



Evidence Recovery Operations Objectives

Evidence Recovery Operations is Dive Rescue International's renowned 16-hour training program for non-law enforcement divers who are involved in evidence recovery operations.

The Evidence Recovery Operations Specialist is specially trained in more advanced search and recovery techniques. Students will learn how to deal with crime scenes and the difficult task of evidence preservation. This program introduces students to advanced search patterns, evidence collection, crime scene equipment and management.

Key training topics and the associated objectives include:

UNDERWATER CRIME SCENE PHOTOGRAPHY

- Define Underwater Crime Scene Photography and describe its goal in evidence recovery operations
- Identify the rules of underwater crime scene photography
- Discuss how water condition affect underwater crime scene photography
- Describe documentary and photographic records and their components
- Explain the questions that must be addressed regarding legal admissibility of evidence collected
- Discuss underwater lighting and still vs. video photographic evidence

PROCESSING THE SCENE

- Identify the search steps at a scene
- Describe and discuss the three different search patterns used
- List the underwater steps to processing
- Identify other tools that can be used at the scene
- Discuss scene sketching and its components
- Describe the Rectangular Grid used in open water

FIREARMS AND VEHICLE PROCESSING

- Identify the general handling rules for firearms as well as documentation and other considerations
- List the components of vehicle processing and the layers used in underwater photography of the vehicle
- Describe items to be taken into consideration for processing the interior of the vehicle

PREREQUISITES

All students must be a member of a public safety agency and at least 18 years of age. Students must read and complete a RSTC medical statement prior to attending class. Any diver answering yes to any contraindication must have the form signed by a physician. Diving students must have proof of open water certification.

This program is designed for personnel who are physically fit. Participants are encouraged to participate after successfully completing the IADRS Watermanship Test or testing to a fitness level of 13 MET (Metabolic Equivalents) or greater. Participants with aerobic fitness questions or concerns should consult their physician prior to in-water training. Participants who have poor aerobic fitness may attend this program as surface support personnel with the approval of the instructor.



Evidence Recovery Operations Schedule

DAY 1

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.	Registration, Introductions, and Course Review
9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	Classroom
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch Break
1:00 – 5:00 p.m.	Pool Skills and Exercises

DAY 2

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Field Scenarios
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 – 2:00 p.m.	Classroom
2:00 –5:00 p.m.	Review, Final Exam, and Closing

Schedule is subject to change

BE SURE TO BRING

All students must bring: US Coast Guard approved P.F.D. with knife and whistle, adequate clothing and protection from the environment and pen and paper for note-taking and sketching. Diving students must provide their own equipment: Scuba regulator: recently serviced and environmentally protected with alternate air source (i.e.: octopus, Air II, etc.), timing device, depth and submersible pressure gauges, BC with oral/power inflator, two tanks with current Hydro & VIP, mask, snorkel, fins, weight belt and two cutting tools (knife, wire cutters, or trauma shears.)