

Conquering the LEAF/CLEA Exam

SKILL SET 3 AND
SKILL SET 19

About the Instructor/Course

- Instructor – Jenny Zawitz Jennifer.Zawitz@gmail.com
- CLEA Study Guide: https://iaca.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/CLEA-Skill-Sets_Study-Resources-051821.pdf
- LEAF Study Guide: https://iaca.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/en_LEAF-Core-Competencies_Study-Resources.pdf
- Exploring Crime Analysis: Readings on Essential Skills (3rd Edition) - IACA
- Each month will cover a different section of the study guide
- Intended as a supplement NOT a substitute for the texts and the Essential Skills classes
 - This course will help you focus your studying, but the courses and text will provide the actual understanding you need to pass the tests



Criminal Behavior

SKILL SET 3, CHAPTER 3



The Crime Triangle

Based in RAT –
crime occurs
where likely
offenders,
suitable target,
and lack of a
capable
guardian meet



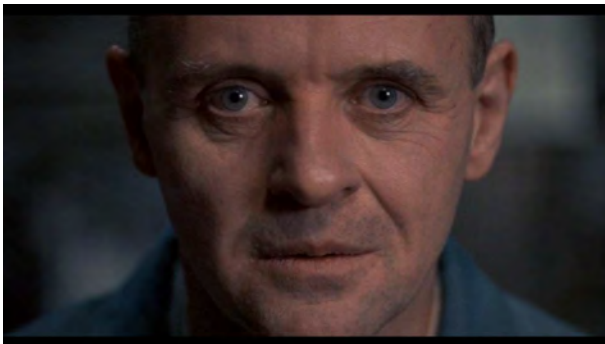
About the Offender

- Need to know as much as we can about the offender to include
 - Classification of the series
 - Physical description of the offender
 - Vehicle/transportation
 - Crime of sequence of events
 - Modus operandi (MO)
 - Signature and motive



Classifying Series

- Series: two or more criminal offenses committed by an individual or group of individuals
- Class I: a single offender acting alone in all reported offenses
- Class II: two or more offenders acting together, where all offenders are common to all cases
- Class III: two or more offenders committing some offenses together, some alone and some with others in which a binding or overarching element keeps the group together and the series continuing (ex: gang activity)



Class I



Class II



Class III



Offender Descriptors

Physical Description	Vehicle Description	Crime Description
Best to obtain non-eye witness testimony. Unreliable. Security footage preferable.	Police are generally better at vehicle descriptions than witnesses	Review exact sequence of events that occurred
Gender, race, approx. age	Try to get license plates/footage	Info relayed in clinical detail
Height, weight, hair color/length, eye color, facial hair	Witness descriptions should be kept general (truck, newer/older model car)	<u>Modus operandi</u> : method of operation. Used by the offender to successfully commit crime
Body shape and clothing	Be wary of tips – stereotypes lead to errors in description	<u>Signature</u> : behaviors that reflect emotional or psychological needs satisfied through criminal behavior
Note exclusionary details – tattoos, scars, birthmarks, accents	Can form blind spots if too specific	
Don't assume physical descriptors are absolute. Can form blind spots		



MO vs. Signature

MO	Signature
Includes activity carried out to gain access to and maintain control of the victim, assist in the commission of the offense, prevent identification, or help the offender flee the final crime scene. More complex MO may indicate more intelligent offender	Reflects emotional/psychological needs that are satisfied through criminal behavior. Behavioral expression of motive. (ex.: fantasy)
May change over time.	**Rarely changes over time and certain behaviors become so specific that they are truly unique**

FBI Typology for Method of Approach/Attack		
Blitz	Con	Surprise
Offender gets as close to the victim as possible and then confronts and overpowers them.	Establishes a friendly contact with the victim and then overpowers them when once they are in the offender's control	Offender secrets themselves in a location where a potential victim may pass by.
Note categories are not mutually exclusive		
Proposed change in 2000 to be "raptors" – attack victims on encounter, "stalkers" – follow victims then attack, "ambushers" – attack victims after enticing them to place controlled by offender		



About the Victim

- Examine physical characteristics of victim
 - According to research, strongest similarities among serial offenders is consistent choice of victim.
 - For property – type of property needs to be described (not geographic information – next section)
 - For person – age, gender, hair color, eye color, body type, race, height, weight, clothing, facial hair).
Note how victim would have appeared at the time of the offense.
 - Ex: 5 year old child that is playing alone and is tall for their age may appear older than 5 to an offender from a distance
- Examine potential risk level
- Consider relationship between victim and offender
 - One of the most important things is how the victim and the offender first came into contact
- Must establish **FACTS** and not make judgements about the victim/lifestyle



