Lic. No. \_\_\_\_\_ 201. Lic. State \_\_\_\_\_  
 202. Veh. Yr. \_\_\_\_\_ 203. Make \_\_\_\_\_ 204. Model \_\_\_\_\_





222. If the offender(s) initiated contact with the victim by means of deception, indicate the type of deception below:

- 1\_\_ None
- 2\_\_ Pseudo police
- 3\_\_ Pseudo authority figure
- 4\_\_ Pseudo Business/Bank/Real Estate person
- 5\_\_ Through want ad
- 6\_\_ Photography scam
- 7\_\_ Modeling scam
- 8\_\_ Offers job/money
- 9\_\_ Sales
- 10\_\_ Repairman/utility worker
- 11\_\_ Jogger
- 12\_\_ Offers of treats/toys
- 13\_\_ "Help me find my [puppy, kitten, etc.]"
- 14\_\_ "[mom] wants you," etc.
- 15\_\_ "Does John live here," etc.
- 16\_\_ Approaches newspaper carrier
- 17\_\_ Implies family emergency/illness
- 18\_\_ Wants to show something
- 19\_\_ Wants to use phone/rest room
- 20\_\_ Needs assistance
- 21\_\_ Wants to assist
- 22\_\_ Needs directions
- 23\_\_ Phones/sends letters to meet
- 24\_\_ Prostitute/solicit for sex
- 25\_\_ Lured to the offender by another person
- 88\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- 99\_\_ Unable to determine

223. If the offender(s) initiated contact by means of surprise, indicate the type of surprise below:

- 1\_\_ Lay in wait - out of doors
- 2\_\_ Lay in wait - in building
- 3\_\_ Lay in wait - in vehicle
- 4\_\_ Victim sleeping
- 88\_\_ Other surprise \_\_\_\_\_

224. If offender(s) initiated contact with the victim by use of direct and immediate physical assault, indicate the type from the list below:

- 1\_\_ Immediate and physical overpowering of victim  
(picked-up, carried away, etc.)
- 2\_\_ Hit victim with hand, fist or clubbing weapon
- 3\_\_ Choked victim
- 4\_\_ Stabbed victim
- 5\_\_ Shot victim
- 88\_\_ Other direct assault \_\_\_\_\_

225. At the time of initial contact with the offender, or when last seen, what was the victim doing? \_\_\_\_\_

226. At the time of this incident was the offender(s) under the influence of? (check all that apply)

1\_\_ Alcohol \_\_\_\_\_ BA                      3\_\_ Both                      4\_\_ Neither  
2\_\_ Drugs \_\_\_\_\_                      99\_\_ Unable to determine

**EVENTS AT ASSAULT SITE**

227. Did the offender(s) disable the telephone or other utilities?

1\_\_ Yes                      2\_\_ No                      99\_\_ Unable to determine

228. The property at the crime scene was: (check all that apply)

1\_\_ Ransacked                      3\_\_ Burned                      5\_\_ Disturbed  
2\_\_ Vandalized                      4\_\_ Undisturbed                      99\_\_ Unable to determine

229. Did the offender(s) destroy/attempt to destroy evidence at the scene?

1\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
2\_\_ No                      99\_\_ Unable to determine

**GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION(S)**

Last known location of identified victim:

230. Street add. \_\_\_\_\_

231. City \_\_\_\_\_

232. County \_\_\_\_\_

233. State \_\_\_\_\_                      234. Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Location of body find; identified, unidentified or skeletal remains:

235. Street add. \_\_\_\_\_

236. City \_\_\_\_\_

237. County \_\_\_\_\_

238. State \_\_\_\_\_                      239. Zip \_\_\_\_\_

240. Describe the general area of the victim found/body discovery site:

1\_\_ Farm/country                      3\_\_ City/business district  
2\_\_ Residential                      99\_\_ Unable to determine

## Location of incident sites:

(From the list of numbered locations provided below, select a location that best describes the location of incident. Place the appropriate number in the corresponding space of the incident site. The same location number could apply to all incident sites, a few sites or each may be different).

- 241) Victim last seen site \_\_\_\_\_ 245) Initial contact site \_\_\_\_\_  
 242) Initial assault site \_\_\_\_\_ 246) Site if held \_\_\_\_\_  
 243) Release/escape site \_\_\_\_\_ 247) Death site \_\_\_\_\_  
 244) Body recovery site \_\_\_\_\_ 248) Offender arrest site \_\_\_\_\_

## Living Quarters:

- 1 Home/single/family  
 2 Duplex/triplex  
 3 Apt/condo  
 4 Mobile home  
 5 Rooming house  
 6 Dormitory  
 7 Rest/nursing home  
 8 Senior citizen center  
 9 Halfway house  
 10 Camper/trailer  
 11 Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Business:

- 12 Gas station  
 13 Liquor store  
 14 Fast food/convenience  
 15 Restaurant/coffee shop  
 16 Motel/hotel  
 17 Pawn shop  
 18 Drug store/supply  
 19 Shopping center/mall  
 20 Retail dept. store  
 21 Food store/market  
 22 Jewelry/fur  
 23 Bank/savings & loan  
 24 Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Entertainment:

- 25 Bar/nightclub/dance hall  
 26 Stadium/auditorium/theater  
 27 Casino  
 28 Resort  
 29 Country club/pro shop  
 30 Museum  
 31 Arcade  
 32 Sport center/health spa  
 33 Fraternal club  
 34 Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Public Premises:

- 35 Church/mission  
 36 School  
 37 Hospital/medical center  
 38 Mortuary  
 39 Public restroom  
 40 Public garage  
 41 Subway/metro  
 42 Barn/stable  
 43 Shed/outbuilding  
 44 Government building  
 45 Parking lot  
 46 Public building  
 47 Office building  
 48 Post office  
 49 Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Industrial/Commercial/Other:

- 50 Warehouse/storage  
 51 Dump  
 52 Factory/mill/plant  
 53 Dumpster  
 54 Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Transportation:

- 55 Motor vehicle  
 56 Boat  
 57 Airport  
 58 Bus station  
 59 Railroad property  
 60 Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Military Installation:

- 61 Army  
 62 Navy  
 63 Air force  
 64 Marines  
 65 Coast Guard  
 66 Other \_\_\_\_\_

99 Unable to determine





277. Was the site of the victim's last known location the same as the site of the initial contact between the victim and offender?

1\_\_ Yes                    2\_\_ No                    99\_\_ Unable to determine

278. Describe the general area of the victim's last known location:

1\_\_ Farm/country                    3\_\_ City/business district

2\_\_ Residential                    99\_\_ Unable to determine

279. Was the victim's last known location the victim's residence:

1\_\_ Yes                    2\_\_ No                    99\_\_ Unable to determine

280. Was the victim's last known location the victim's work place:

1\_\_ Yes                    2\_\_ No                    99\_\_ Unable to determine

Using standard units of measure (feet, and/or miles) give the best estimate of distance between the following locations:

281. The distance between victim's last known location and...

1. point of contact with offender \_\_\_\_\_
2. location of assault \_\_\_\_\_
3. location victim held prisoner \_\_\_\_\_
4. death site \_\_\_\_\_
5. body recovery site \_\_\_\_\_
6. victim's lodging site \_\_\_\_\_
7. offender's lodging site \_\_\_\_\_
8. offender's arrest site \_\_\_\_\_

282. The distance between point of initial contact with offender and...

1. location of assault \_\_\_\_\_
2. location victim held prisoner \_\_\_\_\_
3. death site \_\_\_\_\_
4. body recovery site \_\_\_\_\_
5. victim's lodging site \_\_\_\_\_
6. offender's lodging site \_\_\_\_\_
7. offender's arrest site \_\_\_\_\_

283. The distance between location of assault and...

1. location victim held prisoner \_\_\_\_\_
2. death site \_\_\_\_\_
3. body recovery site \_\_\_\_\_
4. victim's lodging site \_\_\_\_\_
5. offender's lodging site \_\_\_\_\_
6. offender's arrest site \_\_\_\_\_

284. The distance between location victim held prisoner and...

1. death site \_\_\_\_\_
2. body recovery site \_\_\_\_\_
3. victim's lodging site \_\_\_\_\_
4. offender's lodging site \_\_\_\_\_
5. offender's arrest site \_\_\_\_\_

285. The distance between death site and...
1. body recovery site \_\_\_\_\_
  2. victim's lodging site \_\_\_\_\_
  3. offender's lodging site \_\_\_\_\_
  4. offender's arrest site \_\_\_\_\_
286. How did the offender dispose of the body?
- 1 \_\_\_ Openly displayed or placed to insure discovery
  - 2 \_\_\_ Concealed, hidden, or placed in order to prevent discovery
  - 3 \_\_\_ Unconcerned as to whether or not the body was discovered
  - 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine
287. Was the body of the victim intentionally placed in an unusual position? (e.g., staged or posed)

- 1 \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine \_\_\_\_\_

OFFENDER'S WRITING OR CARVING ON THE BODY

288. Was there writing or carving on the body?
- 1 \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2 \_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine \_\_\_\_\_
289. What instrument was used to write or carve on the body?
- |                                 |                                      |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 ___ Knife or sharp instrument | 4 ___ Writing instrument (pen, etc.) |
| 2 ___ Blood                     | 88 ___ Other _____                   |
| 3 ___ Lipstick                  | 99 ___ Unable to determine _____     |

OFFENDER'S WRITING OR DRAWING AT THE CRIME SCENE

290. Was there writing or drawing at the crime scene(s)?
- 1 \_\_\_ Yes (describe) \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2 \_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine \_\_\_\_\_
291. Instrument used to write or draw at the crime scene:
- |                                 |                                      |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 ___ Knife or sharp instrument | 4 ___ Writing instrument (pen, etc.) |
| 2 ___ Blood                     | 88 ___ Other _____                   |
| 3 ___ Lipstick                  | 99 ___ Unable to determine _____     |

SYMBOLIC ARTIFACTS AT CRIME SCENE

292. Was there evidence to suggest a deliberate or unusual ritual, act, thing had been performed on, with, or near the victim (such as the orderly formation of rocks, burnt candles, dead animals, defecation, etc.)?
- 1 \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2 \_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine \_\_\_\_\_

CONDITION OF VICTIM WHEN FOUNDBODY DISPOSITION

293. Was there a body/remains recovered in this case? (if no go to #313)  
 1\_\_ Yes                      2\_\_ No                      99\_\_ Unable to determine
294. Is there reason to believe the offender moved the body from the assault/death site to the body recovery site?  
 1\_\_ Yes                      2\_\_ No                      99\_\_ Unable to determine
295. The body was discovered... (check all that apply)  
 1\_\_ Buried completely                      9\_\_ In vehicle  
 2\_\_ Buried partially                      10\_\_ In box, trunk, etc.  
 3\_\_ In water completely                      11\_\_ Scattered (parts)  
 4\_\_ In water partially                      12\_\_ Concealed/covered completely  
 5\_\_ Exposed completely                      13\_\_ Concealed/covered partially  
 6\_\_ Exposed partially                      14\_\_ Not disturbed  
 7\_\_ Bagged                      15\_\_ In a building  
 8\_\_ Hanging                      88\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
296. If the body was weighted then thrown or placed in water, how was it weighted? (check all that apply)  
 1\_\_ N/A                      3\_\_ Chain                      5\_\_ Cement  
 2\_\_ Rocks                      4\_\_ Metal                      88\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
297. Identifiable characteristics of body at time of discovery: (check all that apply)  
 1\_\_ Unidentifiable                      5\_\_ Bone defects  
 2\_\_ Visual identification                      6\_\_ Old injuries to bones  
 3\_\_ Personal effects                      7\_\_ Fingerprints  
 4\_\_ Dental records                      8\_\_ All items 2 thru 7
298. Who first notified the police of the victim's body location?  
 1\_\_ Police                      6\_\_ Relative/acquaintance of victim  
 2\_\_ Accident/passersby                      7\_\_ Relative/acquaintance of offender  
 3\_\_ Search party                      8\_\_ Offender  
 4\_\_ Anonymous  
 5\_\_ Witness to the death                      88\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

RESTRAINTS USED ON VICTIM

299. Was the body bound? (check all that apply)  
 1\_\_ No                      9\_\_ Rope                      17\_\_ Belt  
 2\_\_ Panty hose                      10\_\_ Wire                      18\_\_ Shoelaces(s)  
 3\_\_ Socks                      11\_\_ Coat hanger                      19\_\_ Leather  
 4\_\_ Nylon hose                      12\_\_ Tape                      20\_\_ Handcuffs  
 5\_\_ Scarf                      13\_\_ Electrical cord                      88\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 6\_\_ Nightgown/negligee                      14\_\_ String/twine                      99\_\_ Unable to determine  
 7\_\_ Underclothing                      15\_\_ Cord  
 8\_\_ Other clothing                      16\_\_ Chain







Property of victim/others missing or taken by the offender:

(On the lines provided below list each item taken from the victim or others by using the corresponding number from the property list. After the item number indicate who the property belonged to with a "V" for victim and "O" for others. Then from the disposition list, use the corresponding letter to indicate the disposition of each item. Space is provided to explain items G AND H or another item needing a further explanation). (record all that apply)

PROPERTY LIST:

- |                  |                          |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Vehicle       | 9) Hose/socks            |
| 2) Credit cards  | 10) Other clothing       |
| 3) Cash          | 11) Jewelry              |
| 4) Checks        | 12) Photo(s)             |
| 5) Personal I.D. | 13) Personal memento(s)  |
| 6) Weapon(s)     | 14) Body parts           |
| 7) Underclothing | 15) Police I.D. or badge |
| 8) Shoe(s)       | 88) Other _____          |

DISPOSITION LIST:

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| A) None taken              | H) In hidden location                   |
| B) On offender's person    | I) Left with offender's relative/friend |
| C) In offender's vehicle   | J) Left items at cemetery               |
| D) In offender's residence | K) Discarded                            |
| E) Pawned                  | L) Used as income                       |
| F) Sold                    | 88) Other _____                         |
| G) Given away              | 99) Unable to determine                 |

321. Property taken	322. Description	323. Victim/ Others	324. Disposition
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Explanation for items having a G or H disposition: (to whom or where)

325. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

MEDICAL EXAMINER/CORONER FINDINGS

326. What is stated on the death certificate as the classification of death?

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 1 ___ Homicide   | 4 ___ Natural                                |
| 2 ___ Suicide    | 5 ___ Undetermined                           |
| 3 ___ Accidental | 6 ___ Classification not stated in case file |

327. What was the original classification of death made by the police?
- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 1__ Homicide   | 4__ Natural                                |
| 2__ Suicide    | 5__ Undetermined                           |
| 3__ Accidental | 6__ Classification not stated in case file |
328. What was the M.E./Coroner classification for type of death?
- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 1__ Homicide   | 4__ Natural                                |
| 2__ Suicide    | 5__ Undetermined                           |
| 3__ Accidental | 6__ Classification not stated in case file |
329. If this case was originally determined to be other than a homicide, but was later discovered to be homicide, who made that discovery?
- |                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ Medical examiner | 5__ Prosecutor           |
| 2__ Coroner          | 88__ Other _____         |
| 3__ Hospital         | 99__ Unable to determine |
| 4__ Police           |                          |
330. Was there an autopsy performed on the victim? (if no go to #338)
- |         |        |                          |
|---------|--------|--------------------------|
| 1__ Yes | 2__ No | 99__ Unable to determine |
|---------|--------|--------------------------|
331. Was there a copy of the autopsy report in the case file?
- |         |        |
|---------|--------|
| 1__ Yes | 2__ No |
|---------|--------|
332. Who signed the autopsy report?
- |                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ Medical examiner | 88__ Other _____         |
| 2__ Coroner          | 99__ Unable to determine |
333. Were autopsy photographs taken?
- |         |        |                          |
|---------|--------|--------------------------|
| 1__ Yes | 2__ No | 99__ Unable to determine |
|---------|--------|--------------------------|
334. Which of the following autopsy procedures were completed?  
(check all that apply)
- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ None                  | 99__ Unable to determine |
| 2__ Scalp hair combings   |                          |
| 3__ Scalp hair samples    |                          |
| 4__ Pubic hair combings   |                          |
| 5__ Pubic hair samples    |                          |
| 6__ Vaginal swabs         |                          |
| 7__ Anal swabs            |                          |
| 8__ Oral swabs            |                          |
| 9__ Fingerprints          |                          |
| 10__ Fingernail clippings |                          |
| 11__ Blood samples        |                          |
| 12__ X-rays               |                          |
| 13__ Other _____          |                          |
| _____                     |                          |
| _____                     |                          |

335. What body parts were examined during the autopsy?  
(check all that apply)

- 1 \_\_\_ None
- 2 \_\_\_ Head
- 3 \_\_\_ Neck
- 4 \_\_\_ Chest
- 5 \_\_\_ Abdomen
- 6 \_\_\_ Extremities
- 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

336. What toxicology tests were performed? (check all that apply)

- 1 \_\_\_ None
- 2 \_\_\_ Drug analysis (blood or urine) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_ Blood alcohol \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_ Other toxicological analysis \_\_\_\_\_
- 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

337. What important evidence or information was collected as a result of the autopsy?

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) \_\_\_\_\_

99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

CAUSE OF DEATH

338. What was the Medical Examiner's or Coroner's officially listed cause of death?

- |                                   |                                 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 ___ Firearm(s)                  | 12 ___ Burns--fire              |
| 2 ___ Stab wound(s)               | 13 ___ Burns --chemical         |
| 3 ___ Cutting/incising wound(s)   | 14 ___ Burns--scalding          |
| 4 ___ Blunt force injury          | 15 ___ Hypothermia or exposure  |
| 5 ___ Strangulation, manual       | 16 ___ Drowning                 |
| 6 ___ Strangulation, ligature     | 17 ___ Electrocution            |
| 7 ___ Asphyxia - unknown means    | 18 ___ Crushing injuries        |
| 8 ___ Smothering                  | 19 ___ Explosive trauma         |
| 9 ___ Airway occlusion - internal | 20 ___ Malnutrition/dehydration |
| 10 ___ Torso compression          | 21 ___ Undetermined             |
| 11 ___ Hanging                    | 88 ___ Other                    |
|                                   | 99 ___ Unable to determine      |

339. Did the autopsy findings substantiate or refute the offender's statement?

- 1 \_\_\_ Substantiated
- 2 \_\_\_ Refuted
- 3 \_\_\_ Had no effect
- 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

**TRAUMA**

340. Trauma location(s): (check all that apply)

- |                         |                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ Forehead          | 11 ___ Neck                |
| 2 ___ Head - top        | 12 ___ Arm(s)              |
| 3 ___ Head - right side | 13 ___ Leg(s)/feet         |
| 4 ___ Head - left side  | 14 ___ Hand(s)             |
| 5 ___ Head - back       | 15 ___ Breast(s)           |
| 6 ___ Face              | 16 ___ Buttocks            |
| 7 ___ Eye(s)            | 17 ___ Genitalia           |
| 8 ___ Chest             | 19 ___ Anus                |
| 9 ___ Back              | 88 ___ Other _____         |
| 10 ___ Abdomen          | 99 ___ Unable to determine |

341. Extent of blunt force injury:

- 1 \_\_\_ None
- 2 \_\_\_ Minimal (minor bruising only, possibly caused by offender's slapping to control the victim)
- 3 \_\_\_ Moderate (injury insufficient to cause death by itself)
- 4 \_\_\_ Severe (injury sufficient to cause death, whether the actual cause of death or not)
- 5 \_\_\_ Extreme (injury beyond that necessary to cause death/over kill)

342. Estimate number of stab wounds: \_\_\_\_\_

343. Estimate number of cutting wounds: \_\_\_\_\_

344. Estimate number of blunt force wounds: \_\_\_\_\_

345. Did the victim sustain any gunshot wounds? (if no go to #353)

- 1 \_\_\_ Yes                      2 \_\_\_ No                      99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

(Using the numbers from the trauma list in question 340, place the appropriate number for location of that wound on the line(s) under #346, then indicate how many wounds to that location under #347 and the range, cal, gauge etc. on the line for their corresponding number.)

