PTE 2500: Criminal Investigations

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3
Lecture Hours/Week: 3
Lab Hours/Week: 0
OJT Hours/Week: *.*
Prerequisites: None
Corequisites: PTE 2505
MnTC Goals: None

This course examines the fundamentals of crime scene and post-crime scene investigation. Delivery of this instruction will be through lecture and include all phases of the criminal investigation procedure. Learners will be exposed to primary officer responsibilities to include the examination of a secured crime scene and exploring various methods involved in the collection and preservation of evidence. Learners will be introduced to secondary investigative techniques which include the interviewing and interrogation process, drafting and executing search warrants, and case preparation.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 10/13/2023 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Understand what physical evidence is and identify its value.
2. Understand the job tasks of the primary and secondary officers responding to the scene.
3. Explain how a crime scene should be recorded and processed, including securing, interviewing of witnesses/victims, handling of suspects, photographing, sketching/measuring, collecting/preserving evidence, and written documentation of events.
4. Successfully define, explain and list police roles and responsibilities in a criminal investigation; including the correct completion and proper implementation of police related documents.
5. Successfully define and explain types of crimes and how to investigate the elements of each crime.

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Explain the legal and procedural aspects of the investigation process.
2. Explain roles and responsibilities associated with law enforcement investigations.
3. Compare legal, procedural, and ethical considerations in interrogations and interviews.
4. Demonstrate organization and clarity in all associated investigation documents.
5. Define key elements for effective interaction with the judicial system.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

None

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted