

# 2010 – Annual Report Evidence Technicians



Prepared for the Command Staff of the  
Addison Police Department

By:

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&  
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# **EVIDENCE TECHNCIANS**

## **Personnel**

### **Supervisors**

Commander Moffitt is the commander in charge of the evidence technician unit. Sergeant Saran is the lead supervisor and Sergeant Tierney is the back up supervisor.

### **Officers**

The Addison Police Department evidence technician unit currently has a total of twenty-five officers. The following are the division assignments of the evidence technicians:

### **Patrol**

#### **Day Shift**

- Avello
- J. Peterson
- Kotlinski
- Porta
- Sinkule
- Soto

#### **Afternoon & Z Shift**

- Biles
- Kucik
- Kuechler (Z)
- McCubbin
- Slattery

#### **Midnight Shift**

- Anderson
- Hostetler
- Prafke
- Soto
- Tennyson

## **Traffic Unit**

- DiFatta
- Kopec
- Weinbrenner

## **Detective Division**

- Brant
- Bjes
- Dempsey
- Garofalo
- Gonzalez
- Reda
- Selvik

## **Major crime unit**

Several evidence technicians have been identified as members of the “Major Crime Evidence Unit.” These technicians have shown a high proficiency in their work. They can be assisted by additional evidence technicians if necessary but they take the lead in the handling of evidence collection and processing at a major scene. The unit has four permanent positions and two rotating. The rotating positions allow an evidence technician to have additional training and experience and to have qualified personnel to choose from when replacement officers are necessary.

The following are the members of the major crime unit:

- Anderson
- Avello
- Hostetler
- Kopec
- Porta
- Kotlinski (rotator)
- Soto (rotator)

The major crime unit is on call for incidents where extensive and more detailed evidence work is needed at the scene.

The major crime unit has a uniform to wear when they respond to a scene off duty. This is to keep uniformity and professionalism within the unit. The uniform consists of the following:

- Tan short sleeve polo shirt
- Black long sleeve polo shirt
- Black pants
- Black jacket
- Black hat

## **Fire / Arson Investigators**

The following personnel are certified Fire / Arson Investigators who closely work with the Addison Fire Department on major or suspicious fires:

- Sergeant Saran
- Sergeant Tierney
- Officer DiFatta
- Officer Porta

There are several additional basic fire investigators available for assistance and / or to determine if additional expertise is needed. All investigators are notified monthly of training classes they could attend from the DuPage County Fire /Arson Task Force.

The Department is a member of the DuPage County Fire / Arson Task Force. The two officers appointed to the team are DiFatta and Porta. This has benefited the Department by additional training and experience they have received. In 2010 Officer DiFatta and Porta had three call outs.

## **TRAINING**

The Career Track Training Plan is as follows for Evidence Technicians and for the Major Crime Scene Evidence Technician:

### **Evidence Technicians Assigned To Patrol**

- Basic Evidence Technician Program
- Death Investigation Seminar
- Developing Latent Fingerprints
- Footwear Impression Workshop
- Arson Investigation: Basic Crime Scene Skills
- Explosive Recognition: Bomb and Security Planning

## **Major Crime Scene Evidence Technician**

- Crime Scene Technology 1
- Crime Scene Technology 2
- Crime Scene Technology 3
- Investigative Photography Workshop 1
- Investigative Photography Workshop 2
- Bloodstain Evidence Workshop 1
- Bloodstain Evidence Workshop 2
- Death Investigation
- Shooting and Police Involved
- Shooting Incident Reconstruction

## **Arson Investigator**

- Fire Investigation 1
- Fire Investigation 2
- Fire Investigation 3

## **In Service Training**

The Evidence Technicians had a mandatory meeting on December 15, 2010. All technicians were given a written test. The test covered many areas of crime scene processing including crime scene investigation, evidence collection, evidence processing, and photography. The information tested was taken from training and the Department's Policies and Procedures. All Evidence Technicians passed the written test.