- RANGE = 1) Distant or with no stippling/tattooing present.  
 2) Intermediate or with stippling/tattooing present.  
 3) Close or with powder residue/tattooing present.  
 4) Contact  
 99) Unable to determine

346. Location of wound (s)	347. No. of wounds	348. Range	349. Cal./ gauge	350. No. of grooves	351. Twist R/L	352. Bullet wt. shot size
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

ELEMENTS OF TORTURE OR UNUSUAL ASSAULT

353. Is there evidence to suggest that the offender disfigured the body of the victim? (check all that apply)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1__ None  | 8__ Victim whipped                       |
| 2__ Removed/destroyed fingers   | 9__ Evidence of cannibalism or vampirism |
| 3__ Removed/destroyed toes  | 10__ Victim run over by vehicle          |
| 4__ Burns - postmortem  | 11__ Mutilated face                      |
| 5__ Burns - antemortem  | 12__ Covered face/head                   |
| 6__ Burns - unable to determine post or antemortem                          | 13__ Head gone                           |
| 7__ Offender explored, probed or mutilated cavities or wounds of the victim | 88__ Other _____                         |
|   | 99__ Unable to determine                 |

354. There is evidence that indicates the injuries were?

- |                |                          |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ Antemortem | 3__ Both                 |
| 2__ Postmortem | 99__ Unable to determine |

355. Body parts removed by offender: (if no go to #358)

- |             |                          |
|-------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ None    | 10__ Arm(s)              |
| 2__ Head    | 11__ Leg(s)              |
| 3__ Scalp   | 12__ Breast(s)           |
| 4__ Face    | 13__ Nipple(s)           |
| 5__ Teeth   | 14__ Anus                |
| 6__ Eye(s)  | 15__ Genitalia           |
| 7__ Ear(s)  | 16__ Internal organs     |
| 8__ Nose    | 88__ Other _____         |
| 9__ Hand(s) | 99__ Unable to determine |

356. Dismemberment method:

- |                               |                          |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ Bitten off                | 4__ Hacked/chopped off   |
| 2__ Cut - skilled/surgical    | 5__ Sawed off            |
| 3__ Cut - unskilled rough/cut | 88__ Other _____         |
|                               | 99__ Unable to determine |

357. Is there evidence that dismemberment was?

- |                |                          |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ Antemortem | 3__ Both                 |
| 2__ Postmortem | 99__ Unable to determine |

SEXUAL ASSAULT

358. Is there evidence of an assault to any of the victim's sexual organs or body cavities? (if no go to #367)

- |         |        |                          |
|---------|--------|--------------------------|
| 1__ Yes | 2__ No | 99__ Unable to determine |
|---------|--------|--------------------------|

359. Who made the determination that the assault was sexual?  
(check all that apply)

- 1 \_\_\_ Offender's confession
- 2 \_\_\_ Medical examiner
- 3 \_\_\_ Crime lab
- 4 \_\_\_ Witness/surviving victim
- 5 \_\_\_ Investigator conclusion
- 6 \_\_\_ Prosecutor conclusion
- 88 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

360. Type of sexual assault, or attempt: (check all that apply)

- 1 \_\_\_ Offender performed oral sex on victim
- 2 \_\_\_ Victim performed oral sex on offender
- 3 \_\_\_ Vaginal
- 4 \_\_\_ Anal
- 88 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

361. Was semen found in body cavity(s) of the victim?  
(check all that apply)

- 1 \_\_\_ No
- 2 \_\_\_ In vagina
- 3 \_\_\_ In anus
- 4 \_\_\_ In mouth
- 88 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

362. Was there evidence of other ejaculation?

- 1 \_\_\_ No
- 2 \_\_\_ On the body of the victim
- 3 \_\_\_ On the offender
- 4 \_\_\_ Elsewhere at the scene \_\_\_\_\_
- 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

363. Is there evidence to suggest sexual assault was?

- 1 \_\_\_ Antemortem
- 2 \_\_\_ Postmortem
- 3 \_\_\_ Both
- 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

364. Is there evidence of sexual insertion of foreign object(s) into the victims body?

- 1 \_\_\_ Yes
- 2 \_\_\_ No
- 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

365. Were there sexually inserted foreign object(s) still in the body when the body was first discovered? (e.g., rocks, twigs, knife, clothing)

(OBJECT)

- 1 \_\_\_ Vagina \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_ Penis \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_ Anus \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_ Mouth \_\_\_\_\_
- 88 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

366. Is there evidence of sexual insertion of foreign object(s) into the victim's body, but the object was not in the body when the body was discovered:

(OBJECT)

- 1 \_\_\_ Vagina \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_ Penis \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_ Anus \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_ Mouth \_\_\_\_\_
- 88 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

BITE MARKS ON VICTIM

367. Were bite marks found on the victim's body?  
 1 \_\_\_ Yes                      2 \_\_\_ No                      99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine
368. Location of bite marks: (check all that apply)  
 1 \_\_\_ Face                      6 \_\_\_ Groin  
 2 \_\_\_ Neck                      7 \_\_\_ Genitalia  
 3 \_\_\_ Abdomen                      8 \_\_\_ Thigh(s)  
 4 \_\_\_ Breast(s)                      88 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 5 \_\_\_ Buttocks                      99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

FORENSIC EVIDENCEWEAPONS

369. Weapon(s) used by the offender in this assault: (check all that apply)  
 1 \_\_\_ None                      5 \_\_\_ Ligature  
 2 \_\_\_ Firearm                      6 \_\_\_ Hands or feet  
 3 \_\_\_ Stabbing or cutting weapons                      88 \_\_\_ Other weapons \_\_\_\_\_  
 4 \_\_\_ Bludgeon or club                      99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine
370. Weapon(s) used by the victim in this assault: (check all that apply)  
 1 \_\_\_ None                      5 \_\_\_ Ligature  
 2 \_\_\_ Firearm                      6 \_\_\_ Hands or feet  
 3 \_\_\_ Stabbing or cutting weapons                      88 \_\_\_ Other weapons \_\_\_\_\_  
 4 \_\_\_ Bludgeon or club                      99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine
371. Assault weapon(s) used by the offender: (check all that apply)  
 1 \_\_\_ Weapon belonged to victim  
 2 \_\_\_ Weapon of opportunity - offender finds at or near scene  
 3 \_\_\_ Weapon was preselected and/or brought to scene by offender  
 4 \_\_\_ Weapon is normally carried by offender (hunting knife, folding knife, etc)  
 5 \_\_\_ Weapon recovered at the scene  
 6 \_\_\_ Weapon recovered elsewhere \_\_\_\_\_  
 7 \_\_\_ Weapon not located  
 8 \_\_\_ Weapon was physical force  
 88 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine
372. If a stabbing or cutting instrument was used, what type?  
 (check all that apply)  
 1 \_\_\_ Pocket knife                      6 \_\_\_ Screwdriver  
 2 \_\_\_ Hunting knife                      7 \_\_\_ Razor blade  
 3 \_\_\_ Folding knife                      88 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 4 \_\_\_ Kitchen knife  
 5 \_\_\_ Ice pick                      99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

373. If a firearm was used, what type? (check all that apply)

- 1  Shotgun
- 2  Rifle
- 3  Semi-auto pistol
- 4  Revolver
- 5  Zip gun
- 88  Other \_\_\_\_\_
- 99  Unable to determine

374. If a bludgeoning, type of weapon was used, indicate the type: (check all that apply)

- 1  Hammer
- 2  Tire iron
- 3  Club
- 4  Stick
- 5  Ball bat
- 6  Rock
- 7  Bottle
- 88  Other \_\_\_\_\_
- 99  Unable to determine

375. If a ligature was used, what type? (check all that apply)

- 1  Rope/cord
- 2  Belt
- 3  Neck tie
- 4  Sock(s)
- 5  Nylons
- 6  Panty hose
- 7  Scarf
- 8  Wire
- 9  Telephone cord
- 10  Shoe strings
- 88  Other \_\_\_\_\_
- 99  Unable to determine

376. Was there anything unique about the murder weapon? (initials, marks, brand, etc.)

- 1  No
- 2  Yes \_\_\_\_\_
- 99  Unable to determine

377. Caliber or gauge of firearm(s) used:

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_ 3) \_\_\_\_\_ 4) \_\_\_\_\_

378. Number of grooves and direction of twist of recovered bullet(s) or firearm(s):

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_ 3) \_\_\_\_\_ 4) \_\_\_\_\_

379. Size of shotgun shell/pellets or weight of bullet recovered or used:

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_ 3) \_\_\_\_\_ 4) \_\_\_\_\_

380. If a weapon was used, which hand did the offender use to hold it?

- 1  Right hand
- 2  Left hand
- 99  Unable to determine

BLOOD TYPE

381. What is the victim's blood type?

- 1  A
- 2  B
- 3  AB
- 4  O
- 99  Unable to determine

382. What is the Rh factor of the victim's blood?

- 1  Positive
- 3  Negative
- 99  Unable to determine

383. What is the offender's blood type?  
 1\_\_A      2\_\_B      3\_\_AB      4\_\_O      99\_\_Unable to determine
384. What is the offender's saliva type?  
 1\_\_A & H                      4\_\_A, B, & H  
 2\_\_B & H                      5\_\_No A, B, or H found  
 3\_\_H                              99\_\_Unable to determine
385. What is the Rh factor of the offender's blood?  
 1\_\_Positive      2\_\_Negative      99\_\_Unable to determine

EVIDENCE RECOVERED AND EVIDENCE SENT TO LAB

386. What items of evidence found at the various crime scenes are or could be related to the offender: (check all that apply)
- 1\_\_None  
 2\_\_Fingerprints  
 3\_\_Blood  
 4\_\_Hair  
 5\_\_Fibers  
 6\_\_Weapon(s)  
 7\_\_Spent cartridge/bullet  
 8\_\_Footprints  
 9\_\_Tire tracks  
 10\_\_Vehicle  
 11\_\_Trace evidence  
 88\_\_Other  
 99\_\_Unable to determine
387. Were evidence personnel called to the crime scenes? (check all that apply)
- 1\_\_None                              4\_\_Fingerprint lab  
 2\_\_Evidence technician              88\_\_Other  
 3\_\_Crime lab                              99\_\_Unable to determine
388. What type of evidence was submitted to the crime lab? (check all that apply) (if none go to #396)
- 1\_\_None                              7\_\_Trace evidence  
 2\_\_Fingerprints                      8\_\_Fibers  
 3\_\_Body fluids (blood)              9\_\_Footprint impression casts  
 4\_\_Hair                                  10\_\_Tire impression casts  
 5\_\_Ballistics                          11\_\_Tool marks/impressions  
 6\_\_Weapon(s)                          88\_\_Other
389. What crime lab was evidence submitted to? (check all that apply)
- 1\_\_None                                  5\_\_Private lab  
 2\_\_Dept's own lab                      88\_\_Other  
 3\_\_F.B.I. lab                              99\_\_Unable to determine  
 4\_\_State crime lab

390. When was evidence submitted to the crime lab? (check all that apply)
- 1\_\_ No evidence submitted  
 2\_\_ Before the offender was identified  
 3\_\_ After the offender was identified  
 4\_\_ Before the offender was charged  
 5\_\_ After the offender was charged  
 99\_\_ Unable to determine
391. Processing of evidence was completed by the crime lab:  
 (check all that apply)
- 1\_\_ No evidence submitted  
 2\_\_ Before the offender was identified  
 3\_\_ After the offender was identified  
 4\_\_ Before the offender was charged  
 5\_\_ After the offender was charged  
 99\_\_ Unable to determine
392. For what reason was evidence submitted to the crime lab?  
 (check all that apply)
- 1\_\_ No evidence submitted  
 2\_\_ To identify the offender  
 3\_\_ Corroborate the offender's identification  
 4\_\_ To establish probable cause for an arrest  
 5\_\_ To establish probable cause for a search warrant  
 6\_\_ At the request of the prosecutor in an attempt to enhance the  
 state's case  
 7\_\_ To insure nothing was overlooked (S.O.P.)  
 88\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 99\_\_ Unable to determine
393. Was the evidence submitted for analysis useful in identifying the  
 suspect?
- 1\_\_ Yes                    2\_\_ No                    99\_\_ Unable to determine
394. What type of evidence submitted to the lab assisted in  
 identification of the offender? (check all that apply)
- 1\_\_ None  
 2\_\_ Fingerprints - M\_\_ A\_\_                    6\_\_ Trace evidence  
 3\_\_ Body fluids                                    7\_\_ Fibers  
 4\_\_ Hair    88\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 5\_\_ Ballistics                                    99\_\_ Unable to determine
395. Did the evidence submitted to the crime lab increase the  
 chances for? (check all that apply)
- 1\_\_ Probable cause                                    3\_\_ Prosecution  
 2\_\_ Confession                                    4\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 99\_\_ Unable to determine





412. If identified, when was the offender's name or any other information that would lead to his/her identity, first mentioned in this case? (give date and time as close as possible) (if no offender I.D.ed go to #424)

1) \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ hrs. 2 \_\_\_ No offender I.D.ed  
 (mo) (da) (yr)

413. At what point during the investigation did the investigator focus on the offender(s)? (Was it before discovery of the body, within hours, days weeks, etc., give date and time)

1) \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ hrs. 2 \_\_\_ No offender I.D.ed  
 (mo) (da) (yr)

414. If the offender was arrested, what was the arrest date and time?

1) \_\_\_\_\_ mil. hrs. 2 \_\_\_ No offender arrested  
 (mo) (da) (yr)

415. Was the offender contacted by police between the time of the murder and the time he became their prime suspect?.

1 \_\_\_ Yes - specify 2 \_\_\_ No 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

416. By what agency	417. When	418. Where	419. Why
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

420. If identified, how was the identity of the offender developed? (if more than one, rate them in order of most relevant to least relevant as they relate to this case, #1 being most relevant)

- 1 \_\_\_ Offender not identified
- 2 \_\_\_ Offender committed suicide at the scene
- 3 \_\_\_ Offender turned himself in before discovery of or at the crime scene
- 4 \_\_\_ From the victim before death or a surviving victim
- 5 \_\_\_ Offender was caught in the act by the police
- 6 \_\_\_ Offender was caught in the act by others
- 7 \_\_\_ Offender confessed to the police
- 8 \_\_\_ Offender gave an alibi that was refuted by the police
- 9 \_\_\_ Offender confessed to a second party who informed police
- 10 \_\_\_ The confession of a co-conspirator
- 11 \_\_\_ An eyewitness positively identified the offender
- 12 \_\_\_ An eyewitness gave partial identification of offender
- 13 \_\_\_ From physical evidence left at the scene
- 14 \_\_\_ From circumstantial evidence developed over a period of time
- 15 \_\_\_ After a time the offender came forward/turned himself in to (police)
- 16 \_\_\_ From information provided by a confidential informant
- 17 \_\_\_ From information provided by other informants
- 18 \_\_\_ From information provided by investigator's own department records
- 19 \_\_\_ From information provided by other agencies
- 20 \_\_\_ Offender interjected himself into the investigation
- 88 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

421. Was the offender identified as the result of the investigator's efforts, rather than by a witness or informant?  
 1\_\_ Yes                      2\_\_ No                      99\_\_ Unable to determine
422. If the identity of the offender was provided by an informant, did the informant?  
 1\_\_ Come forward of his own volition  
 2\_\_ Come forward due to investigative pressure applied by the police  
 3\_\_ Came forward due to pressure from person(s) other than the police  
 99\_\_ Unable to determine
423. At the time the identity of the offender was discovered the investigators were:  
 1\_\_ Not involved - incident had not yet been reported  
 2\_\_ Actively pursuing leads that would have eventually lead to the identification of the offender  
 3\_\_ Actively pursuing leads that WOULD NOT have lead to the identification of the offender  
 4\_\_ Not pursuing any leads  
 99\_\_ Not able to determine from file
424. What date was the first investigative activity recorded?  
 1 First entry      2\_\_ None      99\_\_ Unable to determine  
                   ( mo )    ( da )    ( yr )
425. What date was the last investigative activity recorded?  
 1 Last entry      2\_\_ None      99\_\_ Unable to determine  
                   ( mo )    ( da )    ( yr )
426. List the number of investigative activities recorded for each of the below indicated time segments:  
 Time segments:  
 1\_\_ 0 - 24 hrs                      7\_\_ 3 mos - 6 mo  
 2\_\_ 25 - 48 hr                      8\_\_ 6 mos - 1 yr  
 3\_\_ 49 - 72 hrs                      9\_\_ over 1 yr  
 4\_\_ 72 hrs - 1 wk                    10\_\_ Total number of activities  
 5\_\_ 1 wk - 1 mo                      11\_\_ Actual total unknown due to  
 6\_\_ 1 mo - 3 mos                      inadequate documentation

**INVESTIGATION ANALYSIS**

427. Was there a statement or an attempt made to take a statement from the offender?  
 1\_\_ Yes (an attempt was made but offender refused)  
 2\_\_ Yes (statement was spontaneous or made after miranda warning)  
 3\_\_ Yes (statement made; improper or no miranda warning)  
 4\_\_ No, the Offender is unknown  
 5\_\_ No, the investigation is still on-going  
 6\_\_ No, the offender is deceased  
 99\_\_ Unable to determine

428. If the offender gave a statement was it: (check all that apply)
- |                             |                              |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1__ A full confession       | 4__ A statement of denial    |
| 2__ A partial confession    | 5__ An alibi statement       |
| 3__ A spontaneous utterance | 6__ A self defence statement |
|                             | 99__ Unable to determine     |
429. If an alibi statement was taken from the offender was it verified?
- |                        |                                |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1__ Yes                | 3__ No reasonable attempt made |
| 2__ No, it was refuted | 99__ Unable to determine       |
430. Was a reasonable attempt made to investigate all viable suspects?
- |   |
|---|
| 1__ Yes   |
| 2__ No, there was not a reasonable attempt made |
| 3__ No, the investigation is still on-going     |
| 99__ Unable to determine                        |
431. Was there a reasonable attempt made to interview or take statements from all known vital witnesses?
- |   |
|---|
| 1__ Yes   |
| 2__ No, there was not a reasonable attempt made |
| 3__ No, the investigation is still on-going     |
| 99__ Unable to determine                        |
432. What was the quality of witness interviews and statements?
- |               |     |              |     |                |
|---------------|-----|--------------|-----|----------------|
| 1__ Excellent | 2__ | 3__ Adequate | 4__ | 5__ Inadequate |
|---------------|-----|--------------|-----|----------------|
433. Was a polygraph used to refute or verify statements relating to this incident? (check all that apply) (if no go to #435)
- |         |        |                          |
|---------|--------|--------------------------|
| 1__ Yes | 2__ No | 99__ Unable to determine |
|---------|--------|--------------------------|
434. If polygraph tests were given what were the results? (check all that apply)
- |  |
|--|
| 1__ A polygraph test/interview lead to the offender's I.D. |
| 2__ Offender's test was scored truthful                    |
| 3__ Offender's test was scored inconclusive                |
| 4__ Offender's test was scored deceptive                   |
| 5__ Offender confessed during the pre-test interview       |
| 6__ Offender confessed during the post test interview      |
| 7__ Test results verified offender's confession            |
| 8__ The polygraph was used to verify witness statements    |
| 9__ Witness/suspect statements were scored truthful        |
| 10__ Witness/suspect statements were scored inconclusive   |
| 11__ Witness/suspect statements were scored deceptive      |
| 12__ Polygraph results confused or created more problems   |
435. Did the investigation refocus as a result of giving polygraph tests?
- |                |                          |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ None given | 3__ No                   |
| 2__ Yes        | 99__ Unable to determine |

436. Was this investigation hindered, delayed or made more difficult as a result of deception or lack of cooperation on the part of the offender, coconspirator, other suspects or witnesses, etc?
- 1\_\_ No            99\_\_ Unable to determine
- 2\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
437. What was the quality of crime scene documentation and recording?
- 1\_\_ Excellent    2\_\_    3\_\_ Adequate    4\_\_    5\_\_ Inadequate
438. Is there evidence indicating that after the crime scene was secured, unnecessary official personnel, police personnel or others were allowed into the crime scene?
- 1\_\_ Yes            2\_\_ No            99\_\_ Unable to determine
439. Was evidence moved, altered or destroyed as a result of unnecessary persons being allowed in the crime scene?
- 1\_\_ Yes            2\_\_ No            99\_\_ Unable to determine
440. Was an attempt made to collect and/or process all evidence that would typically be associated with this type of incident?
- 1\_\_ Yes    2\_\_ No    3\_\_ Not necessary    99\_\_ Unable to determine
441. What was the quality of the crime scene processing?
- 1\_\_ Excellent    2\_\_    3\_\_ Adequate    4\_\_    5\_\_ Inadequate
442. Was there an area canvass?
- 1\_\_ Yes    2\_\_ No    3\_\_ Not necessary    99\_\_ Unable to determine
443. The area canvass was:
- 1\_\_ Excellent    2\_\_    3\_\_ Adequate    4\_\_    5\_\_ Inadequate
444. Was all critical information or evidence followed up?
- 1\_\_ Yes  
 2\_\_ No, all critical information was not followed up  
 3\_\_ No, the investigation is still on-going  
 4\_\_ Not necessary  
 99\_\_ Unable to determine
445. Was all appropriate evidence submitted to the lab?
- 1\_\_ Yes  
 2\_\_ No, all appropriate evidence was not submitted to the lab  
 3\_\_ No, the investigation is still on-going  
 4\_\_ Not necessary  
 99\_\_ Unable to determine



455. If this case is unsolved, list those persons, if any, the investigator or the police believe to be good suspects:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

456. If this case is solved or unsolved, was an apparent offender(s) overlooked or undetected by the investigator?

1\_\_ Yes      2\_\_ Maybe      3\_\_ No      99\_\_ Unable to determine

Who?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

457. Was this case, either inactivated by or worked to the point of arrest by the original investigator?

1\_\_ Yes      2\_\_ No      99\_\_ Unable to determine

458. If this case was inactivated by the original investigator, but later reactivated, who reactivated it?

- 1\_\_ The original investigator
- 2\_\_ Another investigator from the original investigation agency
- 3\_\_ Another agency    Name of agency \_\_\_\_\_

**INCIDENT CLASSIFICATION**

459. This H.I.T.S. Crime Analysis Report pertains to the following type of case:

- 1\_\_ Murder or attempted murder - victim identified
- 2\_\_ Unidentified dead body where manner of death is known or suspected to be homicide.
- 3\_\_ Kidnapping or missing person with evidence of foul play. (victim still missing)

460. Homicide Classification: (if more than one, rate in order of most relevant to least relevant as it relates to this case)
- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1__ Domestic violence         | 17__ Drug related                                |
| 2__ Child abuse murder        | 18__ Altruistic                                  |
| 3__ Heat of anger             | 19__ Psychotic                                   |
| 4__ Hate                      | 20__ Financial gain                              |
| 5__ Love triangle             | 21__ Cult (ritualistic)                          |
| 6__ Revenge                   | 22__ Mass  |
| 7__ Rape                      | 23__ Gang  |
| 8__ Other sex related _____   | 24__ Conspiracy                                  |
| 9__ Torture (not sex related) | 25__ For hire                                    |
| 10__ Homosexual               | 26__ Murder to prevent someone from testifying   |
| 11__ Kidnap                   | 27__ Murder to conceal evidence of another crime |
| 12__ Robbery                  | 28__ Self-defense                                |
| 13__ Burglary                 | 88__ Other _____                                 |
| 14__ Arson                    | 99__ Unable to determine                         |
| 15__ Sniper                   |  |
| 16__ Other felony _____       |  |
461. Evidence suggests that the victim in this case is a:
- 1\_\_ Single victim
  - 2\_\_ Mass murder victim
  - 3\_\_ Possible series or serial victim
  - 4\_\_ Series or serial victim
  - 5\_\_ Mass series or serial victim
462. Based on your experience and the results of the investigation of this case, do you believe this offender has killed before?
- 1\_\_ Yes (explain in narrative summary)
  - 2\_\_ No
  - 99\_\_ Unable to determine
463. Is there an indication that this case is related to organized drug trafficking?
- 1\_\_ Yes
  - 2\_\_ No
  - 99\_\_ Unable to determine
464. Investigating agency case status:
- 1\_\_ Open (active investigation)
  - 2\_\_ Suspended (inactive investigation)
  - 3\_\_ Open -- arrest warrant issued
  - 4\_\_ Cleared by arrest
  - 5\_\_ Exceptionally cleared (by UCR definition)





NAME; ADDRESS; VEHICLE; ETC. LIST

467. Per the example and instructions in the coder's manual, fill in the remaining pages with names, addresses, phone numbers, SS#s etc. that were recorded in this case, that could be related in any way to an other homicide case or criminal activity.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ SS# \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLE MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ COLOR \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ LIC# \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD# \_\_\_\_\_ BANK/COMPANY \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ SS# \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLE MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ COLOR \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ LIC# \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD# \_\_\_\_\_ BANK/COMPANY \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ SS# \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLE MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ COLOR \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ LIC# \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD# \_\_\_\_\_ BANK/COMPANY \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ SS# \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLE MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ COLOR \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ LIC# \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD# \_\_\_\_\_ BANK/COMPANY \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ SS# \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLE MAKE \_\_\_\_\_ COLOR \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ LIC# \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD# \_\_\_\_\_ BANK/COMPANY \_\_\_\_\_

APPENDIX D

VICTIM-OFFENDER SUPPLEMENTS

WASHINGTON STATE  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
HOMICIDE INFORMATION & TRACKING SYSTEM

\*\*\* MULTIPLE VICTIM SUPPLEMENTARY FORM \*\*\*

HITS # \_\_\_\_\_

Coders name: \_\_\_\_\_

Reporting agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Reporting agency's case number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

VICTIM INFORMATION

21. This is victim \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ victim(s) in this incident:  
(number) (total)

DATE AND TIME PARAMETERS

EXACT DATE                      TIME                      APPROX DATE                      APPROX TIME

22. Initial contact site:

(mo) (da) (yr) (hr)                      to                      (mo) (da) (yr) (hr) to (hr)

23. Victim last seen:

(mo) (da) (yr) (hr)                      to                      (mo) (da) (yr) (hr) to (hr)

24. Initial assault:

(mo) (da) (yr) (hr)                      to                      (mo) (da) (yr) (hr) to (hr)

25. Death/major assault:

(mo) (da) (yr) (hr)                      to                      (mo) (da) (yr) (hr) to (hr)

26. Victim/body found:

(mo) (da) (yr) (hr)                      to                      (mo) (da) (yr) (hr) to (hr)

27. Was there a missing or runaway report taken by the police?

1\_\_Yes                      2\_\_No                      99\_\_Unable to determine

28. When was the first attempt to report the victim as a missing/runaway?                      (mo) (da) (yr) \_\_\_\_\_

29. When was the missing/runaway report actually taken?                      \_\_\_\_\_

30. How many times were the authorities contacted before they took a missing/runaway report? \_\_\_\_\_

32. Date victim first I.D.'ed by police: mo \_\_\_\_\_ da \_\_\_\_\_ yr \_\_\_\_\_

When did the police first become aware of the locations as indicated in questions 33 thru 37?