Risk Level of Victim

- Note factors and behaviors that may have led to the victim or target being selected by the offender
- Could include marital status, occupation, education, medical history, criminal record, street address, general area of victim's address
- Can add section on social network – family, peers, guardians
- Any other risk factors – intoxication, alone, leaving work, vehicle/home left unattended, doors/windows left open
- Assess victim's overall risk and then the risk of the victim at the time of the crime



Spatial Characteristics of Scene

Scenes to Include in Spatial Characteristics (all crimes have at least one scene). Supplement with maps

Initial Contact Scene	Location where the offender and victim/target first have contact (where offender first sees victim). If previously known to each other, this is where they came into contact immediately before the crime. Public/private space? Sight lines? Congregating location for victims? Most offenders choose somewhere close to home or areas where they are familiar.
Abduction Scene	Location where offender interacts with the target and alters the path of the victim/target to the extent that the offender's path is taken. May not exist depending on the crime and can be non-violent. Why was this chosen? Reckless if a public space? Organized if private space.
Assault Scene	Location where the offender commits the most serious criminal offense against the victims. May be several assault scenes. Why was this chosen? Reckless? Organized?
Dump/Recovery Scene	Location where offender's path and the victim's path or space diverges after the crime has taken place. Recovery scene is usually the same as the dump site. If different, it is usually external factors (bodies float in river). Want to know why offender chose the dump site. Look at sightlines. This is the one scene where there must be physical evidence.



Theories of Crime – Offender Based

- Deterrence and Rational Choice: People have free will and commit crime as a choice. Benefit of crime outweighs the risk of being caught. Increase certainty, swiftness, severity of punishment to deter crime. Basis for criminal justice system in most Western countries.
- Social Learning and Differential Association: Criminal behavior is learned. Learn to commit crime when surrounded by people that commit crime so it is normal and acceptable. Targeting at-risk individuals with positive role models should deter crime
- Social Bonds and Self Control: people are naturally pleasure seeking and crime feels good or are naturally impulsive and lack social bonds. Reconnect people to their community.
- Labeling: society labels people as “bad” and they can’t shake the stigma. Becomes part of their identity. To combat, prevent formal sanctioning of them as a criminal. “John school”
- Personality and Biosocial Theories of Crime: Qualities/traits that make some individuals more prone to crime than others or genetics/brain chemistry contribute to this. Treat with community support/services.

*Note these are brief descriptions – further research needed for the test.



Theories of Crime – Victim Based

- Explain why individuals or places are selected – careful not to “victim blame”
- Lifestyle-Exposure: Persons that live lifestyles that expose them to greater risks for victimization. Ex: lots of time in public spaces, time spent in groups known for criminal behavior. Linked to Routine Activity Theory.
- Situated Transition Theory: crime result of the full round of interactions between two parties (offender and victim) and any witnesses to the crime.
- Criminal Event Perspective: locational and situational factors bring offender and victim together at a specific time and place where the offense occurs.



Theories of Crime – Environmental

- Routine Activity Theories: Motivation to commit crime is constant. Can alter the guardianship of offenders, victims, and space to prevent the crime.
- Crime Pattern Theory: Crime is patterned around established “nodes” and pathways that offenders frequent most often. Offenders may travel different lengths and directions depending on the crime and may preselect or come upon their victim.
- CPTED: Crime prevention through environmental design
- Situational Crime Prevention: altering the physical situations to reduce crime by increasing the effort to commit, increasing the risk, reducing the rewards, reducing provocations, and removing excuses for committing crime.
- Problem Oriented Policing: police should focus less on how they work and more on the results that work. Analysis of problems and find responses to problems.



80/20 Rule

- Large amount of effects or outcomes are caused by a small number of instigators
- Further, crime is concentrated around a small group of offenders, victims, and places.
- Counter to Deterrence Theory – offenders should learn from their mistakes, but they repeat their offenses over and over again.
- Rates vary depending on the population being studied.
- Small group of offenders with a very high recidivism rate.
- Similarly, a small number of victims/targets account for a large number of crimes. Must increase guardianship or harden targets.
- Hot spot theory part of this.



