Forensic Investigator
Crime Scene

Forensic evidence is based largely on a principle developed by Dr. Edmond Locard. The principle is:

‘Any action of an individual cannot occur without leaving a trace. Physical evidence can’t be wrong, it can’t lie. Only our human failure to find it can diminish its value.’

Forensic Investigators investigate crime scenes from the ground up, collecting and analysing forensic evidence. They examine materials that often prove relevant to an investigation, document their findings and provide expert evidence in court. The Forensic Investigator needs to have an inquisitive mind, a desire to solve puzzles, a good work ethic with a customer focus and an unwavering willingness to present the truth.

You will contribute to complex and high profile cases, provide assistance to investigators and sometimes be the key to the solving a crime. You will respond to incidents ranging from stealing offences, deceased persons, serious assaults and murders, and may be called upon to assist at major incidents interstate or overseas.
Forensic Investigators are located at Crime Scene sections around the state. Upon becoming a Forensic Investigator your career may take multiple directions within a variety of specialist areas including blood pattern analysis, impression evidence and post blast examination.

All staff are required to successfully complete approximately five years of training and additional tertiary qualifications to be accredited by the Australasian Forensic Field Sciences Accreditation Board (AFFSAB) as a Crime Scene Expert. As a crime scene expert not only do you gain an expert allowance on top of your salary, you can build a local, state and national reputation in your field of expertise.

**What are the hours like?**

Forensic Investigators work shift work, which means they are required to work various times of the day or night, weekends and public holidays. In addition, Forensic Investigators may be required to perform on-call duties and overtime as required.

**What’s the pay like?**

**Police officer salary:** A probationary constable in their first year receives approximately $65,000 which includes employer’s contribution to superannuation. In addition to this once you transfer into the FETSC you may also be entitled to specialist and academic allowances ranging from $2500 to $4000 per year.

Upon AFFSAB accreditation as a fingerprint or crime scene expert, officers move from the specialist allowances to the expert allowance which is approximately $17000 per year. Your initial placement will be within the Sydney metropolitan area. There may be an opportunity, once you transfer into the FETSC, to apply for a Forensic Investigator position in a regional area of NSW if one is advertised, provided you have met the tenure requirements for FETSC. The current tenure period is three years before internal transfers will be considered.

**Contact us**

To apply for the FETSC Accelerated Recruit Program please email: FETSCARP@police.nsw.gov.au

For FETSC role specific information please contact

**Crime Scene:** Senior Sergeant Craig Harris, ph 02 9768 0572, email: harr1cra@police.nsw.gov.au

**Recruitment Officers:** ph 1800 222 122

**Charles Sturt University**

future student enquires: ph 1800 334 733