- |                                |            |                         |
|--------------------------------|------------|-------------------------|
| 33. Initial contact site _____ | a) 0-24hr  | g) 3mo-6mo              |
| 34. Last seen site _____       | b) 24-48hr | h) 6mo-1yr              |
| 35. Assault site _____         | c) 48-72hr | i) 1yr -2yr             |
| 36. Death site _____           | d) 72-1wk  | j) 2yr +                |
| 37. Body recovery site _____   | e) 1wk-1mo | k) Still ukn            |
|                                | f) 1mo-3mo | 99) Unable to determine |

VICTIM IDENTIFICATION & CHARACTERISTICS

38. Status of this victim:

- 1 \_\_\_ Deceased (as a result of this incident)
- 2 \_\_\_ Survivor of attack
- 3 \_\_\_ Missing

39. Victim name:

\_\_\_\_\_ (last, first, middle)

40. Victim's alias(es) (including maiden and prior married names)

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_

41. Sex:

- 1 \_\_\_ Male
- 2 \_\_\_ Female
- 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

42. Date of birth:

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ (mo) \_\_\_\_\_ (da) \_\_\_\_\_ (yr)
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_
- 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

43. Age (or best estimate) at time of incident: \_\_\_\_\_ (years)

99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

44. Race:
- 1 \_\_\_ Black
  - 2 \_\_\_ Caucasian
  - 3 \_\_\_ American Indian
  - 4 \_\_\_ Oriental/Asian
  - 5 \_\_\_ Hispanic
  - 88 \_\_\_ Other
  - 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

45. Ethnic background: \_\_\_\_\_

Victim's address at time of death:

46. Street: \_\_\_\_\_

47. City: \_\_\_\_\_ 48. State: \_\_\_\_\_ 49. Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

50. Victim's residence:

- |                                    |                          |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ Single-family dwelling         | 191                      |
| 2__ Multi-family dwelling          | 4__ Motor vehicle        |
| 3__ Temporary or transient housing | 5__ Street               |
|                                    | 88__ Other _____         |
|                                    | 99__ Unable to determine |

Victim's previous addresses:

51. Street: \_\_\_\_\_
52. City: \_\_\_\_\_ 53. State: \_\_\_\_\_ 54. Zip: \_\_\_\_\_
- Street: \_\_\_\_\_
- City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_
- Street: \_\_\_\_\_
- City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

VICTIM'S PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

55. Height (or best estimate): \_\_\_\_\_ ft. \_\_\_\_\_ in. 99\_\_ Unable to determine
56. Approx. weight: \_\_\_\_\_ lbs 99\_\_ Unable to determine
57. Build:
- |            |                          |
|------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ Small  | 3__ Large                |
| 2__ Medium | 99__ Unable to determine |
58. Hair length: (check all that apply)
- |                              |                          |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ No hair (bald or shaven) | 5__ To Shoulders         |
| 2__ Balding                  | 6__ Past shoulders       |
| 3__ Above collar             | 99__ Unable to determine |
| 4__ Collar length            |                          |
59. Hair shade:
- |           |                          |
|-----------|--------------------------|
| 1__ Light | 3__ Medium               |
| 2__ Dark  | 99__ Unable to determine |
60. Predominant hair color:
- |                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ Gray and or white | 5__ Black                |
| 2__ Blond             | 88__ Other _____         |
| 3__ Red               | 99__ Unable to determine |
| 4__ Brown             |                          |
61. Abnormalities of the teeth: (check all that apply)
- |                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ None              | 6__ Noticeable gaps      |
| 2__ Braces            | 7__ Some or all missing  |
| 3__ Broken or chipped | 8__ Stained              |
| 4__ Crooked           | 88__ Other _____         |
| 5__ Decayed           | 99__ Unable to determine |

62. Glasses normally worn by or associated with the victim: (check all that apply)

- 1 \_\_\_ None
- 2 \_\_\_ Prescription
- 3 \_\_\_ Contacts
- 4 \_\_\_ Bifocals
- 5 \_\_\_ Plastic frames
- 6 \_\_\_ Metal frame
- 7 \_\_\_ Rimless
- 88 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

VICTIM'S SCARS AND/OR BIRTHMARKS

63. Does the victim have any scars and/or birthmarks (not tattoos):

- 1 \_\_\_ Yes
- 2 \_\_\_ No
- 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

Location of scars or birthmarks:

(Using the following list, indicate the location of each scar or birthmark in the space provided below)

- 1) Face, head, neck
- 2) Arm(s), hand(s)
- 3) Torso front
- 4) Torso back
- 5) Buttocks
- 6) Feet or leg(s)
- 88) Other
- 99) Unable to determine

64. Location	65. Description
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

VICTIM'S TATTOOS

66. Does the victim have any tattoos?

- 1 \_\_\_ Yes
- 2 \_\_\_ No
- 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

Tattoo locations and designs:

(Using the numbers and letters as provided in the two lists below, indicate the location of each tattoo with its corresponding number and design with the corresponding letter.)

- |          |                     |                         |
|----------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Location | 1) Face, head, neck | 5) Buttocks             |
|          | 2) Arm(s), hand(s)  | 6) Feet or leg(s)       |
|          | 3) Torso front      | 88) Other               |
|          | 4) Torso back       | 99) Unable to determine |

- |        |                            |                         |
|--------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Design | A) Initials or words       | D) Other _____          |
|        | B) Number(s)               | 99) Unable to determine |
|        | C) Picture(s) or design(s) |                         |

67. Location	68. Design	69. Description
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

VICTIM'S OUTSTANDING PHYSICAL FEATURES

70. Did the victim have outstanding physical features or was there something about the victim that would attract attention?
- 1 \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_ No                      99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

VICTIM'S CLOTHING

71. Generally preferred clothing style:

- |                         |                               |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 ___ Business suit     | 5 ___ Western wear            |
| 2 ___ Casual            | 6 ___ Work clothes or uniform |
| 3 ___ Gaudy or garish   | 88 ___ Other _____            |
| 4 ___ Sport or athletic | 99 ___ Unable to determine    |

72. Generally preferred predominant color tone of clothing:

- |               |                       |                            |
|---------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ Whites  | 5 ___ Purples/Violets | 99 ___ Unable to determine |
| 2 ___ Yellows | 6 ___ Reds/Oranges    |                            |
| 3 ___ Greens  | 7 ___ Browns/Tans     |                            |
| 4 ___ Blues   | 8 ___ Grays/Blacks    |                            |

73. If this case is unsolved or a missing person case where foul play is suspected, list victim's clothing description: (using the number(s) from the color list in the above question, place the appropriate number for the color on the line of the corresponding victim clothing item. More than one color/number may be used per article) (describe logos and brand names in space provided)

1 \_\_\_ None

74.

Special Characteristics  
(spots, rips, brands, logos, etc.)

Color	Clothing Item	
2 ___	Shirt	_____
3 ___	T-shirt	_____
4 ___	Blouse	_____
5 ___	Bra	_____
6 ___	Panties	_____
7 ___	Under shorts	_____
8 ___	Skirt	_____
9 ___	Pants	_____
10 ___	Socks	_____
11 ___	Shoes	_____
12 ___	Jacket/coat	_____
13 ___	Hat	_____
88 ___	Other	_____

VICTIM'S BACKGROUND

75. Sexual history: (check all that apply)

- |                    |                    |                            |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ Prepubescent | 5 ___ Homosexual   | 9 ___ Asexual              |
| 2 ___ Heterosexual | 6 ___ Prostitute   | 10 ___ Pedophile           |
| 3 ___ Bisexual     | 7 ___ Promiscuous  | 88 ___ Other _____         |
| 4 ___ Bondage      | 8 ___ Transvestite | 99 ___ Unable to determine |



Was the victim, as an adult, ever arrested?

91. Crime	92. Date	93. City	94. State
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

95. Victim's FBI number: \_\_\_\_\_

96. From the list below indicate which category best describes the victim and offender's relationship?

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| 1 Offender was _____ | 99 ___ Unable to determine                             |
| 1 Husband            | 18 Brother   |
| 2 Wife               | 19 Sister  |
| 3 Ex-husband         | 20 Other Family member _____                           |
| 4 Ex-wife            | 21 Boyfriend   |
| 5 Common-law husband | 22 Girlfriend  |
| 6 Common-law wife    | 23 Friend  |
| 7 Mother             | 24 Mother's boyfriend                                  |
| 8 Father             | 25 Mother's live-in boyfriend                          |
| 9 Step-father        | 26 Baby sitter   |
| 10 Step-mother       | 27 Hitchhiker  |
| 11 Guardian          | 28 Prostitute  |
| 12 Son               | 29 Casual acquaintance _____                           |
| 13 Daughter          | 30 First time acquaintance                             |
| 14 Step-son          | 31 One way acquaintance, victim does not know offender |
| 15 Step-daughter     |  |
| 16 In-law            | 32 Total stranger                                      |
| 17 Estranged spouse  | 88 Other _____   |

214. Other than confession(s), was there any communication from the offender before, during or after the crime? (if no go to #220)

- 1 \_\_\_ Yes                      2 \_\_\_ No                      99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

To answer 215 and 216, fill in the spaces provided below using the appropriate numbers for the method of contact and persons contacted. Then place the date for each in the space that indicates whether the contact was before, during, after the incident, or all three: (record all that apply)

Method of contact

- |                               |                                   |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1) By phone                   | 6) Recording tapes, cassette, etc |
| 2) By letter/note             | 7) In person                      |
| 3) Drawing/photo              | 8) For ransom                     |
| 4) Poem                       | 88) Other _____                   |
| 5) Returned personal property | 99) Unable to determine           |

Person contacted

- 9) Victim's relative(s)  
 10) Victim's friend(s)  
 11) Victim's co-worker(s)  
 12) News media  
 13) Police  
 88) Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 99) Unable to determine

215. Method of Contact	216. Person Contacted	217. Before date	218. During date	219. After date
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

OFFENDER'S APPROACH TO THE VICTIM AT TIME OF INCIDENT

220. Were there prior conflicts between the victim and offender?  
 (check all that apply)

- |                          |                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 ___ No                 | 5 ___ Threats (other)        |
| 2 ___ Assaults           | 88 ___ Other conflicts _____ |
| 3 ___ Threats to assault | 99 ___ Unable to determine   |
| 4 ___ Threats to kill    |                              |

221. The offender's approach to the victim was:

- 1 \_\_\_ No living victim or person witnessed approach  
 2 \_\_\_ By deception or con: Openly, with subterfuge or ploy  
 (e.g., offers assistance or requests direction)  
 3 \_\_\_ Lay in wait or stepped from concealment  
 4 \_\_\_ Direct and immediate assault

222. If the offender initiated contact with the victim by means of deception, indicate the type of deception below:

- 1\_\_ None
- 2\_\_ Pseudo police
- 3\_\_ Pseudo authority figure
- 4\_\_ Pseudo Business/Bank/Real Estate person
- 5\_\_ Through want ad
- 6\_\_ Photography scam
- 7\_\_ Modeling scam
- 8\_\_ Offers job/money
- 9\_\_ Sales
- 10\_\_ Repairman/utility worker
- 11\_\_ Jogger
- 12\_\_ Offers of treats/toys
- 13\_\_ "Help me find my [puppy, kitten, etc.]"
- 14\_\_ "[mom] wants you," etc.
- 15\_\_ "Does John live here," etc.
- 16\_\_ Approaches newspaper carrier
- 17\_\_ Implies family emergency/illness
- 18\_\_ Wants to show something
- 19\_\_ Wants to use phone/rest room
- 20\_\_ Needs assistance
- 21\_\_ Wants to assist
- 22\_\_ Needs directions
- 23\_\_ Phones/sends letters to meet
- 24\_\_ Prostitutes/solicit for sex
- 25\_\_ Lured to the offender by another person
- 88\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- 99\_\_ Unable to determine

223. If the offender initiated contact by means of surprise, indicate the type of surprise below:

- 1\_\_ Lay in wait - out of doors
- 2\_\_ Lay in wait - in building
- 3\_\_ Lay in wait - in vehicle
- 4\_\_ Victim sleeping
- 88\_\_ Other surprise \_\_\_\_\_

224. If offender initiated contact with the victim by use of direct and immediate physical assault, indicate the type from the list below:

- 1\_\_ Immediate and physical overpowering of victim  
(picked-up, carried away, etc.)
- 2\_\_ Hit victim with hand, fist or clubbing weapon
- 3\_\_ Choked victim
- 4\_\_ Stabbed victim
- 5\_\_ Shot victim
- 88\_\_ Other direct assault \_\_\_\_\_



## Location of incident sites:

(From the list of numbered locations provided below, select a location that best describes the location of incident. Place the appropriate number in the corresponding space of the incident site. The same location number could apply to all incident sites, a few sites or each may be different).

- 241) Victim last seen site \_\_\_\_\_ 245) Initial contact site \_\_\_\_\_  
 242) Initial assault site \_\_\_\_\_ 246) Site if held \_\_\_\_\_  
 243) Release/escape site \_\_\_\_\_ 247) Death site \_\_\_\_\_  
 244) Body recovery site \_\_\_\_\_

## Living Quarters:

- 1 Home/single/family  
 2 Duplex/triplex  
 3 Apt/condo  
 4 Mobile home  
 5 Rooming house  
 6 Dormitory  
 7 Rest/nursing home  
 8 Senior citizen center  
 9 Halfway house  
 10 Camper/trailer  
 11 Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Business:

- 12 Gas station  
 13 Liquor store  
 14 Fast food/convenience  
 15 Restaurant/coffee shop  
 16 Motel/hotel  
 17 Pawn shop  
 18 Drug store/supply  
 19 Shopping center/mall  
 20 Retail dept. store  
 21 Food store/market  
 22 Jewelry/fur  
 23 Bank/savings & loan  
 24 Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Entertainment:

- 25 Bar/nightclub/dance hall  
 26 Stadium/auditorium/theater  
 27 Casino  
 28 Resort  
 29 Country club/pro shop  
 30 Museum  
 31 Arcade  
 32 Sport center/health spa  
 33 Fraternal club  
 34 Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Public Premise:

- 35 Church/mission  
 36 School  
 37 Hospital/medical center  
 38 Mortuary  
 39 Public restroom  
 40 Public garage  
 41 Subway/metro  
 42 Barn/stable  
 43 Shed/outbuilding  
 44 Government building  
 45 Parking lot  
 46 Public building  
 47 Office building  
 48 Post office  
 49 Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Industrial/Commercial/Other:

- 50 Warehouse/storage  
 51 Dump  
 52 Factory/mill/plant  
 53 Dumpster  
 54 Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Transportation:

- 55 Motor vehicle  
 56 Boat  
 57 Airport  
 58 Bus station  
 59 Railroad property  
 60 Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Military Installation:

- 61 Army  
 62 Navy  
 63 Air force  
 64 Marines  
 65 Coast Guard  
 66 Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 99 Unable to determine

Location of incident sites continued: (From the list of numbered locations provided below, select a location that best describes the location of incident. Place the appropriate number in the corresponding space of the incident site. The same number could apply to all incident sites, a few sites or each may be different).

- 249) Victim last seen site \_\_\_\_\_ 253) Initial contact site \_\_\_\_\_  
 250) Initial assault site \_\_\_\_\_ 254) Site if held \_\_\_\_\_  
 251) Release/escape site \_\_\_\_\_ 255) Death site \_\_\_\_\_  
 252) Body recovery site \_\_\_\_\_

- |                         |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 None                  | 20 Transportation center |
| 2 School grounds/campus | 21 Bus stop              |
| 3 Playground/park/zoo   | 22 Wooded area           |
| 4 Vice area             | 23 Cemetery              |
| 5 Amusement park        | 24 Quarry                |
| 6 Circus/carnival       | 25 Mine                  |
| 7 County/state fair     | 26 Cave                  |
| 8 Camping area          | 27 Well                  |
| 9 Resort                | 28 Farm/ranch            |
| 10 Freeway/toll road    | 29 Orchard               |
| 11 Paved street/highway | 30 Field                 |
| 12 Alley                | 31 Marsh/swamp           |
| 13 Gravel/dirt road     | 32 Beach/marina          |
| 14 Sidewalk             | 33 Lake                  |
| 15 Trail/jogging path   | 34 River                 |
| 16 Bridge               | 35 Stream/creek          |
| 17 Rest stop            | 36 Canal/inland waterway |
| 18 Parking lot          | 88 Other _____           |
| 19 Railroad tracks      | 99 Unable to determine   |

257. Was the body recovery site in or about the victim's residence?

- 1\_\_ Yes                      2\_\_ No                      99\_\_ Unable to determine

If the body recovery site was a residence, (any residence) select a location from the list below that best describes the location of each of the below stated incident sites. Place the appropriate number for a location in the corresponding space of the incident site. (The same number could apply to all incident sites, a few sites, or each may be different).

- 258) Victim last seen site \_\_\_\_\_ 262) Initial contact site \_\_\_\_\_  
 259) Initial assault site \_\_\_\_\_ 263) Site if held \_\_\_\_\_  
 260) Release/escape site \_\_\_\_\_ 264) Death site \_\_\_\_\_  
 261) Body recovery site \_\_\_\_\_

(only if at residence)

- |                   |                           |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 None/NA         | 12 Closet                 |
| 2 Bedroom         | 13 Porch/balcony          |
| 3 Living room     | 14 Garage/parking area    |
| 4 Dining room     | 15 Basement               |
| 5 Kitchen         | 16 Attic                  |
| 6 Den/family room | 17 Roof                   |
| 7 Rec room        | 18 Swim pool/tennis court |
| 8 Utility room    | 19 Garden/yard            |
| 9 Foyer/entry way | 20 Stairwall              |
| 10 Library/study  | 88 Other _____            |
| 11 Hallway        | 99 Unable to determine    |



277. Was the site of the victim's last known location the same as the site of the initial contact between the victim and offender?

1\_\_Yes                    2\_\_No                    99\_\_Unable to determine

278. Describe the general area of the victim's last known location:

1\_\_Farm/country                    3\_\_City  
 2\_\_Residential                    99\_\_Unable to determine

279. Was the victim's last known location the victim's residence:

1\_\_Yes                    2\_\_No                    99\_\_Unable to determine

280. Was the victim's last known location the victim's work place:

1\_\_Yes                    2\_\_No                    99\_\_Unable to determine

Using standard units of measure (feet, and/or miles) give the best estimate of distance between the following locations:

281. The distance between victim's last known location and...

1. point of contact with offender \_\_\_\_\_
2. location of assault \_\_\_\_\_
3. location victim held prisoner \_\_\_\_\_
4. death site \_\_\_\_\_
5. body recovery site \_\_\_\_\_
6. victim's lodging site \_\_\_\_\_
7. offender's lodging site \_\_\_\_\_
8. offender's arrest site \_\_\_\_\_

282. The distance between point of initial contact with offender and...

1. location of assault \_\_\_\_\_
2. location victim held prisoner \_\_\_\_\_
3. death site \_\_\_\_\_
4. body recovery site \_\_\_\_\_
5. victim's lodging site \_\_\_\_\_
6. offender's lodging site \_\_\_\_\_
7. offender's arrest site \_\_\_\_\_

283. The distance between location of assault and...

1. location victim held prisoner \_\_\_\_\_
2. death site \_\_\_\_\_
3. body recovery site \_\_\_\_\_
4. victim's lodging site \_\_\_\_\_
5. offender's lodging site \_\_\_\_\_
6. offender's arrest site \_\_\_\_\_

284. The distance between location victim held prisoner and...

1. death site \_\_\_\_\_
2. body recovery site \_\_\_\_\_
3. victim's lodging site \_\_\_\_\_
4. offender's lodging site \_\_\_\_\_
5. offender's arrest site \_\_\_\_\_

235. The distance between death site and...  
 1. body recovery site \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. victim's lodging site \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. offender's lodging site \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. offender's arrest site \_\_\_\_\_
286. How did the offender dispose of the body?  
 1 \_\_\_ Openly displayed or placed to insure discovery  
 2 \_\_\_ Concealed, hidden, or placed in order to prevent discovery  
 3 \_\_\_ Unconcerned as to whether or not the body was discovered  
 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine
287. Was the body of the victim intentionally placed in an unusual position after? (e.g., staged or posed)  
 1 \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
 2 \_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine \_\_\_\_\_

OFFENDER'S WRITING OR CARVING ON THE BODY

288. Was there writing or carving on the body?  
 1 \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
 2 \_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine \_\_\_\_\_
289. What instrument was used to write or carve on the body?  
 1 \_\_\_ Knife or sharp instrument      4 \_\_\_ Writing instrument (pen, etc.)  
 2 \_\_\_ Blood      88 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 3 \_\_\_ Lipstick      99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine \_\_\_\_\_

OFFENDER'S WRITING OR DRAWING AT THE CRIME SCENE

290. Was there writing or drawing at the crime scene(s)?  
 1 \_\_\_ Yes (describe) \_\_\_\_\_  
 2 \_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine \_\_\_\_\_
291. Instrument used to write or draw at the crime scene:  
 1 \_\_\_ Knife or sharp instrument      4 \_\_\_ Writing instrument (pen, etc.)  
 2 \_\_\_ Blood      88 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 3 \_\_\_ Lipstick      99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine \_\_\_\_\_

SYMBOLIC ARTIFACTS AT CRIME SCENE

292. Was there evidence to suggest a deliberate or unusual ritual, act, thing had been performed on, with, or near the victim (such as the orderly formation of rocks, burnt candles, dead animals, defecation, etc.)?  
 1 \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
 2 \_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine \_\_\_\_\_

CONDITION OF VICTIM WHEN FOUNDBODY DISPOSITION

293. Was there a body/remains recovered in this case? (if no go to #315)

1\_\_ Yes                      2\_\_ No                      99\_\_ Unable to determine

294. Is there reason to believe the offender moved the body from the area of the death site to the area of the body recovery site?