Mental Disorders and Crime

- Mentally ill are much more likely to be the victims of crime or do harm to themselves
- Schizophrenia
- Delusional Disorders
- Mood Disorders (Major Depressive Disorder, Bipolar Disorder)
- Cluster B Personality Disorders: severely dramatic, emotional, unpredictable thinking. Borderline Personality Disorders and Antisocial Personality Disorder are more likely to lead to criminal behavior.
- Psychopathy
- Conduct Disorders (Childhood and Adolescents)
- Paraphilias and Paraphilic Disorders
- Substance Abuse



Organized Crime

SKILL SET 19/CHAPTER 19



Organized Crime

- FBI definition – any group of people with a formalized organizational structure whose primary focus is the pursuit of money through illegal means.
- Drug cartels – spread of narcotics bans
- Continues to develop – human smuggling as it relates to illegal immigrants
- Goal is to exploit markets and underground economies by engaging in activities that pursue financial gain through illicit practices.
- Organized Crime Groups (OCGs) – networks of offenders who work to achieve a common, mutual, criminal goal.
- Use knives, firearms, and improvised explosive devices (extreme), while engaging in bribery, corruption, and general manipulation to enforce, influence, or exert controls over others. Use money or threat of destruction of reputation to influence.



Organized Crime – Brief History

- Italy: La Cosa Nostra in Sicily. Started in the 1800s -1980s. Judge Giovanni Falcone started prosecuting them. Spread internationally through familial groups.
- Russia: after the fall of the Soviet Union, the Red Mafia took control of an estimated 40% of the nation's economy. Violent, creative, and well-educated. Difficult to locate and shut down.
- China: Triads are known for their traditions, violence, and trafficking. Influence in US.
- Colombia: proficient in the export of cocaine. Use narco-terrorism and bribes, Cartels control the flow of drugs. Attempts by LE to curb their activity have been met with mixed success.
- Organized crime has evolved into cybercrime, making it more difficult to track. Use phishing schemes, identity fraud, and groom terrorist groups. Can also do distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks against governments and institutions.



Types of Organized Crime Groups

Drug Trafficking

- Account for nearly 38% of all organized crime in the US
- Drug Cartels – sophisticated, highly organized with unique cells that have specific assignments on distribution network.
- Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTOs) – command and control orgs that produce, transport, and deliver large quantities of drugs.
- Criminal Groups – loose knit groups that distribute illicit drugs at retail/midrange level – street gangs, motorcycle gangs, and prison gangs.
- Mexican DTOs control most of the wholesale cocaine, heroin, and meth distribution in US along with sizeable portion of marijuana (used to be Columbians with cocaine and heroin).
- Asian DTOs are distributing high potency marijuana and MDMA.
- Disrupting DTOs is the primary goal of LE, though structure can be complex. Examine frequency of contact or direction of communication is key to determining structure.



Types of Organized Crime Groups

Human Trafficking

- Trafficking Forced Labor – victims tricked into being sold into forced servitude
- Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation – women and children promised a better life are forced into sexual slavery
- Trafficking of organs – supply clandestine medical treatments
- Human smuggling is attempting to cross an international border through clandestine activities which is not the same as human trafficking.
- Trafficking is the fastest growing organized crime outlet and the third largest criminal enterprise in the world. Victims often taken from underdeveloped countries to developed areas.
- Many of these crimes go unreported. Best way to discover these is through banking channels (organ trafficking estimated 600M-1.2B per year). Anti-money laundering and suspicious activity reports can be successful in interrupting these activities.



Types of Organized Crime Groups

Organized Retail Crime

- Shoplifting costs an estimated \$11B annually while ORCs account for \$30-37B annually
- ORCs is done primarily to convert stolen good to money as opposed to shoplifting where the item is kept for personal use. ORCs are typically involved in large-scale thefts in a coordinated effort.
- Use foil-lined containers to thwart security systems. Will ticket switch to get expensive merchandise for cheaper costs by swapping bar codes. May also simply walk out of the door with a large amount of items. Credit card fraud may also be used to purchase items.
- May return items for cash or use a fence. Fences may recruit criminals and provide lists of items they need to sell.
 - Level 1 Fence: sells stolen product to store owner/pawn shop who then sells it in his shop
 - Level 2 Fence: Buys goods from level 1 fence and repackages to look like they come from the manufacturer
 - Level 3 Fence: Receives good from Level 2 and then sells them to retailers.
- May also engage in this through online marketplaces. Possible link between ORCs and terrorism.
- Analysts need to understand relationships between products being stolen, people committing thefts, methods used, and the fence.



