

Methodology of Investigation of Road Traffic Accidents

Abstract

This thesis titled “Methodology of Investigation of Road Traffic Accidents” has the objective of providing a comprehensive illustration of specific issues related to investigation of road traffic accidents, their causes and also their prevention. This is a very current topic, because the number of traffic accidents on Czech roads continues to grow. With regard to the number of road traffic accidents that the police have to deal with every day, investigators strive not only to make sure that investigation is quick and effective, but also that its quality remains the same. The thesis also deals with actual topics such as hit and run car accidents, the aggressiveness of drivers behind the wheel or emergency call systems.

The first chapter discusses the concept of a road traffic accident. The subsequent chapters are devoted to the actual particularities of investigation of road traffic accidents. The second chapter provides an overview of the investigative description, which means the method by which an accident is committed and specification of the offender and the injured party. This chapter is followed by the third chapter, which discusses the particularities of the impulses for investigation, or notification of traffic accidents. The fourth chapter concentrates on the particularities of the initial procedure, such as requesting an explanation from the notifier or parties to the accident, examination of the scene of the accident and the vehicles and ascertaining whether the parties to the accident were under the influence of alcohol or other narcotic substances. This chapter also describes chasing after the parties to the accident and hunting for the vehicle. The fifth chapter is brief and discusses the particularities of investigation versions and planning and organisation of an investigation. The next-to-last, more extensive chapter concentrates on the specifics of the subsequent phase of investigation., particularly on questioning the witnesses and the accused, investigation experiments and re-enactments, verification of testimonies on scene and expert opinions. The last chapter discusses the involvement of the public in the investigation and, most importantly, prevention of traffic accidents.