

# Gathering Evidence in Criminal Investigations Course

## COURSE INFORMATION:

All criminal cases rely on evidence for decisions to make as to whether to take action and, if prosecuting, whether a person charged or summonsed with an offence is guilty of it. In fact, one of the tests that needs to be satisfied for a prosecution to take place is the evidential test.

It is important that individuals involved in criminal investigations understand what evidence is, the different types of evidence that can be gathered throughout an investigation, and how that evidence should be managed to ensure that the chain of continuity is maintained.

Failure to ensure that any evidence collected or generated during the course of a criminal investigation are correctly logged, and the audit trail of this evidence maintained can undermine the investigation process which may lead to a case being lost in court.

This is a one-day course which can be delivered both in-person and virtually.



## AUDIENCE

This course has been designed for any individual involved in gathering, managing or reviewing evidence as part of criminal investigations. It is therefore suitable for investigators, enforcement officers, evidence gatherers, disclosure officers, intelligence officers, prosecutors, team leaders and managers.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Understand what evidence is.
- Identify the classifications of evidence that can be gathered as part of a criminal investigation.
- Understand confessions, and when they may be used as evidence.
- Understand how to gather, record and manage different types of evidence collected throughout an investigation.
- Understand the importance of the chain of evidence.
- Identify the different types of evidence that can be presented in criminal court, including bad character.
- Understand unfair evidence, and when evidence may be excluded.
- Appreciate the importance of the security and retention of evidence.