1\_\_ Yes                      2\_\_ No                      99\_\_ Unable to determine

295. The body was discovered... (check all that apply)

1__ Buried completely	9__ In vehicle
2__ Buried partially	10__ In box, trunk, etc.
3__ In water completely	11__ Scattered (parts)
4__ In water partially	12__ Concealed/covered completely
5__ Exposed completely	13__ Concealed/covered partially
6__ Exposed partially	14__ Not disturbed
7__ Bagged	15__ In a building
8__ Hanging	88__ Other _____

296. If the body was weighted then thrown or placed in the water, how was it weighted? (check all that apply)

1__ N/A	3__ Chain	5__ Cement
2__ Rocks	4__ Metal	88__ Other _____

297. Identifiable characteristics of body at time of discovery: (check all that apply)

1__ Unidentifiable	5__ Bone defects
2__ Visual identification	6__ Old injuries to bones
3__ Personal effects	7__ Fingerprints
4__ Dental records	8__ All items 2 thru 7

298. Who first notified the police of the victim's body location?

1__ Police	6__ Relative/acquaintance of victim
2__ Accident/passersby	7__ Relative/acquaintance of offender
3__ Search party	8__ Offender
4__ Anonymous	
5__ Witness to the death	88__ Other _____

RESTRAINTS USED ON VICTIM

299. Was the body bound? (check all that apply)

1__ No	9__ Rope	17__ Belt
2__ Panty hose	10__ Wire	18__ Shoelaces(s)
3__ Socks	11__ Coat hanger	19__ Leather
4__ Nylon hose	12__ Tape	20__ Handcuffs
5__ Scarf	13__ Electrical cord	88__ Other _____
6__ Nightgown/negligee	14__ String/twine	99__ Unable to determine
7__ Underclothing	15__ Cord	
8__ Other clothing	16__ Chain	

300. The restraining device(s) was: (check all that apply)
- 1\_\_ Brought to the scene by the offender  
 2\_\_ Brought to the scene by the victim  
 3\_\_ An article found at the scene by the offender  
 99\_\_ Unable to determine
301. Parts of the body that were bound: (check all that apply)
- 1\_\_ None                      6\_\_ Neck  
 2\_\_ Hands (in front)        7\_\_ Hands/ankles bound together  
 3\_\_ Hands (in rear)        8\_\_ Arms bound to torso  
 4\_\_ Legs                      88\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 5\_\_ Feet/ankle(s)        99\_\_ Unable to determine
302. Were the bindings on the victim excessive (much more than necessary to control the victim's movements)?
- 1\_\_ Yes                      2\_\_ No                      99\_\_ Unable to determine
303. Was the body tied to an object or other victim:
- 1\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
 2\_\_ No                      99\_\_ Unable to determine
304. Was there evidence of an object or a gag having been placed in or over the victim's mouth?
- 1\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
 2\_\_ No                      99\_\_ Unable to determine
305. Was a blindfold placed on or over the victim's eyes?
- 1\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
 2\_\_ No                      99\_\_ Unable to determine
306. Was victim's entire face covered?
- 1\_\_ Yes - with what \_\_\_\_\_  
 2\_\_ No                      99\_\_ Unable to determine

CLOTHING AND PROPERTY OF VICTIM

307. Clothing on victim when found:
- 1\_\_ Fully dressed  
 2\_\_ Undressed, from waist down or panties/pants pulled down/skirt up:  
 3\_\_ Undressed, from waist up or blouse & bra/shirt pulled above breast/chest:  
 4\_\_ Nude  
 88\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_  
 99\_\_ Unable to determine





Property of victim/others missing or taken by the offender:

(On the lines provided below list each item taken from the victim or others by using the corresponding number from the property list. After the item number indicate who the property belonged to with a "V" for victim and "O" for others. Then from the disposition list, use the corresponding letter to indicate the disposition of each item. Space is provided to explain items G AND H or another item needing a further explanation). (record all that apply)

PROPERTY LIST:

- |                  |                          |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Vehicle       | 9) Hose/socks            |
| 2) Credit cards  | 10) Other clothing       |
| 3) Cash          | 11) Jewelry              |
| 4) Checks        | 12) Photo(s)             |
| 5) Personal I.D. | 13) Personal memento(s)  |
| 6) Weapon(s)     | 14) Body parts           |
| 7) Underclothing | 15) Police I.D. or badge |
| 8) Shoe(s)       | 88) Other _____          |

DISPOSITION LIST:

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| A) None taken              | H) In hidden location                   |
| B) On offender's person    | I) Left with offender's relative/friend |
| C) In offender's vehicle   | J) Left items at cemetery               |
| D) In offender's residence | K) Discarded                            |
| E) Pawned                  | L) Used as income                       |
| F) Sold                    | 88) Other _____                         |
| G) Given away              | 99) Unable to determine                 |

321. Property taken	322. Description	323. Victim/ Others	324. Disposition
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Explanation for items having a G or H disposition: (to whom or where)

325. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

MEDICAL EXAMINER/CORONER FINDINGS

326. What is stated on the death certificate as the classification of death?

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 1__ Homicide   | 4__ Natural                                |
| 2__ Suicide    | 5__ Undetermined                           |
| 3__ Accidental | 6__ Classification nct stated in case file |

327. What was the original classification of death made by the police?
- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 1 ___ Homicide   | 4 ___ Natural                                |
| 2 ___ Suicide    | 5 ___ Undetermined                           |
| 3 ___ Accidental | 6 ___ Classification not stated in case file |
328. What was the M.E./Coroner classification for type of death?
- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 1 ___ Homicide   | 4 ___ Natural                                |
| 2 ___ Suicide    | 5 ___ Undetermined                           |
| 3 ___ Accidental | 6 ___ Classification not stated in case file |
329. If this case was originally determined to be other than a homicide, but was later discovered to be homicide, who made that discovery?
- |                        |                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ Medical examiner | 5 ___ Prosecutor           |
| 2 ___ Coroner          | 88 ___ Other _____         |
| 3 ___ Hospital         | 99 ___ Unable to determine |
| 4 ___ Police           |                            |
330. Was there an autopsy performed on the victim? (if no go to #338)
- |           |          |                            |
|-----------|----------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ Yes | 2 ___ No | 99 ___ Unable to determine |
|-----------|----------|----------------------------|
331. Was there a copy of the autopsy report in the case file?
- |           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| 1 ___ Yes | 2 ___ No |
|-----------|----------|
332. Who signed the autopsy report?
- |                        |                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ Medical examiner | 88 ___ Other _____         |
| 2 ___ Coroner          | 99 ___ Unable to determine |
333. Were autopsy photographs taken?
- |           |          |                            |
|-----------|----------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ Yes | 2 ___ No | 99 ___ Unable to determine |
|-----------|----------|----------------------------|
334. Which of the following autopsy procedures were completed?  
(check all that apply)
- |                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ None                  | 99 ___ Unable to determine |
| 2 ___ Scalp hair combings   |                            |
| 3 ___ Scalp hair samples    |                            |
| 4 ___ Pubic hair combings   |                            |
| 5 ___ Pubic hair samples    |                            |
| 6 ___ Vaginal swabs         |                            |
| 7 ___ Anal swabs            |                            |
| 8 ___ Oral swabs            |                            |
| 9 ___ Fingerprints          |                            |
| 10 ___ Fingernail clippings |                            |
| 11 ___ Blood samples        |                            |
| 12 ___ X-rays               |                            |
| 13 ___ Other _____          |                            |
|                             |                            |
|                             |                            |

335. What body parts were examined during the autopsy?  
(check all that apply)

- 1\_\_ None
- 2\_\_ Head
- 3\_\_ Neck
- 4\_\_ Chest
- 5\_\_ Abdomen
- 6\_\_ Extremities
- 99\_\_ Unable to determine

336. What toxicology tests were performed? (check all that apply)

- 1\_\_ None
- 2\_\_ Drug analysis (blood or urine) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3\_\_ Blood alcohol \_\_\_\_\_
- 4\_\_ Other toxicological analysis \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- 99\_\_ Unable to determine

337. What important evidence or information was collected as a result of the autopsy?

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) \_\_\_\_\_

99\_\_ Unable to determine

CAUSE OF DEATH

338. What was the Medical Examiner's or Coroner's officially listed cause of death?

- |                                 |                               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1__ Firearm(s)                  | 12__ Burns--fire              |
| 2__ Stab wound(s)               | 13__ Burns --chemical         |
| 3__ Cutting/incising wound(s)   | 14__ Burns--scalding          |
| 4__ Blunt force injury          | 15__ Hypothermia or exposure  |
| 5__ Strangulation, manual       | 16__ Drowning                 |
| 6__ Strangulation, ligature     | 17__ Electrocution            |
| 7__ Asphyxia - unknown means    | 18__ Crushing injuries        |
| 8__ Smothering                  | 19__ Explosive trauma         |
| 9__ Airway occlusion - internal | 20__ Malnutrition/dehydration |
| 10__ Torso compression          | 21__ Undetermined             |
| 11__ Hanging                    | 88__ Other _____              |
|                                 | 99__ Unable to determine      |

TRAUMA

340. Trauma location(s): (check all that apply)

- |                         |                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ Forehead          | 11 ___ Neck                |
| 2 ___ Head - top        | 12 ___ Arm(s)              |
| 3 ___ Head - right side | 13 ___ Leg(s)/feet         |
| 4 ___ Head - left side  | 14 ___ Hand(s)             |
| 5 ___ Head - back       | 15 ___ Breast(s)           |
| 6 ___ Face              | 16 ___ Buttocks            |
| 7 ___ Eye(s)            | 17 ___ Genitalia           |
| 8 ___ Chest             | 19 ___ Anus                |
| 9 ___ Back              | 88 ___ Other _____         |
| 10 ___ Abdomen          | 99 ___ Unable to determine |

341. Extent of blunt force injury:

- 1 \_\_\_ None
- 2 \_\_\_ Minimal (minor bruising only, possibly caused by offender's slapping to control the victim)
- 3 \_\_\_ Moderate (injury insufficient to cause death by itself)
- 4 \_\_\_ Severe (injury sufficient to cause death, whether the actual cause of death or not)
- 5 \_\_\_ Extreme (injury beyond that necessary to cause death/over kill)

342. Estimate number of stab wounds: \_\_\_\_\_

343. Estimate number of cutting wounds: \_\_\_\_\_

344. Estimate number of blunt force wounds: \_\_\_\_\_

345. Did the victim sustain any gunshot wounds? (if no go to #353)

- 1 \_\_\_ Yes                      2 \_\_\_ No                      99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

(Using the numbers from the trauma list in question 340, place the appropriate number for location of that wound on the line(s) under #346, then indicate how many wounds to that location under #347 and the range, cal, gauge etc. on the line for their corresponding number.)

- RANGE = 1) Distant (no stippling/tattooing)  
 2) Intermediate (stippling/tattooing)  
 3) Close (powder residue/tattooing)  
 4) Contact  
 99) Unable to determine

346. Location of wound (s)	347. No. of wounds	348. Range	348. Cal./ gauge	350. No. of grooves	351. Twist R/L	352. bullet wt. shot size
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

ELEMENTS OF TORTURE OR UNUSUAL ASSAULT

353. Is there evidence to suggest that the offender disfigured the body of the victim? (check all that apply)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1__ None  | 8__ Victim whipped                       |
| 2__ Removed/destroyed fingers   | 9__ Evidence of cannibalism or vampirism |
| 3__ Removed/destroyed toes  | 10__ Victim run over by vehicle          |
| 4__ Burns - postmortem  | 11__ Mutilated face                      |
| 5__ Burns - antemortem  | 12__ Covered face/head                   |
| 6__ Burns - unable to determine post or antemortem                          | 13__ Head gone                           |
| 7__ Offender explored, probed or mutilated cavities or wounds of the victim | 88__ Other _____                         |
|   | 99__ Unable to determine                 |

354. Is there evidence that indicates the injuries were?

- |                |                          |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ Antemortem | 3__ Both                 |
| 2__ Postmortem | 99__ Unable to determine |

355. Body parts removed by offender: (if no go to #358)

- |             |                          |
|-------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ None    | 10__ Arm(s)              |
| 2__ Head    | 11__ Leg(s)              |
| 3__ Scalp   | 12__ Breast(s)           |
| 4__ Face    | 13__ Nipple(s)           |
| 5__ Teeth   | 14__ Anus                |
| 6__ Eye(s)  | 15__ Genitalia           |
| 7__ Ear(s)  | 16__ Internal organs     |
| 8__ Nose    | 88__ Other _____         |
| 9__ Hand(s) | 99__ Unable to determine |

356. Dismemberment method:

- |                               |                          |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ Bitten off                | 4__ Hacked/chopped off   |
| 2__ Cut - skilled/surgical    | 5__ Sawed off            |
| 3__ Cut - unskilled rough/cut | 88__ Other _____         |
|                               | 99__ Unable to determine |

357. Is there evidence that dismemberment was?

- |                |                          |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| 1__ Antemortem | 3__ Both                 |
| 2__ Postmortem | 99__ Unable to determine |

SEXUAL ASSAULT

358. Is there evidence of an assault to any of the victim's sexual organs or body cavities? (if no go to #367)

- |         |        |                          |
|---------|--------|--------------------------|
| 1__ Yes | 2__ No | 99__ Unable to determine |
|---------|--------|--------------------------|

359. Who made the determination that the assault was sexual?  
(check all that apply)
- |                                |                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 ___ Offender's confession    | 5 ___ Investigator conclusion |
| 2 ___ Medical examiner         | 6 ___ Prosecutor conclusion   |
| 3 ___ Crime lab                | 88 ___ Other _____            |
| 4 ___ Witness/surviving victim | 99 ___ Unable to determine    |
360. Type of sexual assault, or attempt: (check all that apply)
- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ Offender performed oral sex on victim | 4 ___ Anal                 |
| 2 ___ Victim performed oral sex on offender | 88 ___ Other _____         |
| 3 ___ Vaginal                               | 99 ___ Unable to determine |
361. Was semen found in body cavity(s) of the victim?  
(check all that apply)
- |                 |                            |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ No        | 4 ___ In mouth             |
| 2 ___ In vagina | 88 ___ Other _____         |
| 3 ___ In anus   | 99 ___ Unable to determine |
362. Was there evidence of other ejaculation?
- |                                 |                                    |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 ___ No                        | 4 ___ Elsewhere at the scene _____ |
| 2 ___ On the body of the victim | 99 ___ Unable to determine         |
| 3 ___ On the offender           |                                    |
363. Is there evidence to suggest sexual assault was?
- |                  |                            |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ Antemortem | 3 ___ Both                 |
| 2 ___ Postmortem | 99 ___ Unable to determine |
364. Is there evidence of sexual insertion of foreign object(s) into the victims body?
- |           |          |                            |
|-----------|----------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ Yes | 2 ___ No | 99 ___ Unable to determine |
|-----------|----------|----------------------------|
365. Were there sexually inserted foreign object(s) still in the body when the body was first discovered? (e.g., rocks, twigs, knife, clothing)
- (OBJECT)
- |                    |
|--------------------|
| 1 ___ Vagina _____ |
| 2 ___ Penis _____  |
| 3 ___ Anus _____   |
| 4 ___ Mouth _____  |
| 88 ___ Other _____ |
366. Is there evidence of sexual insertion of foreign object(s) into the victim's body, but the object was not in the body when the body was discovered:
- (OBJECT)
- |                            |
|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ Vagina _____         |
| 2 ___ Penis _____          |
| 3 ___ Anus _____           |
| 4 ___ Mouth _____          |
| 88 ___ Other _____         |
| 99 ___ Unable to determine |

BITE MARKS ON VICTIM

367. Were bite marks found on the victim's body?

1\_\_ Yes                      2\_\_ No                      99\_\_ Unable to determine

368. Location of bite marks: (check all that apply)

1__ Face	6__ Groin
2__ Neck	7__ Genitalia
3__ Abdomen	8__ Thigh(s)
4__ Breast(s)	88__ Other _____
5__ Buttocks	99__ Unable to determine

FORENSIC EVIDENCEWEAPONS369. Weapon(s) used by the offender in this assault: (check all that apply)

1__ None	5__ Ligature
2__ Firearm	6__ Hands or feet
3__ Stabbing or cutting weapons	88__ Other weapons _____
4__ Bludgeon or club	99__ Unable to determine

370. Weapon(s) used by the victim in this assault: (check all that apply)

1__ None	5__ Ligature
2__ Firearm	6__ Hands or feet
3__ Stabbing or cutting weapons	88__ Other weapons _____
4__ Bludgeon or club	99__ Unable to determine

371. Assault weapon(s) used by the offender: (check all that apply)

1__ Weapon belonged to victim
2__ Weapon of opportunity - offender finds at or near scene
3__ Weapon was preselected and/or brought to scene by offender
4__ Weapon is normally carried by offender (hunting knife, folding knife, etc)
5__ Weapon recovered at the scene
6__ Weapon recovered elsewhere _____
7__ Weapon not located
8__ Weapon was physical force
88__ Other _____
99__ Unable to determine

372. If a stabbing or cutting instrument was used, what type?  
(check all that apply)

1__ Pocket knife	6__ Screwdriver
2__ Hunting knife	7__ Razor blade
3__ Folding knife	88__ Other _____
4__ Kitchen knife	
5__ Ice pick	99__ Unable to determine

373. If a firearm was used, what type? (check all that apply)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Shotgun          | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Revolver             |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Rifle            | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Zip gun              |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-auto pistol | 88 <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____         |
|   | 99 <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to determine |

374. If a bludgeoning, type of weapon was used, indicate the type:  
(check all that apply)

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Hammer    | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Rock                 |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Tire iron | 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Bottle               |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Club      | 88 <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____         |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Stick     |   |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Ball bat  | 99 <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to determine |

375. If a ligature was used, what type? (check all that apply)

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Rope/cord  | 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Scarf                |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Belt       | 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Wire                 |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Neck tie   | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone cord       |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Sock(s)    | 10 <input type="checkbox"/> Shoe strings        |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Nylons     | 88 <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____         |
| 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Panty hose | 99 <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to determine |

376. Was there anything unique about the murder weapon?  
(initials, marks, brand, etc.)

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> No        | 99 <input type="checkbox"/> Unable to determine |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ |   |

377. Caliber or gauge of firearm(s) used:

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_ 3) \_\_\_\_\_ 4) \_\_\_\_\_

378. Number of grooves and direction of twist of recovered bullet(s)  
or firearm(s):

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_ 3) \_\_\_\_\_ 4) \_\_\_\_\_

379. Size of shotgun shell/pellets or weight of bullet recovered or used:

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_ 3) \_\_\_\_\_ 4) \_\_\_\_\_

380. If a weapon was used, which hand did the offender use to hold it?

- 1  Right hand    2  Left hand    99  Unable to determine

BLOOD TYPE

381. What is the victim's blood type?

- 1  A    2  B    3  AB    4  O    99  Unable to determine

382. What is the Rh factor of the victim's blood?

- 1  Positive    2  Negative    99  Unable to determine



WASHINGTON STATE  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
HOMICIDE INFORMATION & TRACKING SYSTEM

\*\*\* MULTIPLE OFFENDER SUPPLEMENTARY FORM \*\*\*

HITS # \_\_\_\_\_ Coders name: \_\_\_\_\_

Reporting agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Reporting agency's case number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

OFFENDER - VICTIM RELATIONSHIP

96. From the list below indicate which category best describes the victim and offender's relationship?

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| 1 Offender was _____ | 99 ___ Unable to determine                                |
| 1 Husband            | 18 Brother  |
| 2 Wife               | 19 Sister   |
| 3 Ex-husband         | 20 Other Family member _____                              |
| 4 Ex-wife            | 21 Boyfriend  |
| 5 Common-law husband | 22 Girlfriend   |
| 6 Common-law wife    | 23 Friend   |
| 7 Mother             | 24 Mother's boyfriend                                     |
| 8 Father             | 25 Mother's live-in boyfriend                             |
| 9 Step-father        | 26 Baby sitter  |
| 10 Step-mother       | 27 Hitchhiker   |
| 11 Guardian          | 28 Prostituta   |
| 12 Son               | 29 Casual acquaintance _____                              |
| 13 Daughter          | 30 First time acquaintance                                |
| 14 Step-son          | 31 One way acquaintance, victim<br>does not know offender |
| 15 Step-daughter     | 32 Total stranger   |
| 16 In-law            | 88 Other _____  |
| 17 Estranged spouse  |   |

OFFENDER'S IDENTIFICATION & CHARACTERISTICS

97. This is offender \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ offender(s) in this incident.  
(number) (total)

98. The offender: (if the offender(s) is unknown/not seen go to #172)

- 1 \_\_\_ is unknown -- not seen  
2 \_\_\_ is unknown -- seen  
3 \_\_\_ is known to police but there is insufficient evidence to arrest  
4 \_\_\_ is known left area, police unable to locate  
5 \_\_\_ is known left area, police locate him but do not pursue  
6 \_\_\_ was arrested but not charged (P.A. decline)  
7 \_\_\_ was charged but not arrested (fled unable to locate)  
8 \_\_\_ was charged is awaiting trial  
9 \_\_\_ was tried and convicted  
10 \_\_\_ was deceased at incident scene (self inflicted)  
11 \_\_\_ was killed at or near scene by the police  
12 \_\_\_ was killed fleeing the scene \_\_\_\_\_  
13 \_\_\_ was killed other \_\_\_\_\_  
88 \_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_

99. Offender's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(last, first, middle)

100. Alias(es) (including maiden and prior married names):

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

101. Sex:      1\_\_ Male      2\_\_ Female      99\_\_ Unable to determine

102. Date of birth:      1)      (mo)      (da)      (yr)

- 2)      \_\_\_\_\_
- 3)      \_\_\_\_\_

99\_\_ Unable to determine

103. Age (or best estimate) at time of incident: \_\_\_\_\_

104. Race:      1\_\_ Black      5\_\_ Hispanic

- 2\_\_ Caucasian
- 3\_\_ American Indian      88\_\_ Other
- 4\_\_ Oriental/Asian      99\_\_ Unable to determine

105. Ethnic background: \_\_\_\_\_

Offender's address at time of incident:

106. Street: \_\_\_\_\_

107. City: \_\_\_\_\_ 108. State: \_\_\_\_\_ 109. Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Previous addresses during last 5 years:

110. Street: \_\_\_\_\_

111. City: \_\_\_\_\_ 112. State: \_\_\_\_\_ 113. Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

List the cities and states the offender has visited in last 5 yrs:

114. City	115. State	116. When
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____

## Foreign cities and countries lived in or traveled in:

117. City	118. Countries	119. When
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____

OFFENDER'S PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION AT TIME OF INCIDENT

120. Height (or best estimate): \_\_\_\_\_ ft \_\_\_\_\_ in to \_\_\_\_\_ ft \_\_\_\_\_ in  
 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

121. Approx. weight: \_\_\_\_\_ lbs 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

122. Build: 1 \_\_\_ Small (thin) 3 \_\_\_ Large (stocky)  
 2 \_\_\_ Medium (average) 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

123. Hair length: (check all that apply)

1 \_\_\_ no hair (bald or shaven) 5 \_\_\_ To Shoulders  
 2 \_\_\_ Balding 6 \_\_\_ Past shoulders  
 3 \_\_\_ Above collar  
 4 \_\_\_ Collar length 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

124. Hair shade: 1 \_\_\_ Light 3 \_\_\_ Dark  
 2 \_\_\_ Medium 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

25. Predominant hair color:

1 \_\_\_ Gray and or white 5 \_\_\_ Black  
 2 \_\_\_ Blond 88 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 3 \_\_\_ Red  
 4 \_\_\_ Brown 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

126. Eye color: 1 \_\_\_ Blue 5 \_\_\_ Hazel/green  
 2 \_\_\_ Gray 6 \_\_\_ Maroon  
 3 \_\_\_ Brown 88 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 4 \_\_\_ Black 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

127. Was wearing glasses: (check all that apply)

1 \_\_\_ None  
 2 \_\_\_ Prescription 6 \_\_\_ Metal frame  
 3 \_\_\_ Contacts 7 \_\_\_ Rimless  
 4 \_\_\_ Bifocals 88 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 5 \_\_\_ Plastic frames 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

128. Facial hair: (check all that apply)

1 \_\_\_ None 3 \_\_\_ Beard 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine  
 2 \_\_\_ Mustache 88 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

129. Appeared well groomed:

1 \_\_\_ Yes 2 \_\_\_ No 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

130. Did the offender wear a disguise or mask:

- 1 \_\_\_ Yes  
 2 \_\_\_ No                      99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

131. Was a description of the offender's clothing obtained?

- 1 \_\_\_ Yes                      2 \_\_\_ No                      99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

132. Offender's clothing description at time of incident:  
 (using the letters from the color list below, place the letter for the appropriate color on the line for the corresponding offender clothing item. More than one color/letter may be use per article)  
 (describe logos and brand names in space provided)

- |            |                         |
|------------|-------------------------|
| A) Whites  | E) Purples/Violets      |
| B) Yellows | F) Reds/Oranges         |
| C) Greens  | G) Browns/Tans          |
| D) Blues   | H) Grays/Blacks         |
|            | 99) Unable to determine |

Color	Clothing Item	133. Special Characteristics (spots, rips, brands, logos, etc.)
1 ___	Shirt	_____
2 ___	T-shirt	_____
3 ___	Blouse	_____
4 ___	Bra	_____
5 ___	Panties	_____
6 ___	Under shorts	_____
7 ___	Skirt	_____
8 ___	Pants	_____
9 ___	Socks	_____
10 ___	Shoes	_____
11 ___	Jacket/coat	_____
12 ___	Hat	_____
88 ___	Other	_____

OFFENDER'S SCARS AND OR BIRTHMARKS

134. Does the offender have any scars and/or birthmarks (not tattoos):

- 1 \_\_\_ Yes                      2 \_\_\_ No                      99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

Location of scars or birthmarks: (Using the following list, indicate the location of each scar or birthmark in the space provided below)

- |                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1) Face, head, neck | 5) Buttocks             |
| 2) Arm(s), hand(s)  | 6) Feet or leg(s)       |
| 3) Torso front      | 88) Other               |
| 4) Torso back       | 99) Unable to determine |

135. Location	136. Description
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**OFFENDER'S TATTOOS**

137. Does the offender have any tattoos?

1 \_\_\_ Yes      2 \_\_\_ No      99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

Tattoo locations and designs:

(Using the numbers and letters as provided in the two lists below, indicate the location of each tattoo with its corresponding number and design with the corresponding letter.)

