

Abstract

The theme of this diploma thesis is “*The methodology of investigating crimes against life (selected issues)* “. As the title itself suggests, the work focuses only on some aspects of the murder investigation methodology which is in criminalistics practice used also to investigate other crimes against life, as well as to investigate suspected deaths, sudden deaths or suicides.

This theme is so extensive that it cannot be fully covered within a defined range, therefore the thesis only deals with certain aspects. The core of this thesis lies in the peculiarities of the initial investigative actions, with increased attention paid to the act of investigation.

The first chapter contains a brief introduction to the issue of crimes against life in terms of criminal law. At the beginning of the chapter, the concept of human life as a generic object of these crimes is analyzed as well, with respect to the importance of determining its beginning and its end. The chapter is completed with statistics on the number of crimes against life in the years 2010-2016.

The second chapter is focused on the criminological aspects of the murder investigation methodology, while, first of all, the components of the criminological characteristics of the murders are outlined for a better orientation in the given issue, i.e. the way of committing, perpetrator's personality, victim's personality and motive.

The third chapter describes the peculiarities of the initial investigative actions, both for the situations where the corpse is not found, however there is a suspicion of committing a crime (cases of missing persons), and for the opposite situations where the corpse is found.

The fourth chapter is dedicated to the act of investigation, as this initial action is, in my opinion, one of the most important acts in the whole investigative process. For this reason, the thesis provides a more detailed insight into this area and focuses especially on the specifics of the crime scene and the corpse investigation.

The thesis also points out certain failures and mistakes that occur both on the side of the police and on the side of the doctors involved in the investigation of the corpse. The text is also enriched with many cases from investigative practice, two of which are analyzed in more detail, and some pictorial attachments are added to better illustrate the facts described in the text.