

Detection of Homicide Perpetrators within the Framework of Forensic Tactics

SUMMARY

This paper aims to present the impact of forensic tactics on selected actions taken by law enforcement agencies in situations where the identity of the perpetrator of a committed homicide is unknown.

The dissertation consists of eight chapters, the first of which addresses the legal perception of the crime of homicide, both from a historical perspective and within the context of current legal provisions. The basis for distinguishing this chapter was the desire to illustrate how diverse and complex the phenomenon of homicide is.

The second chapter is devoted to the theoretical issue of presenting forensic tactics as a branch of forensic science and especially - the issue of detecting homicide perpetrators. This chapter emphasizes the complexity of the detection process. It also presents the influence of, what the author considers the most important, principles of forensic tactics — the principle of speed and accuracy of actions — on the conduct of detection activities in homicide cases.

The third chapter deals with the broadly understood issue of crime scene investigation, with particular emphasis on the examination of the homicide scene and the examination of the post-mortem body at the location, where it was found. These activities enable a particularly precise understanding of the event, but only if they are conducted in accordance with legal regulations, forensic tactics, and the awareness of the investigator regarding the scope of information that can be obtained during their implementation.

The fourth chapter addresses the issue of criminal profiling in homicide cases. In discussing this issue, it is noted that this technique is based on the results of properly conducted tactical and forensic activities - especially the results of crime scene examination. This chapter presents the models of criminal profiling used in homicide cases.

Chapter number five presents issues related to the possibilities of determining the appearance of an unknown homicide perpetrator. It discusses the principles and techniques of constructing a composite sketch, including the use of Artificial Intelligence, as well as the technique of DNA phenotyping.

The sixth chapter attempts to present hypnosis as a method of stimulating memory improvement and the potential use of this phenomenon to obtain information about the course of the event and the characteristics of the unidentified homicide perpetrator.

The seventh chapter discusses examples of operational-identification activities used in detection processes in homicide cases. Attention is given to operational control, the acquisition of telecommunications data, and criminal analysis. Additionally, the most modern operational techniques that can be used to efficiently obtain information relevant to the detection of homicide cases are presented.

The last chapter, eight, concerns the issue of constructing forensic versions in homicide cases. Based on the totality of information available to the entity formulating the forensic version, a hypothesis regarding the identity of the unknown homicide perpetrator can be created, among other things. In this context, the issues of event staging and concealing the homicide are addressed. They may cause law enforcement agencies to have erroneous perceptions regarding the characteristics of the event and the properties and identity of the homicide perpetrator.