Location    1) Face, head, neck                      5) Buttocks  
              2) Arm(s), hand(s)                      6) Feet or leg(s)  
              3) Torso front                            88) Other  
              4) Torso back                            99) Unable to determine

Design      A) Initials or words                      D) Other \_\_\_\_\_  
              B) Number(s)                            99) Unable to determine  
              C) Picture(s) or design(s)

138. Location	139. Design	140. Description
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**OFFENDER'S OUTSTANDING PHYSICAL FEATURES**

141. Did the offender have outstanding physical features or was there something about the offender that would attract attention?

1 \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 2 \_\_\_ No                      99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

**OFFENDER'S BACKGROUND**

142. Sexual history: (Check all that apply)

1 \_\_\_ Prepubescent                      5 \_\_\_ Homosexual                      9 \_\_\_ Asexual  
 2 \_\_\_ Heterosexual                      6 \_\_\_ Prostitute                      10 \_\_\_ Pedophile  
 3 \_\_\_ Bisexual                            7 \_\_\_ Promiscuous                      88 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 4 \_\_\_ Bondage                            8 \_\_\_ Transvestite                      99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

143. Has the offender as a juvenile or adult displayed symptoms of/or been treated for: (check all that apply)

1 \_\_\_ None                                      4 \_\_\_ Alcohol problems  
 2 \_\_\_ Mental problems                      5 \_\_\_ Drug problems  
 3 \_\_\_ Sexual problems                      99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

144. Was the offender ever a member of a subversive group or gang?  
(check all that apply)

- 1 \_\_\_ No
- 2 \_\_\_ Youth
- 3 \_\_\_ Mob/syndicate
- 4 \_\_\_ Motorcycle
- 5 \_\_\_ Religious cult
- 6 \_\_\_ Prison
- 7 \_\_\_ Terrorist
- 88 \_\_\_ Other
- 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

145. Was the offender employed at the time of incident:

- 1 \_\_\_ Yes
- 2 \_\_\_ No
- 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

146. Occupation

147. Employer & city

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

148. Previous occupation

149. Previous employer & city

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

150. Social security number(s):

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

151. Military service:

- 1 \_\_\_ No
- 2 \_\_\_ Army
- 3 \_\_\_ Navy
- 4 \_\_\_ Marines
- 5 \_\_\_ Air force
- 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine
- 6 \_\_\_ National Guard
- 7 \_\_\_ Coast Guard
- 88 \_\_\_ Other

152. Time in service: From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

OFFENDER'S CRIMINAL HISTORY

Was the offender, as a juvenile, ever arrested and/or convicted of a crime?

153. Crime	154. Date	155. City	156. State
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Was the offender, as an adult, ever arrested and/or convicted of a crime?

157. Crime	158. Date	159. City	160. State
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Other than previous arrests or convictions, do the police suspect the offender of any past or present crimes?

161. Crime	162. Date	163. City	164. State
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

165. Was the offender charged in another related offense, but not charged or eliminated from this incident:

- 1 \_\_\_ Yes                      2 \_\_\_ No                      99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

166. At the time of this incident the offender was:

- |                               |                           |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 ___ On parole or probation  | 5 ___ An escapee          |
| 2 ___ On furlough             | 6 ___ Out on bail         |
| 3 ___ On work release - State | 7 ___ Out on appeal bond  |
| 4 ___ In a halfway house      | 8 ___ Non offender status |
|                               | 88 ___ Other _____        |

167. Offender's:

1. FBI number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. SID number: \_\_\_\_\_

Offender admits other serious crime(s):

168. Crime	169. City/State	170. Date of crime
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____

172. By what means or type of vehicle did the offender arrive at the crime scene? (check all that apply)

- |                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ Vehicle (car, pickup) | 6 ___ Airplane             |
| 2 ___ Motorcycle            | 7 ___ Walk                 |
| 3 ___ Cab                   | 8 ___ Hitchhike            |
| 4 ___ Bus                   | 88 ___ Other _____         |
| 5 ___ Bicycle               | 99 ___ Unable to determine |

173. By what means or type of vehicle did the offender leave the crime scene? (check all that apply)

- |                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ___ Vehicle (car, pickup) | 6 ___ Airplane             |
| 2 ___ Motorcycle            | 7 ___ Walk                 |
| 3 ___ Cab                   | 8 ___ Hitchhike            |
| 4 ___ Bus                   | 88 ___ Other _____         |
| 5 ___ Bicycle               | 99 ___ Unable to determine |

226. At the time of this incident was the offender under the influence of? (check all that apply)

- |                        |                            |               |
|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| 1 ___ Alcohol _____ BA | 3 ___ Both                 | 4 ___ Neither |
| 2 ___ Drugs _____      | 99 ___ Unable to determine |               |

248) Offender arrest site \_\_\_\_\_ (From the list below, select a location that best describes the location of arrest.)

**Living Quarters:**

- 1 Home/single/family
- 2 Duplex/triplex
- 3 Apt/condo
- 4 Mobile home
- 5 Rooming house
- 6 Dormitory
- 7 Rest/nursing home
- 8 Senior citizen center
- 9 Halfway house
- 10 Camper/trailer
- 11 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Business:**

- 12 Gas station
- 13 Liquor store
- 14 Fast food/convenience
- 15 Restaurant/coffee shop
- 16 Motel/hotel
- 17 Pawn shop
- 18 Drug store/supply
- 19 Shopping center/mall
- 20 Retail dept. store
- 21 Food store/market
- 22 Jewelry/fur
- 23 Bank/savings & loan
- 24 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Entertainment:**

- 25 Bar/nightclub/dance hall
- 26 Stadium/auditorium/theater
- 27 Casino
- 28 Resort
- 29 Country club/pro shop
- 30 Museum
- 31 Arcade
- 32 Sport center/health spa
- 33 Fraternal club
- 34 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Public Premise:**

- 35 Church/mission
- 36 School
- 37 Hospital/medical center
- 38 Mortuary
- 39 Public restroom
- 40 Public garage
- 41 Subway/metro
- 42 Barn/stable
- 43 Shed/outbuilding
- 44 Government building
- 45 Parking lot
- 46 Public building
- 47 Office building
- 48 Post office
- 49 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Industrial/Commercial/Other:**

- 50 Warehouse/storage
- 51 Dump
- 52 Factory/mill/plant
- 53 Dumpster
- 54 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Transportation:**

- 55 Motor vehicle
- 56 Boat
- 57 Airport
- 58 Bus station
- 59 Railroad property
- 60 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Military Installation:**

- 61 Army
- 62 Navy
- 63 Air force
- 64 Marines
- 65 Coast Guard
- 66 Other \_\_\_\_\_
- 99 Unable to determine

256) Offender arrest site \_\_\_\_\_ (From the list below, select a location that best describes the location of arrest.)

- |    |                       |    |                       |
|----|-----------------------|----|-----------------------|
| 1  | None                  | 20 | Transportation center |
| 2  | School grounds/campus | 21 | Bus stop              |
| 3  | Playground/park/zoo   | 22 | Wooded area           |
| 4  | Vice area             | 23 | Cemetery              |
| 5  | Amusement park        | 24 | Quarry                |
| 6  | Circus/carnival       | 25 | Mine                  |
| 7  | County/state fair     | 26 | Cave                  |
| 8  | Camping area          | 27 | Well                  |
| 9  | Resort                | 28 | Farm/ranch            |
| 10 | Freeway/toll road     | 29 | Orchard               |
| 11 | Paved street/highway  | 30 | Field                 |
| 12 | Alley                 | 31 | Marsh/swamp           |
| 13 | Gravel/dirt road      | 32 | Beach/marina          |
| 14 | Sidewalk              | 33 | Lake                  |
| 15 | Trail/jogging path    | 34 | River                 |
| 16 | Bridge                | 35 | Stream/creak          |
| 17 | Rest stop             | 36 | Canal/inland waterway |
| 18 | Parking lot           | 88 | Other _____           |
| 19 | Railroad tracks       | 99 | Unable to determine   |

If the arrest site was a residence, (any residence) select a location from the list below that best describes that location.

265) Offender arrest site \_\_\_\_\_ (only if at residence)

- |    |                 |    |                        |
|----|-----------------|----|------------------------|
| 1  | None/NA         | 12 | Closet                 |
| 2  | Bedroom         | 13 | Porch/balcony          |
| 3  | Living room     | 14 | Garage/parking area    |
| 4  | Dining room     | 15 | Basement               |
| 5  | Kitchen         | 16 | Attic                  |
| 6  | Den/family room | 17 | Roof                   |
| 7  | Rec room        | 18 | Swim pool/tennis court |
| 8  | Utility room    | 19 | Garden/yard            |
| 9  | Foyer/entry way | 20 | Stairwell              |
| 10 | Library/study   | 88 | Other _____            |
| 11 | Hallway         | 99 | Unable to determine    |

383. What is the offender's blood type?

1\_\_A    2\_\_B    3\_\_AB    4\_\_O    99\_\_Unable to determine

384. What is the offender's saliva type?

1\_\_A & H                    4\_\_A, B, & H  
 2\_\_B & H                    5\_\_No A, B, or H found  
 3\_\_H                         99\_\_Unable to determine

385. What is the Rh factor of the offender's blood?

1\_\_Positive                2\_\_Negative                99\_\_Unable to determine

412. If identified, when was the offender's name or any other information that would lead to his/her identity, first mentioned in this case? (give date and time as close as possible) (if no offender I.D.ed go to #424)

1) \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ hrs. 2 \_\_\_ No offender I.D.ed  
 (mo) (da) (yr)

413. At what point during the investigation did the investigator focus on the offender(s)? (Was it before discovery of the body, within hours, days weeks, etc., give date and time)

1) \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ hrs. 2 \_\_\_ No offender I.D.ed  
 (mo) (da) (yr)

414. If the offender was arrested, what was the arrest date and time?

1) \_\_\_\_\_ mil. hrs. 2 \_\_\_ No offender arrested  
 (mo) (da) (yr)

415. Was the offender contacted by police between the time of the murder and the time he became their prime suspect?

1 \_\_\_ Yes - specify 2 \_\_\_ No 99 \_\_\_ Unable to determine

416. By what agency	417. When	418. Where	419. Why
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

420. If identified, how was the identity of the offender developed? (if more than one, rate them in order of most relevant to least relevant as they relate to this case, #1 being most relevant)

- 1 \_\_\_ Offender not identified
- 2 \_\_\_ Offender committed suicide at the scene
- 3 \_\_\_ Offender turned himself in before discovery of or at the crime scene
- 4 \_\_\_ From the victim before death or a surviving victim
- 5 \_\_\_ Offender was caught in the act by the police
- 6 \_\_\_ Offender was caught in the act by others
- 7 \_\_\_ Offender confessed to the police
- 8 \_\_\_ Offender gave an alibi that was refuted by the police
- 9 \_\_\_ Offender confessed to a second party who informed police
- 10 \_\_\_ The confession of a co-conspirator
- 11 \_\_\_ An eyewitness positively identified the offender
- 12 \_\_\_ An eyewitness gave partial identification of offender
- 13 \_\_\_ From physical evidence left at the scene
- 14 \_\_\_ From circumstantial evidence developed over a period of time
- 15 \_\_\_ After a time the offender came forward/turned himself in to (police)
- 16 \_\_\_ From information provided by a confidential informant
- 17 \_\_\_ From information provided by other informants
- 18 \_\_\_ From information provided by investigator's own department records
- 19 \_\_\_ From information provided by other agencies
- 20 \_\_\_ Offender interjected himself into the investigation
- 38 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_





APPENDIX E

CASE FILE ORGANIZER

**H.I.T.S**  
**WASHINGTON STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL**  
**DEATH INVESTIGATION CASE FILE**

AGENCY \_\_\_\_\_ CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

VICTIM(S) \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ OCCURRED \_\_\_\_\_

OCCURRED \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

ASSIGNED \_\_\_\_\_

INVESTIGATOR(S) \_\_\_\_\_

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APPENDIX F

CODING MANUAL

1. Leave (H.I.T.S. #) blank. This number will automatically be assigned by the computer at time of data entry.
2. Date when you receive a case file and H.I.T.S.
3. Coder's name. Last name, first.
4. Position in P.D. or S.O. (i.e. detective, lieutenant, officer, detective sergeant).
5. Agency with whom you are currently employed (include P.D. or S.O., i.e. Seattle P.D., King County P.D., Yakima S.O.)
6. Phone number at your agency.  
Log in. Log out. Each time you begin work on a given case, write in the start date and time on first line in space provided. If work is halted prior to completion of H.I.T.S. form, write in the time that you stopped on first line in space provided. When work is resumed, repeat this process. Each time work is started or stopped, enter the time. All times should be military time.
7. The date that the H.I.T.S. form was completed.
8. When the H.I.T.S. form is completed, add up the time segments from the log and enter the total time in the space provided. This should be in hours and minutes (e.g. 2:45 indicates that it took 2 hours and 45 minutes to complete the H.I.T.S. form)
9. Reporting agency's ORI number (if not already filled in, leave blank).
10. Agency that completed the major investigation, Seattle P.D., King County P.D. etc.
11. -15. Leave blank.
- 12.
- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
16. Enter case number that is reported by the agency on official reports.
17. Leave blank.

18. Enter the name of the investigator(s) who had the responsibility for the investigation of the case. Last name first.
19. Leave blank.
20. Unless advised otherwise, always mark number 1.

VICTIM INFORMATION

The information reported in this section applies to a single victim. If there are multiple victims, fill out a separate H.I.T.S. "multiple victim supplement" form for each additional victim.

21. Self-explanatory.

For items 22 - 26, follow the procedures outlined below:

Use 6 digits for all dates (i.e. 06-24-81) and military time. (i.e. 1715 hrs.)

If exact date is known, use "Exact Date" space. If exact time is known, use "Exact Time" space.

When the exact date is not known, use the "Approx Date" spaces placing the earliest possible date in the first space and the latest possible date in the second space. When the exact time is not known, use the "Approx Time" spaces.

22. Initial contact:  
The exact or approximate date/time that the offender and victim make contact initiating this incident. (For example, if a boyfriend kills his girlfriend, report the date and time that this incident began, not the date they first met.)
23. Victim last seen:  
The exact or approximate date/time that any witness, other than the offender, reports that the victim was last alive. For example, this may include visual sightings, telephone conversations, official documents (like traffic citations, FIR's, jail records) etc.

- Initial assault:
24. The exact or approximate date/time that the victim was assaulted by any offender in this case. The initial assault is any action by the offender, either at the time of, or after the initial contact when the offender kidnaps or assaults the victim in any manner.
- Death/Major Assault:
25. The exact or approximate time that the victim died. (If the victim is a survivor of an attack when another person is a murder victim, "X" out the item number and leave all spaces blank.)
- Victim/Body Found:
26. The exact or approximate time that the victim was found. The victim/body recovery site is the location where police, medics, or witnesses find the victim dead or alive, prior to transportation to a medical facility or morgue. For example, if a living victim is found shot outside a bar, transported to a hospital for treatment, and dies enroute or at the hospital, the body recover site is the bar, not the hospital. If the body recovery site and last known location are the same, write "same".
27. Self-explanatory.
28. If an attempt was made by any person to report the victim as a missing person or runaway juvenile and no report was taken by the police agency, enter the date of the first attempt.
29. If a formal report was taken by a police agency, enter the date the report was made.
30. If unsuccessful attempts were made to make a formal report to any police agency, enter the number of times an effort was made to report the victim as a missing person or runaway juvenile.
31. The date that the police began any type of investigation that focused on possible foul play involving the victim. For example, if the victim was reported to have been kidnapped and was later found dead and the police had started a kidnapping investigation, then the date that the kidnapping investigation began should be reported. However, if there was no investigation beyond taking an initial case report (i.e a missing person

44. Use the best information possible to determine the victim's race. If the race is not one of the five listed, check "other" (88) and write in the victim's race in the space provided. If you are uncertain what the victim's race is, check 99.
45. This includes Jamaican, Norwegian, Irish etc. If there is nothing to suggest that the victim had specific ethnic characteristics, "X" out the item number and leave the space blank.
46. -49. This item refers to the victim's permanent address at the time of death. If the victim had no permanent address, put "transient" in the space after "street" and write in the city, state and zip code in which the victim normally "hung out". If the victim did not appear to be a transient, but there is no known address, write in "unknown" in space after "street" and "x" out Nos. 47-49.

47.  
48.  
49.  
50.

This item refers to the victim's last known residence. "Single-family dwelling" is any type of permanent unattached domicile including houses, mobile homes on a foundation, floating homes, log cabins, etc. If more than one family lives in a house or mobile home, it is still considered a "single family dwelling."

"Multi-Family dwelling" is any type of domicile that is part of a larger building in which other persons reside, such as a condominium or apartment.

"Temporary or transient housing" is any type of location where residents can arrange to stay for less than a one month period (i.e. motel, rescue mission, welfare hotel) or any type of non-permanent living situation such as a foster home or a shelter for battered women, even if the foster home or shelter is in a single or multi-family dwelling.

"Motor vehicle" is any type of non-permanently secured motorized conveyance or trailer, such as a motor home, a car, a fifth wheel, etc.

"Street" indicates that the victim had no permanent residence and was not staying in any sort of temporary or transient housing at the time of attack. This can

include living in woods, an abandoned building, cardboard shacks (i.e. hobo jungle) etc.

"Other" should be checked whenever the victim's abode does not fit one of the other categories (e.g. boat, plane). Provide a brief description of the type of dwelling in the space provided.

If the file does not provide adequate information to make a determination of the victim's residence, check 99.

51. -54. List the victim's three most recent previous addresses, entering the most recent first.
- 52.
- 53.
- 54.

#### VICTIM'S PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Use a hierarchy of best available source for the information in this section. Autopsy reports and related documentation are 1; official documents such as drivers licenses or I.D. cards are 2; police officer witnesses are 3; family member or close personal friends witnesses are 4; and other witnesses are 5.

55. Self-explanatory.
56. Self-explanatory.
57. This item refers to the physique of the victim regardless of height. For example, a 5 foot tall, 250 lb. male would be large.
58. If victim was completely bald or had a shaved head, check 1 only. If victim was balding, check 2 and whatever number corresponds to the length of the remaining hair.
59. Refers to shade, not color (e.g. light brown).
60. Self-explanatory.
61. This item only applies to unidentified dead bodies or missing persons. If the identity of the victim is known, then "X" out this item number.

62. If there is no information in the case file about eyewear, check 99.

VICTIM'S SCARS

63. Self-explanatory.
64. -65. Include all scars and/or birthmarks reported. In the spaces under "Location" put the number that corresponds to the location of the scar or birthmark followed by a brief description under "Description". (i.e. 2" by 1" oval burn scar on the chest would be reported as 3 under "Location" and as a "2" by 1" oval burn scar" under "Description".) If the scar/birthmark is on a location not listed, use 88 and include the location in the description (i.e. if victim had a two inch scar on his penis you should write 88 in the location space and "2" scar on penis" in description spaces.

If there is no information in the case file re scars-birthmarks, check 99.

65.

VICTIM'S TATTOOS

66. Self-explanatory.
67. -69. Include all tattoos reported in the case file. In the spaces under "Location" put the number that corresponds to the location of the tattoo. In the spaces under "Design", put in the letter that corresponds to the design of that tattoo. In the spaces under "Description" briefly describe the tattoo. (i.e. A 3" high tattoo of an anchor on the left upper arm is entered: 3 under "Location", "C" under "Designs", and "anchor" under "Description".)

68.

69.

VICTIM'S OUTSTANDING PHYSICAL FEATURES

70. Refers to permanent unusual physical features, such as missing digit, a glass eye, gravelly voice, obese, very short, etc. Behavioral characteristics such as "walking lightly" or "heavy breather" should not be reported here. If the victim had outstanding physical features report

them by checking "yes" and give a brief description in the space provided.

VICTIM'S CLOTHING

71. -72. These items are concerned with the way that the victim usually dressed. Do not surmise this from the victim's clothing at time of death. Answers other than 99 should be reported only when an acquaintance's description of usual attire is included in the case file.
- 72.
73. 74. These items apply only to victims who are missing unidentified.

74.

VICTIM'S BACKGROUND

75. Check only those sexual acts that can be reasonably surmised from the case file. For example, if the victim was a male prostitute who wore women's clothes, catered to male customers and had sexual relations with a live-in female friend, you would check "Bi-sexual, Prostitute, Promiscuous, and Transvestite".) If there is no mention of sexual history, check 99.
76. Self-explanatory.
77. -78. If the victim was employed, report his/her occupation in 77 and the employer and city where the victim worked in 78. If the victim had more than two jobs, write "cont. on back" and write them on the back.
- 78.
79. -80. If partial information regarding either occupation or employer is available, report the available information and place an "X" in the corresponding space for which no information is available.
- 80.
81. Report all Social Security numbers used by the victim. If it is known that one is correct, or is most likely to be correct, enter it in the first blank.

