

False Leads & Redirections Protocol

Understanding the mechanisms of intentional and unintentional deception (KA-MOD-005) to maintain objective analysis.

Types of False Leads

False leads must be classified by intent, as the appropriate mitigation strategy varies significantly.



Intentional Redirection (Deception)

Goal-Directed Misinformation

- Planted Information:** Introducing irrelevant but plausible data to confuse the timeline or motive.
- Strategic Omission:** Withholding critical facts that would invalidate a hypothesis.
- False Alibi/Witness:** Creating a narrative structure that points away from the truth.

Requires: **Counter-Interrogation Tactics** and **Source Vetting**.



Unintentional Redirection (Bias/Error)

Cognitive or Systemic Error

- Confirmation Bias:** Analysts prioritize data that supports their initial theory.
- Memory Contamination:** Witness unintentionally combines facts from external sources.
- Systemic Echo:** Re-circulated internal misinformation due to poor data hygiene.

Requires: **Structured Analysis Methods** and **Peer Review**.

The Path of a False Lead

1. Introduction

A plausible piece of **Misinformation** is introduced into the data stream (Source).

2. Validation

The information survives an initial, superficial check due to its **Plausibility** or **Context**.

3. Assimilation

The false lead is **Integrated** into the core working hypothesis, warping the overall narrative.

4-Point Mitigation Protocol

Mandatory steps to neutralize the impact of false leads and maintain analytical integrity.



1. Source Isolation

DO NOT cross-reference new information with itself. Isolate the original source (Witness, Document, Sensor) and verify *only* against known, independently validated facts.



2. Hypotheses Disconfirmation

Actively seek evidence that **DISPROVES** the current working theory. Prioritize falsification over confirmation to check the resilience of the lead.



3. Narrative Inversion

Temporarily assume the lead is **100% false**. Does the new, inverted narrative make more sense? Check for motive (who benefits from the misdirection?).



4. Data Audit Trail

Mandatory logging of every decision point. Clearly mark leads as **(A)** Validated, **(B)** Unconfirmed, or **(C)** Disproven to prevent re-assimilation later.