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INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINALISTICS

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PREFACE

The proposed book is devoted to the problems of Criminalistics, its trends, history of origin, formation and development of this Science and University discipline. Criminalistics is a science, the emergence of which has happened due to the introduction of the achievements of natural and technical sciences in the practice of combating crime. The formation of the scientific knowledge that contributes to the fight against crime is associated with various processes: the internal integration of Criminalistics and the integration (differentiation) of certain scientific areas of Forensic Sciences.

The idea of preparing this book originated from the need to publish lecture materials that were given in English for students of Mykolas Romeris University (Lithuania) within the principles of academic mobility of the Teacher Exchange Program. The situation was complicated by the fact that due to the introduction of quarantine because of coronavirus infection, the lectures were conducted remotely. As a result of conducting the lectures, a significant amount of didactic material remained, which was later in some way systematized and prepared for publication.

According to its structure, the book consists of two sections: 1) History and Methodology of Criminalistics; 2) Criminalistics Tactics' Formation.

In the first section, considerable attention is paid to the prehistory of Criminalistics knowledge, the use of medical, toxicological, chemical, anthropological, and other knowledge in the investigation of crimes and during the trial. This part of the work covers the history of Criminalistics in Eastern Europe, the formation peculiarities of the German School of Criminalistics, as well as the historical aspects of criminal police formation in different countries. The presentation of the provisions for the emergence, formation, and operation of forensic institutions in Eastern Europe can also arouse certain interest. Some innovative approaches to the synthesizing level of Criminalistics (Criminalistics methodology) are offered and separate innovative products (according to the practice of Ukraine) are considered. This section also contains some information on international cooperation in investigating crimes.

The second section highlights the current problems of Criminalistics Tactics, reveals its subject, structure and means. The essence of tactics, tactical combinations and operations is considered in detail. The question of defining the limits of the application of psychological influence during an investigation can provoke significant interest, too. The paper reveals the tactical features of certain investigative actions such as interrogations, searches, inspections, experiments, presentations for identification etc. In this part of the work, a special place is occupied by the consideration of the problem of cognitive essence of criminalistic leads (versions), as well as the possibilities of using tactical means to prevent counteracting the investigation of crimes.

The book is written for students of higher educational institutions, postgraduates and PhD students, teachers, scientists, as well as law enforcement and court officials.

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1.

HISTORY AND METHODOLOGY OF CRIMINALISTICS

1.1. FORENSIC MEDICINE AS A FORERUNNER OF CRIMINALISTICS

The appearance of criminalistics is traditionally associated with the formation of a separate "scientific discipline", "special doctrine" or "auxiliary science for judicial investigators (investigating judges), official gendarmerie and police". The term "Criminalistics" in scientific circulation was proposed in the XIX century by the famous criminalist Hans Gross.

Criminalistics is a science, the appearance of which is due to the introduction of the achievements of natural and technical science into the practice of combating crime. Formation of certain areas took place, including forensic toxicology, forensic pharmacology, forensic medicine, forensic psychiatry, forensic psychology, forensic chemistry, forensic accounting, etc.

Attempts to conduct various trials with the alleged perpetrator were made. Different societies of the world used certain test methods. Thus, in the Ancient East it was known as an ordeal.

1.1. Forensic Medicine as a Forerunner of Criminalistics

There were periods in human history when tortures (causing pain and suffering) were used to intimate and testify. Various tortures were widely used in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Assyria.

Tortures were often used during the Middle Ages in the activities of the Holy Inquisition. Only later the development of civilization causes a revision of the means of obtaining evidence, the use of scientific data.

History has known the so-called "branding" of criminals – the application of certain signs or images on the body. In some cases, it was combined with punishment. The goal is to distinguish the criminal from all other people in appearance.

In the history of criminalistics, there were periods when criminals were measured, and rather long and complicated procedures took place. In criminalistics, the measurement of the parameters of the human body for further accounting and possible identification was called "Bertillonage". The name is associated with the name of a well-known inventor, the French criminalist Alphonse Bertillon.

Later, «bertillonage» was replaced by the method of dactyloscopy of registering criminals (based on human fingerprints). This method is widely used in modern conditions.

From ancient times the skin patterns on the fingers and palms of the hands have attracted the attention of men. Soon thereafter, the method of dactyloscopy was used by William Herschel (1877); Henry Faulds (1879-1880); Francis Galton (1892-1895); Edward Henry (1869-1897). In 1914, the International Criminal Police Congress chose the method mentioned earlier.

A separate area of development of criminalistics is the development of means and methods of gathering evidence, methods of investigating crimes. Some means and methods of