82. Self-explanatory.
83. If the dates of service are known, write in the year of entry and year of discharge in the appropriate space. If the dates of service are not known, "x" out this item.
84. Abuse consists of any pattern of use of any illegal drugs, a pattern of excessive use of prescription or O.T.C. drugs (i.e. exceeding medical guidelines for proper use), or a pattern of excessive use of alcohol (i.e. more than casual drinking).
- Check "No" only if it is stated in the case file that victim did not have a history of drug or alcohol abuse. If there is no mention of history of drug or alcohol abuse, check 99.
85. Use any source in the case file to obtain information for this item. For example a witness may report that the victim had been drinking heavily just prior to the incident. In this case "alcohol" would be checked. Check "Nothing" only if it is stated in the case file that the victim was definitely not under the influence of drugs or alcohol. If there is no mention of drug or alcohol intoxication or if there are conflicting accounts, check 99.
86. The definition of "subversive group or gang" is: Any group or gang that represent(s)(ed) itself as anti-police or anti-establishment or whose members regularly engage in unlawful activity as prt of gang business and/or lifestyle. (i.e., Symbionese Liberation Army, Bloods, Crips, Hells Angels, etc.)
- Check the most appropriate category and write in the specific name of the group or gang the offender was/is associated with. (i.e. If the offender was a member of a juvenile gang such as the Bloods, check "Youth" and write in "Bloods". If the offender was a member of the Hells Angels motorcycle gang, check "Motorcycle" and write in "Hells Angels". If he/she was a member of both gangs, fill in both categories.
- Prison should be checked only when the individual serves time in a state or federal facility and was a member of a prison gange during at least part of that time.

VICTIM'S CRIMINAL HISTORY

87. -94. A juvenile is less than 18 years old; an adult is 18 years or older. If the victim has a juvenile record, report all arrests in the spaces provided for 87, 88, 89 and 90.

If the victim has an adult record, report all arrests in the spaces provided for 91, 92, 93 and 94.

For items 88 and 91 in spaces under "Crime", report the common name of the crime from official records, not the penal code section (i.e. if the victim had been arrested for drunk driving, "D.W.I." would be the proper response, not R.C.W. 46.61.502). If the arrest was related to a domestic problem, enter "D.V." in parenthesis after the type of crime (i.e. if victim had been arrested for striking her husband with a towel, the proper response would be "simple assault (D.V.)".

If there are no reports of juvenile and adult criminal history in the case file, "x" out the numbers and leave the spaces blank.

Under 88 and 92 "Date", enter the month, day, and year of arrest.

Under 89 and 93 "City", enter in the city where the crime occurred.

Under 90 and 94 "State", enter in the state where the crime occurred.

88.  
89.  
90.  
91.  
92.  
93.  
94.  
95.

Use all numbers and letters without spaces to write the number.

OFFENDER INFORMATION

Offender is defined as and includes arrestee(s), perpetrator(s) or any all person the investigator has

reasonable cause to believe is responsible for or participates in the commission of the murder.

Types of individuals to be reported as offenders include, but are not limited to, those who actively participate in the murder, look-outs, "get-away" car drivers, the "employer" in a murder for hire scheme, and co-conspirators.

If there are multiple offenders, complete a separate H.I.T.S. "multiple offender supplement" for each additional offender.

96. Fill in as per directions in H.I.T.S. form. If 20 (Other family member), 29 (Casual acquaintance), or 88 (Other) is checked, provide a brief description in the appropriate space (i.e. 20 Other Family Member Uncle).
97. This item I.D.'s the particular offender for which the offender items will apply. Example: 02 of 04 offenders means that this is offender number 2 of 4 total offenders for this H.I.T.S. incident.
98. Check the item that best describes the status of the offender. Categories 6, 7, 8 and 9 refers only to arrests and charges for this murder incident.

"Unknown - not seen"--Any offender who is not known by name to the police and who was not reported to have been seen by any witness.

"Unknown - seen" -- Any offender who is not known by name to the police but who was reported to have been seen and described or partially described by a witness.

"Known to police, insufficient evidence" -- Any offender who is known by name to the police but legal probable cause to arrest him or her for this murder does not yet exist.

"Known to police, left area, police unable to locate" -- Any offender who is known by name to the police and who is known to have left the general area where the murder occurred and the police are not aware of the general area where he or she is currently located.

"Known, left area, police locate but do not pursue" -- Any offender who is known by name to police and who is

known to have left the general area where the crime occurred and the police are aware of at least the general area where he or she is located and they choose not to pursue the offender. (i.e. A named suspect in a Yakima murder is known to have fled to San Diego, California where his mother resides and the investigator makes no attempt to notify San Diego authorities, get arrest warrant, etc.)

"Arrested but not charged" -- Any offender who was arrested for this murder but the prosecutor did not file formal charges against him/her or prosecutor otherwise declines to prosecute prior to the start of trial.

"Charged but not arrested" -- Any offender who has murder charges filed against him or her in connection with this incident but the police have not yet taken him or her into custody.

"Charged awaiting trial" -- Any offender who has had formal charges filed against him or her, was arrested by the police, and whose case has yet to be resolved in the court system.

"Tried and convicted" -- Any offender who was formally adjudicated as guilty in connection with this murder. This includes guilty pleas as well as convictions at bar.

"Deceased at incident" -- Any offender who kills self at the crime scene. (Suicide at other locations would be reported in 13 "killed other".)

"Killed at or near scene by police" -- Any offender who is killed by law enforcement officers in the immediate proximity of crime scene or while fleeing the scene.

"Killed fleeing scene" -- Any offender who died while leaving the crime scene. (i.e. "12" Killed fleeing the scene in a Traffic Accident or Killed by witness in pursuit.)

"Was killed other" -- Any offender who is known by the police to have died by any means prior to having been adjudicated as guilty. Give brief description of circumstances of death (i.e. died by disease, killed in other incident).

"Other" -- Any offender whose status in the investigation does not fit any of the other 13 categories. Give a brief description.

99. If the offender has not been formally identified "x" out this item and leave the space blank. However, if only alias(es) or nicknames are known, record them in item 100.
100. Any and all aliases, nicknames, street names, gang names, etc. should be included. (i.e. if the co-conspirator in a commercial robbery refers to his partner as "Big Al", enter "Big Al".)
101. Self-explanatory.
102. If offender used multiple birth dates, include all of them. If the correct birth date is known, or one seems most likely accurate, place it in the first space. If no birth date is known, check 99.
103. If no exact age is given, use the following prioritized sources, for selecting an estimated age: 1) M.E. or coroner; 2) investigator; 3) witnesses. If unable to make an estimate, "x" out the item number.
104. Use the best information possible to determine the offender's race. If the race is not one of the five listed, check "other" (88) and write in the victim's race in the space provided. If you are uncertain of the offender's race, check 99.
105. If there is evidence that the offender has a specific ethnic background, write it in the space provided. This includes nationality (i.e. Jamaican, Greek, Irish, etc.).
106. -109. This item is the offender's permanent address at the time of the incident. If the offender had no permanent address, put "transient" in the space after 106 ("street") and enter the city, state and zip code in which the offender normally hung out in items 107 - 109. If the offender did not appear to be a transient, but there is no known address, enter "unknown" in item 106 and "X" out 107- 109.
- 107.
- 108.
- 109.

110. -113. Include most recent prior address first. Use same guidelines as those 106 - 109. If more room is needed, use the back of the page.
111.  
112.  
113.  
114. -116. Report all locations in the United States over 50 miles away from the offender's residence where he or she is known to have visited in the 5 years prior to the murder; include both city and state. If the city is unknown but the state is known, report the state and "X" out the city. Under "When" report month and year of the visit in 4 digit form (i.e. June 1980 should be reported as 06-80). If year only is known, write in the year only. If neither is known, "x" out item 116.
115.  
116.  
117. -119. Report all cities outside of the United States that the offender is known to have visited in the five years prior to the murder. If the nation is known but the city is not, report the nation and "X" out the city. Under "When", report the month and year of the visit in the same manner used in 116.
- For 114 through 119, do not include information already reported in "previous addresses".
118.  
119.

OFFENDER'S PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

- Use a hierarchy of best available sources for the information in this section. Autopsy reports and related documentation are 1; official documents such as drivers licenses or I.D. cards are 2; police officers are 3; family members or close personal friends are 4; and other witnesses are 5.
120. Self-explanatory.
121. This item refers to the physique of the victim regardless of height. For example, a 5 foot tall, 250 lb. male would be large.
122. Self-explanatory.
123. If the offender was completely bald or had a shaved head, check 1 only. If offender was balding, check 1 and

whatever number corresponds to the length of the remaining hair.

124. Hair shade refers to the shade of a particular color (i.e. light brown).
- 125.
126. Self-explanatory.
127. Report all types of eyewear the offender is known to wear including what was worn during crime. If the offender is not named but was seen by witnesses, report all variations of eyewear reported in the descriptions given.
128. If the offender is not named, but was seen by witness, report all variations in facial hair reported in the descriptions given. If a male offender had a few days growth but not a full mustache or beard, check 88 ("Other") and report it as "few days growth". If an offender had a full beard (including growth on upper lip) check both 2 ("Mustache") and 3 ("Beard")
129. The general overall appearance of offender at the time of the incident.
130. At the time of the incident.
131. -133. These items are not filled out when thge police immediately arrest the offender at the scene.
- 132.
- 133.

OFFENDER'S SCARS AND/OR BIRTHMARKS

134. Self-explanatory.
135. -136. Include all scars and/or birthmarks reported. In the spaces under "Location" put the number that corresponds to the location of the scar or birthmark followed by a brief description of it under "Description". If there is no information in the case file about scars-birthmarks, check 99. (i.e. "A 2" by 1" oval burn scar" on the chest would be reported as 3 under "location" and as a "2" by 1" oval burn scar" under "Description".)

136.

OFFENDER'S TATTOOS

137. Self-explanatory.

138. -140. Include all tattoos reported in the case file. In the spaces under "Location" put the number that corresponds to the location of the tattoo. In the spaces under "Design" put in the letter that corresponds to the design of that tattoo. In the spaces under "Description" briefly describe the tattoo. (i.e. A 3" high tattoo of an anchor on the left upper arm enter 2 under "Location", "C" under "Designs", and "anchor" under "Description".)

139.

140.

141. Refers to permanent unusual physical features, such as missing digit, a glass eye, gravelly voice, obese, very short, etc. Behavioral characteristics such as "walking lightly" or "heavy breather" should not be reported here. If the offender had outstanding physical features, after checking "yes", give a brief description in the space provided.

OFFENDER'S BACKGROUND

142. Check only those sexual acts that can be reasonably surmised from the case file. For example, if the victim was a male prostitute who wore women's clothes, catered to male customers and had sexual relations with a live-in female friend, you would check "Bi-sexual, Prostitute, Promiscuous, and Transvestite".) If there is no mention of sexual history, check 99.

143. If the case file contains reports or statements by family members, neighbors, or acquaintances of unusual behavior, or the case file contains records of treatment for any of these problems, include them here. If it is clear offender has no past history, check 1 (None); if it is unclear, check 99 (Unable to determine).

144. The definition of "subversive group or gang" is: Any group or gang that represent(s) itself as anti-police or anti-establishment or whose members regularly engage in unlawful activity as a part of gang business and/or lifestyle. (i.e., Symbionese Liberation Army, Bloods, Crips, Hells Angels, etc.)

Check the most appropriate category and write in the specific name of the group or gang the offender was/is associated with. (i.e. If the offender was a member of a juvenile gang such as the Bloods, check "youth" and write in "Bloods". If the offender was a member of the Hells Angels motorcycle gang, check "motorcycle" and write in Hells Angels. If he/she was a member of both gangs, fill in both categories.

Prison should be checked only when the individual serves time in a state or federal facility and was a member of a prison gang during at least part of that time.

145. Self-explanatory.
146. -147. If the offender was employed, report his/her occupation in 146 and the employer and city where the offender worked in 147. If the victim had more than two jobs, write "cont. on back" and write them on the back.
- 147.
148. -149. Follow the same procedures outlined for 146 and 147 only report last occupations.
- 149.
150. Report all Social Security numbers for the offender. List the most correct first.
151. Self-explanatory.
152. If the dates of service are known, write in the year of entry and year of discharge in the appropriate space. If the dates of service are not known, "x" out this item.
153. -160. A juvenile is less than 18 years old; an adult is 18 years or older. If the offender has a juvenile record, report all arrests in the spaces provided for 153, 154, 155 and 156.

If the offender has an adult record, report all arrests in the spaces provided for in 157, 158, 159 and 160.

For items 153 and 157 in spaces under "Crime", report the common name of the crime from official records, not the penal code section (i.e. if the offender had been arrested for drunk driving, "D.W.I." would be the proper

response, not R.C.W. 46.61.502). If the arrest was related to a domestic problem, enter "D.V." in parenthesis after the type of crime (i.e. if offender had been arrested for striking her husband with a towel, the proper response would be "simple assault (D.V.)".)

If there are no reports of juvenile and adult criminal history in the case file, "x" out the numbers and leave the spaces blank.

Under 154 and 158 "Date", enter the month, day, and year of arrest.

Under 155 and 159 "City", enter in the city where the crime occurred.

Under 156 and 160 "State", write in the state where the crime occurred.

154.  
155.  
156.  
157.  
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161.  
162.  
163.  
164.  
165.

-164. Self-explanatory.

A "yes" response indicates one of two types of situations: (1) a serial murderer who is charged with murder in another jurisdiction but he has not been arrested or cleared in this case (i.e. Bundy charged in Florida but not arrested in Washington), or (2) this case is a robbery-murder and the offender is charged with the robbery but not with murder.

166. Self-explanatory.

167. Use all numbers and letters without spaces to write the number.

168. -170. Report any crimes to which the offender confesses but has not been arrested for. (i.e. admits to committing a robbery in Spokane in June of 1986). Report the type of crime, city and state in which it occurred, and date in the spaces provided.

169.  
170.

VEHICLE INFORMATION

171. A vehicle is considered to have been used if: 1) any offender utilizes the vehicle to approach the victim and/or the location of contact with the victim; 2) any offender utilized the vehicle to flee the contact, assault, release, death or body disposal site; 3) the vehicle was utilized as a weapon to assault the victim; 4) the vehicle was utilized by the offender to transport the victim at any time after initial contact; or 5) the vehicle was the initial contact, assault, held captive, death or body disposal site.
172. -173. Self-explanatory.  
173.
174. Use D.O.L. information, or information from face sheets and witnesses' reports to obtain this information. Report the age of the vehicle at the time when the crime occurred. Vehicles 0-3 years old are newer/late models, 4-7 years old are 4 to 7 years old, 8 years and older are older models.
175. This item is concerned with who owned the vehicle. If any offender owned the vehicle, check 1. If a victim was the owner, check 2.
- A "borrowed" vehicle is one that is registered to neither the offender nor the victim and is not stolen. If the vehicle had been borrowed by the offender or was driven at the time by a friend of the offender, check 3. If the vehicle had been borrowed by or was driven by a friend of the victim, check 4.
- A "stolen" vehicle is one that is registered to neither an offender nor a victim, and neither had the owner's permission to use the vehicle.
176. -181. Self-explanatory.  
177.  
178.  
179.  
180.

181. Use only D.O.L. records and officers' reports for this item.
182. Self-explanatory.
183. If vehicle has only one color, write the color in both spaces. If the vehicle was a pick-up truck with camper shell, enter color of shell in space for "top". If three color car, enter top color first, then middle color, then bottom color. If more than 3 colors, enter "multi-color".
184. Self-explanatory.
185. Include any unusual features of vehicle such as pin striping, decals, mag wheels, missing a bumper, cracked windshield, etc.
186. -209. If additional vehicles were used report the pertinent information in items 186 - 209 follow the same directions above as for vehicle 1 items 174 - 185.
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188.  
189.  
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207.  
208.  
209.

IF MORE THAN 3 VEHICLES WERE USED, RECORD INFORMATION PERTAINING TO ITEMS 200-204 AND OWNER INFORMATION, FOR ADDITIONAL VEHICLES ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF PAGE.

210. -213. If any vehicle was used in any of the ways delineated in 210-213, indicate which vehicle by checking the appropriate space.
211.  
212.  
213.

OFFENSE M.O.

OFFENDER'S APPROACH

214. -219. This item applies only to communications for the apparent purpose of taunting, threatening, teasing, ransoming, extorting, gaining publicity, etc. (i.e. Examples are: (1) Unknown offender writes to a newspaper informing them that "Zodiac" shot the victim, and others will be similarly assassinated. (2) Offender says he will kill wife is she tries to leave. When she tries to leave her father is present and the offender kills the father. (3) Hate group states they will kill the next "cop" that hassles them. Subsequently a member of the group kills a police officer.)
215.  
216.  
217.  
218.  
219.  
220. Prior conflicts are negative interactions more serious than the minor disagreements that occur regularly in most individuals lives..
- Number 88, "Other conflicts" includes such things as verbal altercations, arguments, business disputes, etc. If there were "Other conflicts", check number 88 and specify the nature of the conflict in space provided.
221. The offender's approach to the victim is the initial contact in the chain of events that led to the victim's death. If a victim and offender had known each other for three years when the offender shot the victim, the specific approach that led directly to the assault is reported here. (i.e. Husband immediately assaults wife

would be number 4.) Whenever categories 1, 2 or 3 are not appropriate, check category 4. Thus, conflicts that escalate to murder should be reported as 4.

222. This item applies only if answer 2 in question 221 was checked.
223. This item applies only if answer 3 in question 221 was checked. If the offender laid in wait, bided his time until victim went to sleep and then attacked the victim check the appropriate category - 1 and 4.
224. This item applies only if answer 4 in question 221 was checked. It applies to the first and only the first assaultive act. Thus, any assaultive acts after initial contact should not be reported here.
225. Describe what the victim was doing at the time of initial contact with the offender or when last seen (i.e. dancing at disco, walking down street).
226. Use any source to obtain information for this item. For example, a witness reports that the offender had been drinking heavily just prior to the incident. In this case 1 (alcohol) is checked. If there is no mention of drug or alcohol intoxication or if there are conflicting accounts, check 99.

#### EVENTS AT ASSAULT SITE

227. "Disable" includes cutting lines, shutting off power sources, ripping phones from wall, turning off alarm, etc.
228. "Ransacked" means an offender vigorously searches any portion of the location and in the process significantly displaced items in the area in which the search was conducted, or if an officer says the location had been ransacked in a report.
- "Vandalized" means an offender purposefully destroyed or damaged any property and the damage was not caused in the immediate process of the assault. Or, if an officer says the location had been vandalized in a report. Items damaged in a fight should not be included here. If tables and chairs were broken in a struggle, this would not be checked. (See "Disturbed" below.)

"Burned" should be checked when any property was burned, whether it appeared that the fire was set purposely or by accident.

"Undisturbed" is defined as no remarkable disruption of the normal state of order for that site. If the assault site was a drug "shooting gallery" strewn with needles and other drug paraphernalia, enter "undisturbed" because this is the normal state of order for such a location.

"Disturbed" is defined as some remarkable disruption of the normal state of order and the disruption was not the result of ransacking, acts of vandalism, or fire. Such disruption could have been either intentional or unintentional. This refers only to disruption caused by things other than victim's or suspect's blood or other body tissue, bullet holes, etc. that were simply "messy" results of the assault. However, if the victim struggled with the offender and in the process tables, lamps, chairs, tree branches, etc. were knocked over or broken, enter "disturbed".

If the evidence in the case file is insufficient to draw a conclusion about the state of order, enter "Unable to determine".

229. Destroying or attempting to destroy evidence is wiping up blood, burning down the building in which the assault took place, etc. (other than hiding victim's body) that were done by the offender or an accomplice.

#### GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

If the location is not a street address, enter best possible description of location, i.e. 1800 block Dravus, woods to north of 57th street and east of 19th Avenue, etc.

230. -234 Enter the location that any official document or person, other than the offender, reported that the victim was last heard from or seen alive. This can include overhearing conversations, conversations on telephones, etc.
231.  
232.  
233.  
234.

235. -239. The victim/body recovery site is the location where police, medics, or witnesses find the victim dead or alive, prior to transportation to a medical facility or morgue. For example, if a living victim is found shot outside a bar, transported to a hospital for treatment, and dies enroute or at the hospital, the body recovery site is the bar, not the hospital. If the body recovery site and last known location are the same, write "same" across 235-239.

236.  
237.  
238.  
239.  
240.

241. -256. If the type of location for a given site is not listed, enter the number that corresponds to "other" and write a description in the space.

For example, if the initial contact site was a book store, since it is a business but is not an option listed under "business", enter 24 after "initial contact site" and enter "book store" in the space.

For items 249-256 an additional 36 types of locations are provided that do not fit into any of the categories listed for items 241-248. (i.e. The initial contact site was a gas station parking lot. You would answer 242 "12" and 253 "18". If the initial contact site was a beach or marina, "X" out 241 and answer 253 "32".

If the type of location doesn't appear in either list "X" out the proper number 241 - 248 and, enter 88 and write the description in the space provided after the site location for proper number 249 - 256.

242.  
243.  
244.  
245.  
246.  
247.  
248.  
249.

If the type of location is unclear from the case file, place 99 in the appropriate space.

250.

251.  
252.  
253.  
254.  
255.  
256.

257. If the victim was homeless, check "no".

258. -265. Self-explanatory.  
259.  
260.  
261.  
262.  
263.  
264.  
265.

266. If the point of entry was established, check the appropriate response category and write a brief description of the location and method (i.e. 1) kicked in front door or smashed bedroom window; 2) climbed in open window or used pass key on rear door).

267. -280. Self-explanatory.

268.  
269.  
270.  
271.  
272.  
273.  
274.  
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280.

281. -285. These items are distance estimates. For distances under 1/4 mile, use approximate number of feet. Above 1/4 mile, use 1/4 mile increments up to 1 mile. From 1 mile to 30 miles, use mile increments. Above 30 miles use mileage charts.

If any two sites are on the same premises (i.e. in a residence or an office, etc.) the distance is "0".

282.  
283.  
284.  
285.

286. "Openly displayed" means that the offender purposely left the body in a location that would likely result in its discovery (i.e. suspect kidnaps and kills victim, then at 0300 hours dumps the body in the parking lot of a business that he knows will open at 0800).
287. "Yes" is checked wherever evidence suggests that the body was placed in a position that a dead body would not normally end up in as a result of death or being dumped (i.e. legs spread and knees to chest, hanging upside-down from ligature on feet) or when the body is left in a position to communicate a message to authorities or others (i.e. in a serial murder situation all victims positioned with head pointing north). A body found in a position due to concealment efforts is not staged.

OFFENDER'S WRITING OR CARVING ON BODY

288. Refers to any type of writing or carving apparently done by the offender or at his command. Thus, tattoos do not apply. The writing or carving does not have to be readily recognized as symbolic. Thus, a line of lipstick from the wrist to elbow should be reported here.

Carvings do not include stabbing or cutting wounds inflicted as part of the assault, unless the evidence indicates that such stabbing or cutting was clearly beyond that usually involved in a knife attack. (i.e. Offender puts knife in above victim's knee and pulls it up to mid-thigh while victim is lying on back.)

289. Self-explanatory.

OFFENDER'S WRITING OR DRAWING AT CRIME SCENE

290. Refers to any type of writing or carving not on the victim's body, apparently done by the offender or at his command at any of the crime scenes. Thus, pre-existing writing not done by the offender, such as graffiti, does not apply unless known to be related to crime (i.e. gang writings).
291. Self-explanatory.

SYMBOLIC ARTIFACTS AT SCENE

292. Self-explanatory.

BODY DISPOSITIONCONDITION OF VICTIM WHEN FOUND

293. -295. Self-explanatory.

294.

295.

296. Applies only if the body had been put in a body of water (includes swimming pools), "x" out if the body was not placed in the water.

297. This refers to those characteristics present at the time the body was discovered that could assist with identification, whether or not they were in fact used in the identification process.