This year we held an 8 hour Basic evidence technician review class; instead of separate two hour classes. The following were the training sessions which were given for our evidence technicians:

- On June 02, 2010, Sergeant Saran and Officers Hostetler, Anderson, DiFatta and J. Peterson gave a basic evidence training class on bullet trajectory, blood patterns, fingerprinting, footwear and tire impressions, fire investigation, policies and procedures and crime scene management.
- Camera Training given on an individual bases by Officers Porta, Reda and Slattery.
- Total Station training for our Major Crime Unit Evidence Technicians.
- Video Camera training, Officer Avello gave individual training to our Major Crime Unit Evidence Technicians.

- September 2010 Addison Fire Department gave a class on fire investigation on live house burns.
- Summer 2010 Addison Fire Department gave a class on the proper use of the stretcher.
- Spring 2010 Addison Fire Department gave a class on Storm Awareness and lines down.
- February 2010 roll call training given by Sergeant Saran on Temporary Property Lockers Policy

We conduct an 8 hour In Service class on Evidence Technician Procedures for new Evidence Technicians. This class is given by officers in our major crime unit. The following officers had this training in 2010:

- Biles
- Kucik
- Prafke

## **Outside Training**

In 2010, the following Evidence Technicians received outside training:

- Basic Evidence Technician Program 40 hour: Biles, Kucik, Prafke, Biles
- Basic Arson Investigation: Sinkule
- Footwear Impression Evidence Workshop: Soto, Sinkule and Anderson
- Intro to Crime Laboratory Services: Sinkule, Kucik and Biles
- DuPage County Fire Inv Task Force Practical: DiFatta
- Death Investigation Seminar: Biles

The following Major Crime Evidence Technicians received training at Northwestern University Center for Public Safety in 2010:

- Crime Scene 1: Kotlinski
- Crime Scene 2: Kotlinski
- Crime Scene 3: Avello, Hostetler and Anderson

When an officer completes 200 hours (five classes), he achieves the NUCPS Award of Criminal Forensic Investigation Techniques. This year we had the following officers achieve this accomplishment: Avello and Hostetler.

## **NEW EQUIPMENT**

The following is a list of new equipment which was purchased in 2010:

- Garrett CSI 250 Metal Detector
- Four Nikon Camera Batteries
- Four (2.0 gb) Camera Flash Cards for the Nikon

## **SIGNIFICANT EVENTS**

There are many incidents that required evidence processing. Some as simple as photographing injuries or damage, others took many hours of processing to collect latent fingerprints, latent footwear impressions, biological, and trace evidence. Those scenes included, but were not limited to: Violent Domestic, Sexual Assaults / Abuse, Robbery, Damage to Village Property, and Residential, Commercial, Industrial, Vehicle burglaries.

Death investigations include homicide, accidental, suicide or natural. There were numerous death investigations processed throughout 2010.

The following are the significant cases that our evidence technician unit investigated:

- **AD10001466, 01/24/10, 0830 hours, 32 W. Lake, Burglary** - This was a scene where there were several roof top burglaries. Evidence Technicians had several fingerprint and footwear impressions. They had to also go on top of the roof and conduct evidence work on vents where the offenders gained entry.
- **AD10009412, 05/06/10, 2322 hours, 57 W. Interstate, Fire Investigation** – This case was a suspicious fire. Wood pile caught on fire and there were gas containers in the area. Officer DiFatta conducted the fire investigation. It was determined to be accidental.
- **AD10009620, 05/09/10, 2134 hours, St. Paul's Addison Cemetery 400 N. Mill, Suspicious Activity** – Complainant called to advise he observe M/H jumped the fence and exit the cemetery after being inside for about 30 minutes. A plastic bag was found with a pair of latex gloves and an unknown black granule substance. The bag smelled like a detergent product. Evidence Technicians search the cemetery and located a buried jar. The contents were removed which appeared to be from some sort of ritual. The technician took it to a person who was familiar with this. They advised it was a love type of offering.
- **AD10015251, 07/13/10, 0814 hours, 407 Kay, Burglary to Vehicles** – There were seven burglary to motor vehicle reports taken. Patrol developed a suspect who lived at 413 Winthrop. Evidence Technicians had located and collected blood samples from the vehicles. One of the suspects had a cut hand. Stolen items were located in the residence. The suspects admitted to the burglaries.

