Basic Digital Law Enforcement Photography

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONAL

A three-day photography course for Law Enforcement professionals covering the following topics:

Day 1

* Digital camera controls and basic operation
* Basic photographic principles
  • Exposure- ISO, aperture, shutter speed
  • Focus, selective focus and the hyperfocal distance
  • Depth of field
  • Stopping motion
* Film vs. digital- how they differ evidentially and how to handle them
* Lenses and perspective for accurate documentation

Day 2

* Understanding your camera system
* Principles of crime scene documentation
* Photographing the crime scene
* Artificial lighting, available light and flash photography
* Multiple flash photography
* Photographing evidence in the laboratory setting
* Introduction to latent fingerprint photography

Day 3

* Painting with light for night time or poorly illuminated crime scene and accident photography
* Close up photography- specialized techniques
* Foot track and tire impression photography
* Introduction to Alternate Light Source imaging
* Introduction to the presentation of photographic evidence

Students will engage in at least two practical exercises each day with their own camera equipment, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, on the topics taught. Images will be projected and discussed by the class. Homework assignments
will be given as exercises, and discussed. Students are required to bring their camera, tripod, and other working photographic equipment.

Includes both a printed course manual and a CD of open source and freeware programs that allow image enhancement, display preparation, and presentation. These programs may be used in class exercises. Equivalent commercial value would be over $1,000 in retail software.