"Unidentifiable" means that no characteristics were present (e.g. a skeleton minus head with no known defects or old injuries).

298. "Anonymous" means that an unknown individual informed the police that he/she either had knowledge that a crime had been committed at a particular location and the police determined that a homicide had occurred, or that the individual had knowledge of the location of a body.

RESTRAINTS USED ON VICTIM

299. The use of restraints refers to extremities only. Thus, if the victim had a rope wound 3 coils around his torso, this is not considered "bound". However, if the victim's arms were secured to his torso with the same 3 coils this would be considered "bound".

If reports indicate that the victim was not bound, check "No".

If reports are not clear as to the use of restraints, check "Unable to determine" (99).

If the body was bound, check all items that were used to restrain the victim. (i.e. If the victim was handcuffed

at the wrists and her legs were tied together with a belt, you would check 20 (handcuffs) and 17 (belt).

If reports indicate that restraints had been used but it is unclear what was used, check 88 ("other") and write "unclear" in the space provided.

300. If victim was not bound, "x" out this item.
301. If victim was not bound, check 1 (None).
302. This refers to clearly excessive use of restraints, such as using more than one restraint per limb bound or any type of binding that was clearly more than what would be required to control the movement of the victim (i.e. victim is handcuffed, arms are bound to torso with rope, and arms are bound together with wire).
- "Hog tying" where hands and feet are bound together does not, in itself, constitute excessive binding.
303. This item refers to any type of binding of the victim to another person or object (e.g., victim's legs are tied to a log).
304. Report any and all foreign objects that were placed in or over victim's mouth whether or not the object was in the victim's mouth at time of body discovery. This does not include incidental insertion of object into mouth during assault (i.e. in stabbing frenzy victim is stabbed in the mouth, victim is shot in face 4 times, one of the bullets enters the mouth, etc.) Nor does it include the offenders penis if the victim is forced to perform oral sex on the offender.
305. -306. Self-explanatory.
- 306.

CLOTHING AND PROPERTY OF VICTIM

307. "Fully dressed" means that all clothes that would normally be worn by the victim in a particular setting were on the victim when found. For example, if the victim was found on the beach clothed only in a swimsuit, this body is classified as fully dressed.

"Undressed from the waist down" means that clothes normally worn below the waist were not on the victim's body, but clothes normally worn above the waist were; the clothes were intentionally pulled down from their normally worn location, but were still on the victim's body; or, if a skirt was worn, the bottom was placed above the groin area and/or undergarments were either missing or pulled down.

"Undressed, from waist up" means that clothes normally worn above the waist were not on the victim's body, but clothes normally worn below the waist were; the bottom of the apparel was intentionally placed above the xyphoid process, or if a bra was still on a female victim, that it was not secured in a normal manner (i.e. it was above or below the breasts or open at the front).

"Nude" means that the victim was found with no clothes on.

If the victim was clothed in any other type of arrangement check 88 ("other"), and describe the manner of dress in the space provided. (i.e. If a victim was found wearing only shoes and socks, check 88 and write in "shoes and socks only". If a victim was found wearing a business suit with no shoes and socks, check 88 and write in "no shoes or socks".)

308. Self-explanatory.

309. -310. Refers to manual ripping or purposeful cutting by offender. Cuts and rips that occurred due to knife or gunshot wounds, etc. do not fall into this category. Also, cuts made by medical personnel do not fall into this category.

310.

311. Refers to items that would normally be worn by the victim.
312. This item is concerned with clothing worn by the victim at the time of initial contact with the offender and was not on the victim's body or at the body recovery site at the time of discovery.
313. "Small personal items" are things other than clothing that would be worn or carried by the victim, (i.e. wallet, purse, watch etc.). (If a purse or other bag was taken that contained items normally found in a purse, check "yes" and write "purse with miscellaneous contents" in the blank provided.)
314. For distance use guidelines for items 281-285.
315. -319. These items are concerned with clothing that was not on the victim's body at the time of discovery.
- Under clothing items, "Other" includes pieces of cloth not identifiable as a particular type of clothing.
- Item 319 is concerned with who the clothing belonged to. "V" is for victim, "O" is for offender, "P" is for another person.
- 316.
- 317.
- 318.
- 319.
320. -321. Self-explanatory.
- 321.
322. Include credit card numbers, account numbers, serial number, I.D. number, etc.
323. -325. Self-explanatory.
- 324.
- 325.

MEDICAL EXAMINER/CORONER FINDINGS

326. This refers to the classification reported on the death certificate. If the death certificate is not in the case file or if there is no classification on the death certificate, check 6 ("Classification not in file").

327. This refers to the manner in which police handled the initial investigation of the death.
- If it is obvious from the case file that the original investigators treated the death as a suicide and not as a murder, check 2.
328. Refers to the classification reported by the medical examiner or coroner. If there is no coroner/M.E. classification, then check 6 ("Classification not in file").
329. Self-explanatory.
330. Check "Yes" if there is any documentation indicating that an autopsy was performed. This includes, but is not limited to, autopsy reports, autopsy photos, an investigator's notes that he/she attended an autopsy, etc.
- Check "No" only if documentation in the case file specifically states that no autopsy was done.
- Check "unable to determine" if there is no documentation either way.
- If "No" was checked for item 330, "X" out item 331.
331. This refers to the written documentation from the individual or office which performed the autopsy, not photos, that reports on a post-mortem examination.
332. If any autopsy report was in the file, this item refers to the official title of the individual who signed it. If not an M.E. or coroner, it could be "pathologist" "M.D." etc.
333. Check "yes" if autopsy photos are in the case file or if there is documentation which reports that photos had been taken.
- Check "no" only if documentation indicates that an autopsy was performed but no photos were taken.
334. If evidence suggests that procedures and/or protocol were undertaken, check all appropriate categories. The can come from the M.E. records, officer's reports, evidence logs, etc.

335. Self-explanatory.
336. If evidence in the case file indicates that toxicology tests were performed, check the relevant items, 2 or 3, corresponding to the type of test done and list the results in the space provided. If a test other than a drug screening or blood alcohol test was performed, check 4 and write a brief description of the type of test in the space provided after item "4". If evidence indicates that a toxicological test(s) was done, but there is no indication of the type of test, provided, check 4 and write "unknown" in the space provided. Other analyses can include tests for poison.
337. "Important evidence" is defined as evidence that leads to the identification of the offender(s) or that provides information to the investigator that would not have been discovered via other means (i.e. physical evidence such as bullets or trace evidence, or circumstantial evidence such as body position during assault which refuted a self-defense theory).

#### CAUSE OF DEATH

338. This is the stated cause of death on the autopsy report. Note that 21 "Undetermined" is a classification of death. 99 "Unable to determine" means that there was no Medical Examiner's or Coroner's official classification listed in the case file.
339. If a statement by the offender is not in the case file, "X" out this item; otherwise, this item is concerned with generalities. Does the statement generally coincide with the results of the autopsy or not. Minor discrepancies do not matter; major ones do. (i.e. If offender said "I shot him in the chest" and the autopsy discloses that the victim was shot in the stomach, it would "substantiate" the statement. However, if the offender said "I shot him in the chest when he lunged at me with a baseball bat" and the autopsy discloses that the victim was shot in the back while lying on the floor, it would refute the statement.)

#### TRAUMA

340. This item is concerned with the locations of all injuries directly or indirectly inflicted by the actions of the offender. (i.e. Victim is shot through the head from

right to left, check "Head - right side"; victim is thrown off a cliff suffering massive head wounds, bruises on the abdomen, chest, back and arms, check all relevant locations 1-7 and "Abdomen," "Chest", "Back", and "Arms".)

341. Self-explanatory.
342. -343. Use the autopsy report to garner this information. If there is no autopsy report. Check the primary investigator's follow-up and the incident report. If the information is not in any of these reports, "X" out these items (342-344).
- To differentiate stab from cutting wounds, count all wounds produced by a sharp object as a stab wound unless autopsy report describes it as a cutting wound. If a stab wound is specifically identified as an exit wound, do not count it.
- 343.
344. -345. Self-explanatory.
- 345.
346. "Location"-- Use the locations from item 340. (i.e. If victim shot in neck, write in "11".)
347. "Number of Wounds" -- The number of entry wounds in that location.
348. "Range" -- Place appropriate letter from list in space. The range of the shot may be determined from information besides the autopsy such as crime lab and officers' reports. If there is information that states the approximate range, use the following guidelines to select the proper response category: Close is less than 18" but not contact; intermediate is 18" to 48"; and distant is over 48".
349. "Cal/Gauge" -- The caliber of the weapon used. (i.e. .38) If a shotgun was used, enter in the gauge. (i.e. .12) If this information is not known, place an "X" in the space.
350. "No. of Grooves" is the number of grooves left on the projectile by the rifling of the weapon. If information is not available or if weapon apparently had no rifling, place an "X" in the space.

351. "Twist R/L" -- The direction, right or left, of the twist engraved on the projectile from the rifling of the weapon.
352. "Bullet weight/Shot size" -- If the projectile(s) was shot or a slug fired from a shotgun, write in the size of the shot or enter "slug" (i.e. 00 buck, bird shot, No.4 buck, slug, etc.) If a bullet is determined by a crime lab to be a specific weight (i.e. 158 grains), write 158 grains in the space. If the information is unknown or not in the case file, place an "x" in the space.

ELEMENTS OF TORTURE OR UNUSUAL ASSAULT

353. Self-explanatory.
354. Applies only to injuries that were inflicted as part of torture or unusual assault. Use offender's confession (if caught), M.E. reports, and investigator's conclusions to make this determination.
355. Refers to apparently intentional dismemberment, other than that incidental to assault (i.e. if the victim is thrown from a cliff and is decapitated by a tree limb, the injury would not be reported here.)
356. Self-explanatory.
357. Use offender's confession (if caught), M.E. reports, and investigator's conclusions to make this determination.

SEXUAL ASSAULT

358. Sexual organs are the male and female genitalia. Body cavities are the anus, mouth, nostrils and auditory canal. Check "Yes" only if it appears that an assault was intentionally directed at a sexual organ or body cavity and if the assault was sexual in nature. Any incidental damage to a sexual organ or body cavity should be answered "No". (i.e. Multiple projectiles from a distant shot gun blast to the head enter the mouth and nostrils is a "No".)

However, if the offender clearly intended to harm sexual organs or assault a body cavity in a sexual manner, "Yes" should be checked. (i.e. Placing penis in victim's mouth, placing a foreign object in victim's mouth and either making sexually oriented comments or apparently treating

the object as a phallic symbol by specific movements, etc.)

359. This refers to the individuals (or officers) in the case file who report that a sexual assault occurred. Check a category only if that person (or office) explicitly stated that a sexual assault took place. If the M.E.'s report states only that semen was found in victim's vagina, this is not enough to warrant checking the M.E. category, as the semen could be present as the result of prior consensual intercourse.

360. Self-explanatory.

361. Applies only to semen found inside victim's body cavities. Do not report any semen found that was not a result of the sexual assault (i.e. victim had semen from prior consensual sexual act).

362. This refers to any semen found during the investigation that was not in one of the victim's body cavities.

"On body of victim" -- Any semen found on the outside of the victim's body (i.e. skin, in hair, etc.)

"On the offender" -- Any semen that was determined to have been ejaculated during the crime that was found on the person of the offender. This includes the offender's clothes, jewelry etc.

"Elsewhere at scene" -- Any semen found at any of the locations (i.e. initial contact, held captive, body recovery, etc.) that was not on the offender or victim. This would include victim's clothes, personal effects, inside vehicles, on ground, in bushes, etc. If this category is checked, first write in location found, then a brief description of where it was at that location. (i.e., Initial contact, on pavement outside victim's car; body recovery, on bush next to victim's body.

363. Use offender's confession (if caught), M.E. reports, and investigator's conclusions to make this determination.
364. "Sexual insertion" is the placing of any non-human (or dead human) object into victim's vagina and/or anus (i.e. bone, broom stick, etc.) or placing any non-human (or dead human) object into other orifices or portions of victim's body in a manner that clearly connotes some sexual overtone. (i.e. Offender stabbed victim in chest and inserted a dildo; offender confessed, or witness said that offender placed bottle in victim's mouth and stated "suck this bitch, you know you like it" etc.). If "yes" is checked for this item, report pertinent details in either (or both) item 365 or 366.
365. -366. Self-explanatory.
- 366.

BITE MARKS

367. -368. Use only Medical Examiner reports and investigator's conclusions to obtain information for these items.
- 368.

FORENSIC EVIDENCEWEAPONS

For items 369 - 380, include all weapons used by any offender in this case either to attack victim or induce fear for safety. For example, if a knife was shown to victim to gain compliance, but victim was not stabbed, the knife is considered to have been "used".

369. Self-explanatory.
370. Include all weapons used by victim in attempts to escape and/ or defend against any offender.
371. This item is concerned with characteristics of the weapon(s) used by the offender(s). The first four categories focus on how the offender obtained the weapon. Categories 5 - 7 focus on the status of the weapon (was it recovered by police or not?). Category 8 is concerned with whether or not the offender used physical force against the victim. (Physical force here is limited to the use of the offender's head, hands and/or feet to strike, slap, kick, choke, throw, etc. the victim.)

Check the categories that are applicable for the victim reported on this and each subsequent H.I.T.S. "victim supplementary" form. For example, if two offenders assaulted the victim in his apartment with a kitchen knife from the victim's kitchen and a bat brought by one offender, threw him out of the 5th floor window of his apartment, left the knife at the scene which was recovered by the police, and fled with the bat (which was never recovered), you should check the following categories: 1 ("weapon belongs to victim"); 2 ("weapon of opportunity") as the knife belonged to the victim and it was found by offender at scene; 3 (weapon pre-selected") as the bat was brought to the scene by one of the offenders; 5 ("weapon recovered at scene") as the

knife was recovered by the police in victim's apartment; 7 ("weapon not located") as the bat was not recovered; and 8 ("weapon was physical force") as the offenders threw the victim out the window.

372. Self-explanatory.
373. Self-explanatory.
374. Self-explanatory.
375. This item is concerned only with the use of a ligature to strangle victim. If victim's hands were bound with a belt, this is not reported here.
376. This item is concerned with any characteristic of a weapon used in the assault that would make it or them readily recognizable and/or stand out from other weapons. (i.e. Pearl handled revolvers, samurai sword, knife with initials "B.W." etched in handle, Louisville Slugger ball bat, etc.)
377. -379. Items 377 - 379 are concerned with any and all firearms that were discharged in this case, whether or not the projectile(s) struck anyone. Be sure to include any information previously reported in 345 - 352. Information for the murder weapon should always be reported as gun 1. If bullets from more than one firearm struck the victim, report the information about these weapons as gun 1, 2 and 3 etc. If more than four firearms were used, write "continued" after item 379 and report additional firearms on the back of the page as firearm 5, 6, 7 etc.
- 378.
- 379.
380. Self-explanatory.

BLOOD TYPE

381. Use only official reports such as crime lab, or information obtained from donor card.
382. -385. Self-explanatory.
- 383.
- 384.
- 385.

EVIDENCE RECOVERED AND EVIDENCE SENT TO LAB

386. This item is concerned with any items that were recovered by police at any sites and subsequently placed into evidence. (Crime scenes include victim's person.)
- If the item fits into categories 4 - 9, write in a brief description of the evidence in the blank following the category (i.e., if 3 hairs were recovered from the victim's right thigh, submitted to the crime lab, and the lab I.D.'s them as caucasian pubic hairs, check 4 and write in "3 caucasian pubic" in the blank provided.)
387. This item is concerned with specialy trained personnel called in by the investigator to assist with or perform processing at any crime scene sites.
- "Evidence Technician" is any individual employed by a law enforcement agency (either sworn or civilian) who has received specialized training in processing crime scenes but is not deployed out of a crime or fingerprint lab. (See below.)
- "Crime Lab" refers to personnel working out of a crime lab (sworn or civilian) whose job it is to collect and/or examine evidence.
- "Fingerprint Lab" refers to print lab personnel (sworn or civilian) whose job it is to collect and or examine fingerprints.
- "Other" includes any other person (sworn or civilian) employed by a law enforcement agency who assists with the processing of the crime scene. Examples of other evidence personnel would be "Green River Task Force", "F.B.I. Agent", Fire Marshal etc.
388. Include all evidence submitted for examination whether or not it was explicitly stated that it was going to a "crime lab". If the investigator stated that he "submitted a handgun for forensic evaluation" but did not say to whom, you should still check 6 ("weapons").
389. Self-explanatory.
390. If all evidence was submitted before the offender was identified, only 2 should be checked. However, if some

evidence was submitted after I.D. and some after he was charged, you should check both 3 and 5. Check all time frames during which evidence was submitted.

391. If all the evidence was completed before the offender was identified, only 2 should be checked. However, if some evidence was completed after I.D. and some after he was charged, you should check both 3 and 5. Check all time frames during which evidence preprocessing was completed.
392. 7 ("S.O.P.") should be checked whenever evidence is submitted. Categories 2 - 6 should only be checked when it is explicitly stated in the case file that evidence was submitted for these specific purposes (i.e., investigator reports that hair samples were submitted in order to eliminate several suspects.)
393. "Yes" should be checked only when it is explicitly stated that an unidentified offender is I.D.'ed from evidence submitted for examination by a crime lab.
394. For 2 (fingerprints)  
 M=Manual identification and A=AFIS (computerized). (i.e. If an offender was I.D.'ed through manual fingerprint identification, check 2 and M.)
395. This item is concerned with whether or not evidence submitted to the crime lab was helpful in resolving this case.  
 "Probable cause" should be checked whenever the results of the lab exam/analysis provided investigators with p.c. to obtain a search warrant or arrest the offender (even if an arrest is not made).  
 "Confession" should be checked whenever the offender confesses to participation in the murder after investigators or others make the results of lab work known to the offender.  
 "Prosecution" should be checked whenever the results of lab work provide the prosecutor with evidence that strengthens the case against the offender.  
 "Other" should be checked whenever lab results assist in resolution of the case in some other way. Write a brief

description of the type of assistance in the space provided.

If submission of evidence had no impact on the case check "other" and write "no impact" in space provided.

396. -398. Under "Evidence item #" use the same numeric or alpha-numeric identifier used by the investigator (or whoever submitted the evidence) to identify the item on the evidence reports in the case file. That is, on the evidence report investigator Joe West uses "JW1", "JW2", etc. to identify items 1, 2, etc. which he submits as evidence. The medical examiner may use ME1", ME2", etc.

397.  
398.

#### INVESTIGATIVE PROCEDURES

399. This item focuses on the lead or primary investigator in the case; it is likely this will be the individual who was named as the case investigator at the beginning of the H.I.T.S. form.

"Homicide Detective" is any detective who is assigned to handle only homicides and/or major crimes.

"Patrol Officer" is any officer whose primary assignment is uniformed patrol.

"Other detective" is any other detective who is not a homicide detective but may have general investigative responsibilities.

400. -406. Self-explanatory.  
401.  
402.  
403.  
404.  
405.  
406.

407. This item is concerned with whether or not the investigator's own department had previous contact with the offender and whether or not the investigator checked department records/information system to see if previous contact had occurred.

"Identity or information" includes any official record, including arrest reports, booking photos, fingerprints, a witness or victim in a crime report, field interview reports, traffic citation, etc. which contains information regarding offender and/or the offenders I.D.

You may have to check the actual date the records were checked against the date the offender was identified to establish timing for 1 vs. 2.

408. This item is concerned with whether or not teletypes were sent to other agencies advising them of information pertaining to the crime and/or requesting information/assistance. Any number of teletypes of this nature, even one, qualifies as a "yes".

409. This item is concerned with how helpful the teletype(s) were in assisting with the investigation.

"Helpful" information is any information that assisted in the identification, apprehension, and/or prosecution of any offender or information which helped to eliminate any suspect from consideration as an offender or which helped I.D. an unidentified dead body.

410. "Contact" means any correspondence or conversation between any investigator working the case and employees of any other agency. This includes requests for assistance at crime scene searches, evidence processing, fingerprint search, profiling, record checks, etc.

8 ("Drug Enforcement Unit") includes any and all federal, state, or local law enforcement groups whose primary job is to investigate drug or drug related crime (i.e., D.E.A., S.P.D. narcotics division, etc.).

10 ("Prosecuting Attorney") is limited to assistance provided prior to the case submission for prosecution (i.e., assistance in obtaining a warrant, assistance with an extradition, legal advice, etc.). Thus, if all the prosecutor's office did was file charges and prosecute the case in court, 10 should not be checked.

411. This item is concerned with unsolicited information that either reactivated an inactive case or provided information that led to the I.D. of the offender. For example, Yakima P.D. calls S.P.D. and says "John Doe just said he killed a whore last week" and it turns out that

he was the killer in a case with no previously named suspect. San Diego P.D. calls King County P.D. and says "We arrested a guy for rape down here and served a warrant on his car. In it, we found a 1980 Washington driver's license of Jane Smith with blood on it". It turns out that Jane Smith was killed in 1983, and the case was never solved.

412. -414.  
413.  
414.

415. If contact had been made, check "Yes" and specify the details of the contact in the blanks provided starting with 416 - 419:

416. In blanks under 416, enter the agency of officer making contact (i.e. Yakima S.O.).

417. In blanks under 417, enter the date of the contact (i.e. 06-08-85).

418. In blanks under 418, enter the location of the contact (i.e., Grandview). If the contact was not in Washington state, be sure to include the two letter abbreviation of the state (i.e. Sacramento, CA).

419. In blanks under 419, enter the reason that the officer had contacted the offender (i.e., traffic stop, area canvass, etc.).

If more than four contacts were made, report them on the back of the page.

420. This item is concerned with how the police came to know who the offender was. If only one category is applicable, simply place a 1 in the blank preceding that item. If more than one category assisted in developing the I.D., rank them in importance by numbering the categories with 1 being "most important". For example, if an eyewitness provided a detailed description of the offender to the police, the police traced latent prints to an offender, the police arrested him and a witness picked him from a line-up, and the offender confessed after police told him of prints and eyewitness I.D., 1 would be placed in category 13, "From physical evidence", 2 in category 11, "Eyewitness positively I.D.'s", and 3 in category 7 "Offender confessed to police". If you

feel that 2 or more categories are of equal importance, then assign them the same number.

421. -422. Self-explanatory.

422.

423. This item is concerned with the timing of the I.D. of the offender in relationship to the status of the investigation.

1 "Not involved" should be checked in situations where the offender (or a third party) informs the police that a crime had occurred and provides the offender's name to the police prior to any other notification of the crime or when the offender is arrested at/or fleeing the crime scene by patrol officers. For example, Joe calls police and says "My name is Joe and I just shot my wife". Jane calls police and says "Last week, my boyfriend Joe killed a little girl and dumped her in a ravine near Kent", and the call is the first information that the police had about the young girl's death.

2 "Actively pursuing leads...would have lead to I.D." should be checked when the investigator(s) were following a trail of evidence that you believe would allow the police to find the I.D. of the offender. For example, police had partial plate from offender's vehicle and a good physical description which they had sent via teletype. As they were searching D.O.L. records, offender confesses or someone snitches him off.

Also check this category whenever the investigator(s) discovered the offender's I.D. through the course of the investigation. (i.e. Offender is I.D.'ed due to prints on murder weapon. Officers arrest offender fleeing the scene, etc.)