Types of Organized Crime Groups

Cargo Theft

- \$30B annually
- Risk of theft increases as travel distance grows. Most will occur in an urban, economically developed area around distribution centers, warehouses, container ports, and network hubs.
- Related to economic climate, income level, poverty level, and job availability.
- Steal pharmaceuticals, consumer electronics, apparel, and food, though metal or bottled water may also be targeted depending on the economy. Best sellers on secondary market.
- May pay off truck drivers or wait for the truck to be left alone. Thieves may even bring their own truck and just take the trailer with the goods in it.
- Highly underreported because of negative publicity and competition.



Types of Organized Crime Groups

Fraud/Cyber Crime

- Credit card and check fraud are prevalent, with complaints/identify theft rising 400% since 2012
- Account information can be sold on the black market to open accounts, purchase products, resell credentials.
- Check fraud – hire runners to cash checks with leaders having access to stolen identities. Runners get a cut of the successful cashes. Ex: Felony Lane Gang.
- US loses \$5B annually
- Easy for criminals to evade detection – need to determine hidden relationships within data
- Upload transactional data into a link chart to identify these relationships
- Victims can be individuals, companies, ISPs, or governments.
- Hacking and phishing attempts to introduce malware and botnets into computer's OS can log keystrokes or send information to criminals.
- Some groups hack into streaming services for TV/movie/sports content for rebroadcast.
- Corporate espionage and DDoS attacks are a constant threat to disrupt operations.
- Identifying sources of cyber attacks are difficult – can use Tor to anonymize their internet connection by redirecting data all over the world
- Some hacker groups are public about their activities to draw attention to issues



Types of Organized Crime Groups

Biker Gangs/Street Crime/Environmental

Biker Gangs

- Clear hierarchy, may be prior military
- Proud of membership, may not try to hide it
- Partnership and rivalries among gangs
- Analysts attempt to determine where the greatest level of tension and threat may be.

Street Crime

- Use anonymity and public environment
- Thefts from person (robbery, mugging, pick-pocketing)
- Attempts to “design out” more vulnerable places like alleyways/dark spaces.
- Includes protests and riots

Environmental Crimes

- Generally done by specialty agencies. Can include theft or killing of endangered animals, logging
- Interpol views this as a serious, organized, and often transnational crime.
- Goal is for stronger enforcement and intelligence-led investigation of traffickers
- Extends beyond typical local crime analysis but important to know what’s going on in your jurisdiction
- May also include dumping large amounts of waste in public spaces, pollution, and poaching.



Future of Organized Crime

- Diversification of offending – offenders engaging in multiple forms of crime. Risk and methods of income are diverse and harder to track.
- Technological assistance – Evolution of technology (Ex: VOIP means you don't have to call from a traceable phone number)
- Advancing and specialist skills amongst offenders – criminals are becoming well-informed regarding police methods and will invest in technological countermeasures.
- International impact of offending – crime is becoming increasingly international so motivations, laws, and languages vary wildly.
- Weaponry – evolving from typical firearms to modified every day items that can fire a bullet (lighters, phones, pens, and flashlights)



Legal Response to Organized Crime

- Strategic Regional Organized Crime Units provide specialized assistance
 - Use risk matrices to generate a score to determine levels of threats with these groups
 - Asset recovery legislation is key – confiscate homes and cars
- Traditional street gangs have realized white collar crime is less dangerous, more profitable, harder to detect, and doesn't carry the stiff penalties that traditional crime does.
- ORC is punished similarly to shoplifting which doesn't have the same strict penalties
- Pursuing the fence is preferable because it cuts the chain at the local level.
- Racketeering and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) aims to make these penalties harsher
- Need to create public/private partnerships between LE and retailers to combat these issues – cooperation ebbs and flows.



Conclusions

- Read the books and take the classes to strengthen understanding.
- Try to apply the things learned to your every day work to “make them stick”.
- Use the study guides.
 - <https://iaca.net/about-clea/> (links for program outline and study guides here)
 - <https://iaca.net/about-leaf/> (links for program outline and study guides here)
- Next month: Crime Analysis Data and Data Management (Skill Set 6) and Internet Resources (Skill Set 5).

Any questions?