- **AD10016663, 07/29/10, 1528 hours, 540 W. Lake Street, Bank Robbery at Charter One Bank** – A subject presented a note to the teller demanding cash, weapon implied but not displayed. Employees were able to obtain a vehicle description. Evidence Technicians processed and documented the scene.
- **AD10022924, 10/16/10, 1739 hours, 0-100 N. Church, Suspicious Vehicle Fire** – A 1997 Chrysler Sebring had a fire within the passenger compartment, which appeared to start on the back of the driver's seat. The scene was processed and documented with the assistance of AFD Fire Investigator Mansfield. The case was followed up by Fire Investigator Porta. The cause of the fire was undetermined.

## **PROJECTS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS**

- Detective Reda taught a crime scene photograph class at Addison Trail High School.
- Sergeant Saran and Officers DiFatta and Kopec taught a class for the Citizens Academy on evidence work.

## **2010 GOALS**

- 1. Conduct regular informal in service training at evidence meetings focusing on hands-on training to allow for practicing techniques in a controlled environment. This training will be optional for evidence technicians and mandatory for evidence technicians assigned as major crime unit members.**

*Status: This goal has been accomplished. We have conducted an in house class on the proper use of the camera. This was accomplished by officers who were familiar with the camera training the other evidence technicians individually. We combined several of the basic evidence technician classes we had scheduled through the year into one 8 hour basic evidence technician training class which was held on June 2, 2010. The major crime officers also had training in the Total Station and the proper use of the video camera.*

- 2. Conduct regular training sessions with the Addison Fire Department in different types of incidents where they would be working closely with the evidence technicians.**

*Status: This goal has been accomplished. We have had the following Roll Call training with the Addison Fire Department: The proper use of the stretcher and Storm Awareness*

*and Lines Down. Major crime officers did a live burn where they investigated cause and origin with the fire department.*

- 3. Send each member of the major crime unit to a minimum of one Crime Scene and Forensic Science training class at Northwestern University Center for Public Safety.**

*Status: This goal has been accomplished. Officer Kotlinski attended Crime Scene 1 and 2. Officers Avello, Hostetler and Anderson attended Crime Scene 3. When an officer completes 200 hours (five classes), he achieves the NUCPS Award of Criminal Forensic Techniques. This year we had Officers Avello and Hostetler achieve this accomplishment.*

- 4. Conduct presentations for the community demonstrating the skills of evidence technicians. Coordinate with Crime Prevention, the school districts and the Henry Hyde Resource Center personnel to create public awareness of the capabilities of the evidence technicians.**

*Status: This goal was accomplished. We conducted a crime scene investigation class for the Citizen's Police Academy class on 05/11/10. Officer Brucal taught the SPC evidence work. Officer Hernandez taught evidence work at the Henry Hyde center. Detective Reda taught a crime scene photography class at Addison Trail High School.*

## **2011 GOALS**

- 1. Conduct regular informal in service training at evidence meetings focusing on hands-on training to allow for practicing techniques in a controlled environment. This training will be mandatory for all patrol, traffic and major crime unit members.**
- 2. Conduct regular training sessions with the Addison Fire Department in different types of incidents where they would be working closely with the evidence technicians.**
- 3. Send members of the major crime unit to the Crime Scene and Forensic Science training class at Northwestern University Center for Public Safety.**
- 4. To update our alternate light source and Bullet trajectory kit.**