3 "Actively pursuing leads ...would not have lead to I.D." should be checked when the investigator(s) obtain I.D. of offender in spite of fact that the leads which they were pursuing would not lead to the I.D. of the offender. (i.e. Police have no good leads when offender comes forth and confesses; police have focused effort on Joe when Jane rolls over on Jim, who was never considered as a suspect by investigators.)

4 "Not pursuing leads" should be checked any time that it is clear investigative activity had ceased or the

investigator had inactivated the case. (i.e. The case file indicates that on 9-1-84 the investigator interviewed the victim's brother. There is no evidence of any activity on the case until 3-2-85, when the victim's neighbor walks into a police station and confesses.)

424. The first investigative activity will always be the first police response to a report from officer(s) or civilian(s) that a major crime occurred or when any police officer suspects that a minor incident was in fact a major crime. For example, patrol officers respond to a radio call of a knife fight. Upon arrival they find a severely injured woman with a stab wound in the chest. The officers secure the scene and call for medical assistance. The woman dies 6 days later in the hospital. The date to be recorded should be the date of the stabbing, not the day of death.

On 5-6-83 Mom reports Mary, a 6 year old, as missing. Officer Jones takes a missing person report and no other action is taken. On 6-8-83 Mary is found dead in a ravine near Kent. A homicide investigation starts. In this case the date should be 6-8-83, the date the body was recovered.

On 5-6-83 Dad reports Dan, a 6 year old, as missing. Officer Smith takes a report, interviews neighbors, teachers at school, and playmates. A neighbor reports that she saw Dan get into a car with an unknown male at 1200 on 5-6-83. Officer Smith notifies major crimes who then take over and send teletypes etc. Several other activities are reported in the case file from 5-6-83. On 6-8-83 Dan is found dead in a ravine near Redmond. In this case the date recorded should be 5-6-83, the day the police were first notified as the case was treated as a major crime from the first.

425. The last investigative entry is the day an investigator either inactivates a case, or is the date for the last activity in open and closed cases.
426. This refers to any investigative activity done by any sworn police officer who had the responsibility for, or who shared in the investigation of this case. The time clock begins at the first investigative activity. In addition, any activity undertaken at any of the crime scenes by civilian personnel at the direction of sworn

personnel should be included. The critical thing to capture in this item is activities completed, not people doing them. Thus, if it took 5 officers to "secure a crime scene", the "securing" would be reported as a single activity. Continuous actions, such as the processing of a crime scene, should be recorded as a single activity. However, if there is processing done at more than one crime scene, each scene processed counts as a separate activity. Each witness interviewed counts as a separate activity as does each teletype, each written inquiry, each personal contact, etc. (Activity is defined as any specific action taken or pursued that could have or, in fact did, assist in the resolution of this case.)

In the space provided for numbers 1 through 9, fill in the number of activities completed during each of the respective time segments. Number 10 is the total of numbers 1 through 9. Number 11 is to be checked only when it is obvious that more investigative steps than are listed, were required to develop a case to the extent that it exists, either due to the investigator's failure to document or the report(s) are missing from the file.

#### INVESTIGATIVE ANALYSIS

427. Self-explanatory.
428. Category 4 (denial) should be checked when the offender admits being at the incident site but denies having assaulted the victim.

Category 5 (alibi) includes claims of self-defense as well as denial based on claims of being elsewhere. If a claim of being elsewhere is made, fill out item 429. If a claim of self-defense is made, "x" out 429.

429. This item applies only when an offender gave a statement denying participation in the crime because he or she was elsewhere when it happened.

Check "Yes" if the offender's alibi is supported by evidence gathered by investigators.

Check "No, it was refuted" if the alibi given is not supported by evidence gathered by investigators.

Check "No attempt made" if it is clear that investigators made no effort to investigate the claims in the offender's alibi statement.

430. This item asks for your judgment about two things. First, did the investigator(s) consider all individuals that you would have considered as suspects if you were investigating this case? Second, if all individuals were considered, did the investigator(s) do an adequate job of investigating their possible participation in the crime?

Check "Yes" if the answer to both of these is positive.

If either, or both answers are negative, one of the "No" categories should be checked.

Check 2 ("No reasonable attempt made") if the case is inactivated and suspects have not been investigated.

Check 3 ("Investigation is still on-going") if the case is open.

431. This item asks for your judgment about whether or not a reasonable effort was made by the investigator(s) to interview all vital witnesses, that is, individuals mentioned in the case file whom you would have wanted to interview if you were investigating this case. A vital witness is a person whom an investigator has cause to believe may have information concerning the incident being investigated either (1) through that person's association with the victim/offender, friend, relative, etc. of the victim/offender, or (2) was likely to have been present, before, during or after the incident.

Check "Yes" if the answer to this is positive.

If the answer is negative, one of the two "No" categories should be checked.

Check "No reasonable attempt made" if the case is inactivated and witnesses have not been interviewed..

Check "Investigation is still on-going" if the case is open.

432. The following criteria should be used to determine the proper response category for this item.

1. Excellent.
  - (a) All potential witnesses have been interviewed and their statements taped, written or summarized.
  - (b) The documented statements support the important elements of the case.
  - (c) Witness statements have been corroborated by the investigation through other witness statements and/or circumstantial or physical evidence.
  - (d) All leads elicited from witnesses have been followed-up in the interview.
  - (e) Evidence exists of a witness-interviewing strategy or plan by detectives.
2. More than adequate but less than excellent.
3. Adequate.
  - (a) Most witnesses interviewed;
  - (b) minimal documentation;
  - (c) no investigator took statements or clarified statements recorded by original responding officers.
4. Less than adequate but better than inadequate.
5. Inadequate.
  - (a) No documented witness statements, either typed or written, were taken from crucial witnesses.
  - (b) The statements that exist are written by the witnesses.
  - (c) The content of the statements is not specific to the case at hand.
  - (d) Evidence exists in the case that witnesses need to be contacted but they were not.
  - (e) No apparent witness interview plan or strategy for the case.

433. -434. Self-explanatory.  
434.

435. Refocus means that the investigator(s) either eliminated an individual as a suspect or began to treat an individual as a suspect who was not previously considered the offender.

436. As a result of deception and/or the lack of cooperation, was this investigation made more difficult or are these elements possibly responsible for the status of this case being unresolved? (i.e. A subject is murdered in the presence of several friends during a drug rip off. Because of their social positions, they fear exposure and/or arrest, so they refuse to cooperate or lie to the police.)

A street gang member is murdered in the presence of other gang members. Because they may just plain hate the police or they intend to retaliate, they refuse to cooperate or lie to the police.)

If there was no attempt to deceive or only minor lack of cooperation or lying, the answer would be 1\_\_\_No.

If the investigation was hindered, delayed or made impossible to resolve because of the lying or lack of cooperation of friends, witnesses, or other persons who initially were suspects, the answer should be 2\_\_\_Yes with a short explanation in the space provided.

If you are unable to determine due to lack of information or case clarity, answer 99\_\_\_Unable to Determine.

437. The following criteria should be used to determine the proper response category for this item.
1. Excellent.
    - (a) A detailed description (either taped or written) of the crime scene is in the case file.
    - (b) The case demonstrates that photography, diagramming and measurements of all physical evidence were accomplished.
    - (c) Reasons for the collection of evidence items are understood. They are collected on the basis of a theory of what happened.
    - (d) Evidence exists in the case that there is a photography log detailing all photos taken; that the evidence log clearly described evidence, its location, and identification marks; and that accurate measurements of all evidence were performed. Evidence or photo logs may be hand written or recorded.
  2. More than adequate but less than excellent.
  3. Adequate. Documentation exists that evidence important to the case was collected, but accurate

description of its original location at the crime scene is absent.

4. Less than adequate but more than inadequate.

5. Inadequate. No photographs taken, no diagram, no measurements, no crime scene description.

438. "Securing the crime scene" refers to the point in time when the parameters of a crime scene have been established and secured by any sworn officer, or by any persons who were assigned to secure the scene by a person of authority.

"Unnecessary personnel" means any person regardless of status, rank or position that enters a crime scene whose presence is not required to assist with some aspect of the crime scene processing, administering medical aid, or removing the victim's body. Examples of unnecessary personnel are:

439. Self-explanatory.

440. This item asks for your opinion about whether or not the investigator(s) searched for, and/or collected all items of evidence which you would expect to find at this type of crime scene.

441. The following criteria should be used to determine the proper response category for this item.

1. Excellent.

- (a) Search plan for evidence was apparent.
- (b) More than one person was assisting with scene processing.
- (c) Perimeter established.
- (d) All evidence was collected and accurately photographed and recorded.
- (e) Follow-up or evidence forms indicated care was taken in preservation of fragile, liquid, and/or trace evidence.
- (f) The route to enter/exit the scene by the offender was identified and processed before being further contaminated by anyone after the scene had been secured.
- (g) The collection of evidence was systematic and thorough.

2. More than adequate but less than excellent.
3. Adequate.
  - (a) Minimal evidence was collected.
  - (b) No extraordinary crime scene processing techniques were undertaken.
  - (c) Limited crime scene search conducted.
4. Less than adequate but more than inadequate.
5. Inadequate. Evidence was lost or destroyed by crime scene processors; evidence was improperly packaged; no regard demonstrated for crime scene security; no processing for fingerprints or trace evidence; no crime scene diagrams; minimal crime scene photography; no crime scene search was conducted; no crime scene perimeters established.

442. In suburban and urban areas, the minimum activity needed to consider attempts to locate potential witnesses as a canvass shall be sending sworn personnel to look for witnesses in a one block radius. In rural areas the minimum will be any attempt to locate potential witnesses within 1/2 mile if there are any structures within this distance. If there are not structures within 1/2 miles or if the crime scene was in an area with no human inhabitants (i.e. forest), "Not necessary" is checked unless unusual circumstances indicate that potential witnesses could have been present (i.e. a campground is near the crime scene, Forest Service personnel are often in the area, etc.)

If potential witnesses may have been in the area then check the appropriate response category.

443. The following criteria should be used to determine the proper response category for this item:
1. Excellent.
    - (a) All residences, businesses and vendors around each of the sites (victim last seen, death site, body recovery site, etc.) have been contacted for potential witnesses.
    - (b) Documentation includes not only those places contacted but also those addresses not contacted.

- (c) After the initial canvass, there is evidence in the file that indicates investigator re-canvassed the area for additional information (if necessary).
2. More than adequate but less than excellent.
3. Adequate.
- (a) Most of the likely addresses important to the case have been canvassed; or
  - (b) The case has been formally charged without all canvassing being accomplished;
  - (c) Re-canvassing was not necessary to the investigation.
4. Less than adequate but better than inadequate.
5. Inadequate.
- (a) Little or no canvassing was accomplished at any of the sites.
  - (b) In cases where the offender has not been charged, there was no re-canvass after some initial addresses were not canvassed.
  - (c) No documentation about any canvassing that was accomplished.
444. -445. Self-explanatory.
- 445.
446. This refers to evidence that was collected by investigators. Evidence destroyed prior to collection does not count for this item.
447. -449. Self-explanatory.
- 448.
- 449.
450. This item asks for your opinion of how difficult it was for the investigator to I.D. the offender based on how hard it would have been for you had you been working the case. Thus, if you think that obtaining the I.D. of the offender was easy but because the investigator(s) failed to follow a lead he made it very difficult, you should check "Easy".
451. This item asks for your opinion of how difficult it would be to identify an unknown offender if you took over investigation of the case as it presently exists.

452. This item asks for your opinion of whether or not you would have been able to identify the offender had you been investigating this case from the start.
453. This item asks for your opinion of the quality of the entire investigation, based on how you would have had you investigated this incident.
454. This item asks for your analysis of two different aspects of the investigation: 1) actions taken by the investigator(s) or other officers and 2) items of evidence collected. Write in those investigative actions and evidence items which you think were most important to I.D.ing the offender (or might lead to an I.D. in an unsolved case). Give brief descriptions in the spaces provided (i.e., patrol officers rapidly secured crime scene, spent bullet recovered in wall, outstanding interview lead to confession, foreign pubic hair recovered during autopsy, etc.).
- If more room is required, write "Continued" at end of space and complete on back of page.
455. This should include only suspects reported by investigators as suspects. Write in first, middle initial, and last name only. (. e. John J. Doe)
456. Answer this item based on who you would have considered as solid suspects had you been investigating the case. If the individual(s) who you suspect are named in the case file, write their name in the spaced provided. If they are not named, provide a brief description which would allow another investigator to quickly locate the individual in the case file. (i.e. Shop clerk mentioned by witness Brian Jones; white female wearing blue jeans mentioned by witness Jan Jones.)
457. Self-explanatory.
458. Self-explanatory.
459. If this is a multi-victim case be sure that your response to this item pertains to the victim whose information was reported on this H.I.T.S. form.
460. Report all salient features that you believe could be a characteristic of this incident. Place a number in the space provided for each category to denote the importance

of that characteristic in this case with the number "1" indicating the "most important". Rating is purely subjective based on your reading of the case file. If you believe that two or more characteristics are of equal importance then assign them the same number.

Thus, if a husband and wife get in a fight over the profits from their cocaine selling and he kills her, you should include "Domestic violence", "Drug related", and "Financial gain". However, the order in which you would assign priority would depend on the peculiarities of the case.

#### 1--DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Homicide committed by one member of a family or cohabiting group against another member of the same family or cohabiting group. This can include wives killing husbands, husbands killing wives, cohabiting lovers killing one another, roommates killing one another, children killing their parents (natural or otherwise). In addition, this can include extended family members such as aunts, uncles, cousins, neices, nephews etc. who aren't occupying the same domicile. This category should always be checked when a murder occurs between an estranged couple. (If the victim was under the age of 18, the case may be a child abuse murder. If it meets the criteria of child abuse murder, do not report domestic violence as a salient feature. See #2 below.)

#### 2--CHILD ABUSE MURDER

Homicide committed by an adult family member or friend against a child under 18 years of age, where there is evidence that there has been a history of abuse against this child or where there has been a history of abuse by the offender against other children. The abuse can consist of physical and/or sexual assaults.

#### 3--HEAT OF ANGER

Homicide committed when one party is angry with the other over something that occurred in the same incident in which the homicide occurred.

#### 4--HATE

A homicide committed because the offender severely dislikes the victim, or the group of people the victim belongs to (such as black race, homosexual sexual orientation, etc.). When this item is checked because of

hate vs a group, be sure to describe the nature of the hate in item 465.

5--LOVE TRIANGLE

A homicide committed by one member of a 3 (or more) person romantic and/or sexual relationship against another person of the triangle.

6--REVENGE

A homicide committed to avenge a real or perceived wrong or affront; or committed in retaliation for some real or imagined injury suffered, where there is some degree of planning involved. It is the time frame that separates this from heat of anger.

7--RAPE

Any homicide where any of the victim's orifices and/or sexual organs were assaulted (i.e. sodomy, oral sex, etc.) either before or after death.

8--OTHER SEX RELATED

Any homicide where a sexual assault was directed against any portion of victim's body not listed above (i.e. offender cuts a hole in victim's abdomen and inserts his penis, offender forces victim to masturbate him, etc.) or there is evidence of other assaultive behavior of a sexual nature (i.e. offender removes victim's breasts, sexual language is carved on victim's body etc.) or there is evidence that some other sexually related aspect to the case (i.e. offender masturbates at the crime scene, pornographic literature is found at crime scene depicting a particular pose that the victim was left in, etc.) or where the offender confesses that he/she derived sexual arousal and/or pleasure from committing the crime (i.e. offender states that he ejaculated in his pants when he shot victim) or where the victim is murdered after engaging in consensual sexual activity, or when a prostitute rip-off occurs (either Johns ripping off prostitutes or prostitutes ripping off Johns).

9--TORTURE

Any homicide wherein the offender purposely inflicted pain which was not necessary to kill the victim. (i.e. Offender ties up victim, shoots her in the legs, waits a couple of minutes, then shoots victim in the head killing her.)

**10--HOMOSEXUAL**

Any homicide where the criterion of items 7 or 8 are present but the victim and offender are of the same gender OR any homicide where the victim's and/or offender's homosexuality was an issue in the case (i.e. homosexual lovers quarrel, etc.).

**11--KIDNAP**

Any homicide that occurs during the commission of, or flight from, a kidnapping (this isn't limited to victim of kidnap), OR whenever a kidnapping is an element of the homicide (i.e. prostitute is kidnapped from street, raped and murdered). Kidnapping should be the number 1 classification only when kidnaping is primary motive or crime (i.e. for ransom, slavery, etc.).

**12--ROBBERY**

Any homicide that occurs during the commission of, or flight from, a robbery or whenever property is taken from the murder victim(s) and it is apparent that the property was taken because it had some monetary value, not because it has symbolic value for the offender. Robbery should be the number 1 classification only when robbery is the primary motive of the crime.

**13--BURGLARY**

Any homicide that occurs during the commission of, or flight from, a burglary OR where burglary is an element of the homicide (i.e. offender breaks into house to rape and kill victim). Burglary should be the number 1 classification only when the primary motive of the burglary was to commit a theft.

**14--ARSON**

Any homicide where fire or an explosive device was the cause of death or where the victim was burned or blown-up to conceal evidence.

**15--SNIPER**

Any homicide where the offender(s) kill other(s) in a random fashion with premeditated intent and from a position of concealment.

**16--OTHER FELONY**

Any homicide committed during the commission of, or flight from, any felony crime not listed (i.e. a forgery suspect kills a security guard who attempts to arrest him).

## 17--DRUG RELATED

Any homicide committed during a drug transaction or to further or improve ones ability to illegally possess, sell or distribute a controlled substance or an illegal substance.

## 18--ALTRUISTIC

Any homicide where the offender's motive is to benefit the victim (mercy killing, send victim to heaven, etc.), a group to which the victim belongs (?), or to serve a higher value (religious, political) or where the victim wishes to spare the victim embarrassment from past or future actions by the offender (i.e. offender is about to be arrested for embezzlement so he kills his family before killing self).

## 19--PSYCHOTIC

Any homicide committed by an individual for whom consistent evidence supports the fact that he/she was crazy or any homicide committed during a psychotic episode.

## 20--FINANCIAL GAIN

Any homicide committed to obtain financial rewards or settle a debt. This does not include rewards obtained by a theft or robbery.

## 21--CULT

Any homicide where the victim is killed as part of a cult's religious ritual or to further the purposes of a cult.

## 22--MASS

Any single incident wherein two or more victims are murdered.

## 23--GANG

Any homicide committed by a gang member to further the purposes of the gang. If 23 ("Gang") is a relevant characteristic, specify the type of gang in the space provided. (i.e. "motorcycle gang")

## 24--CONSPIRACY

Any homicide committed in accordance with the premeditated plan of two or more persons to cause the death of the victim.

## 25--FOR HIRE

Any homicide committed by a third party in exchange for financial or property remuneration or or to repay a debt or favor.

## 26--TO PREVENT TESTIFYING

Any homicide committed to prevent someone (usually, but not always, the victim) from offering evidence to authorities or at bar about some past illegal activity or to prevent someone from offering evidence in a civil action arising from some past event or events.

## 27--TO CONCEAL EVIDENCE OR PREVENT I.D.

Any homicide committed to prevent the victim from offering evidence against the offender or providing eyewitness I.D. of the offender for some action taken by the offender contemporaneous to the murder (i.e. offender rapes victim, then kills her to prevent prosecution on rape chargers).

## 28--SELF-DEFENSE

"Self defense" refers to situations where the evidence indicates that the victim was an aggressor or simply lost in a mutual combat situation. (i.e. wife kills husband who was going to hit her, a bar fight occurs and victim is shot as he moves to hit offender with a pool cue, etc.) Self-defense should also be I.D.'ed as a salient characteristic whenever the offender(s) give a statement in which they claim that they killed (or injured) the victim in self-defense. This category should also be included any time the offender raises a claim of self-defense to police or the Court.

461. 2 - MASS MURDER VICTIM -- Any time two or more victims are killed in a single incident and there is no evidence which indicates that the offender(s) is connected (as an offender) in any manner to other murders, the victims are mass murder victims.

3 - POSSIBLE SERIES VICTIM - Any time a single victim is killed and there is evidence to suggest that the offender(s) may have killed other individuals in a similar manner/circumstance the victim is a possible series victim.

4 - CONFIRMED SERIES VICTIMS - Any time a single victim is killed and it is clear that the offender(s) killed other individual(s) in a similar manner/circumstance, the victim is a confirmed series victim.

5 - MASS SERIES - Any time two or more victims are killed in a single incident and it is clear that the offender(s) killed other individuals (either single or more per incident) in a similar manner/circumstance, the victim is a mass series victim. Victim(s) can be possible or confirmed.

462. This could be murders committed either prior to or after this case, either related or unrelated. If "yes" is checked, explain the answer in 465.
463. Self-explanatory.
464. 1. An open (active investigation) case is one where the investigators are and have been continuously working the case.
2. Suspended, is any unsolved case that has been inactivated or the investigation stopped for whatever reason.
3. Open - arrest warrant issued, is any case that an arrest warrant was issued, but the offender remains at-large.
4. Self-explanatory.
5. Exceptionally cleared - is any case clear for reasons other than arrest.
465. This space is provided to give the coder an opportunity to give more detailed information concerning those items the coder feels need clarification. List the item number with the additional information.
466. This item provides an opportunity for coders to report any information that the coder feels is an important aspect of this case, but that was not captured in the items on the H.I.T.S. form.
467. Enter the name of the agency, the agency case number in the appropriate blanks.

This sheet is provided to catalogue 1) all individuals whose names appear in the case file (except individuals investigating the case), their d.o.b., address, phone number and social security number; 2) all vehicles that

appear in the case file; and all credit cards. Fill in names, last name first.

Each block of spaces pertains to a separate individual, automobile or credit card. If an individual has a vehicle and/or credit card that belongs to him reported in the case file, the vehicle and/or credit card information should be reported in the same box. However, vehicles and credit cards unrelated to named individuals in the case should be reported in separate boxes with no name.

When a vehicle or credit card without a related name is reported, leave the name, d.o.b., phone number, address and social security number blank, and only fill in information pertaining to the vehicle or credit card. In addition, if information for an individual, vehicle or credit card is incomplete, just fill in the available information. If a vehicle is licensed in another state or nation, report this information after the plate number. Include the area code with all phone numbers if known.

APPENDIX G

LETTER REQUESTING LIST OF EACH POLICE AGENCY'S MURDER CASES



Ken Eikenberry

**ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON**  
DEXTER HORTON BUILDING, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98104-1749

February 2, 1988

Mr. Jack Burchard  
Okanogan County Prosecutor  
149 3rd North  
Okanogan, WA. 98840

Dear Mr. Burchard:

Per our telephone call on 1-26-88, this letter is written to verify my request for homicide information maintained by your office. The requested information will be used in a statewide homicide research project. This research is conducted under a U.S. Department of Justice grant awarded to the Attorney General's office.

I respectfully request information concerning all homicides or suspicious deaths occurring in Okanogan County between 1-1-81 and 12-31-86. The information needed is:

1. Victim's full name
2. Victim's age and date of birth
3. Date of death
4. Cause of death
5. Investigating law enforcement agency
6. Law enforcement agency case number

The above information may be sent in the form of an autopsy face sheet, coroner's report or any other record. I realize that for some agencies this could require substantial effort. However, I believe that this research will significantly benefit all law enforcement agencies. If you have any additional questions, you may call myself or Robert Keppel at 206-464-7676. Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

ROBERT LAMORIA  
Program Manager  
Criminal Division