

**METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF DETECTIVES**



**Michael L. Anzallo  
COMMANDER**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Anzallo", written over the printed name and title.



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**DIVISION MEMORANDUM**

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**Series 2005/11 Date Issued: 07/01/05**

**Expires: Until Rescinded**

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**Subject: HOMICIDE-CRIME SCENES**

We have had several instances where there has been some misunderstandings regarding proper searches of crime scenes and what role each person involved in the homicide investigation plays. Therefore I am issuing this directive which includes excerpts from the Homicide SOP published in 2001. Additionally at the end of this directive is our policy regarding night time scenes. Please share this with all your supervisors and detectives. We are all professionals and I realize that during these investigations many complex variables come into play. However we have to ensure we do the basics correctly. Use this directive as a topic of discussion. Our goal is to continually improve our methods of investigation so that we can successfully close and prosecute murder cases.

This excerpt is from page 7, 8, 10 and 11 of the Homicide SOP dated July 2001.

**C. Investigative Unit**

Although each and every homicide case is unique involving different variables and investigative challenges, there are certain basic procedures that should be followed in all cases. The following procedures are provided to ensure that certain basic investigative functions are completed in all homicide cases. They are not all-inclusive and do not relieve the investigator from any other steps that may be required to close a case. Investigators are encouraged to use other additional innovative techniques that may be necessary to facilitate the successful closure of a case.

Due to the large number of specific and separate tasks that are required during the course of a homicide investigation, it is imperative that the Lead Detective works the case with the assistance of other detectives. The Lead Detective shall bear the responsibility to ensure that all basic investigative procedures are completed. In those instances where the Lead Detective needs further assistance, it shall be incumbent upon him/her to notify their immediate supervisor.



Suggested undeveloped leads to follow-up on.