

Virginia Department of Forensic Science  
Crime Scene Sketching  
December 1 – 4, 2026  
Mechanicsville, VA

**\*\*\*\* Applications are now being accepted! \*\*\*\***

This course is designed to teach law enforcement personnel to accurately document a crime scene through rough sketches, measurements and detailed note taking. Students will be instructed in a variety of measurement techniques and documentation and will then be taught how to use the data gathered at the crime scene to produce scaled diagrams of the scene through mechanical drawings and computer drawings using Microsoft® Visio™ (all equipment, laptop computers and software to complete the course will be provided by the Department of Forensic Science).

There is no fee to attend this course.

This course will be limited to 12 students and is restricted to personnel from Virginia law enforcement agencies.

The course will be taught by the Training Section at the Virginia Department of Forensic Science's **NEW** Central Laboratory located at 8850 Times Dispatch Blvd, Mechanicsville, VA 23116 beginning at 8:30 A.M. each day.

**As a training contact, please distribute this email throughout your department and surrounding law enforcement agencies so that any interested Virginia law enforcement personnel may be able to submit an application.**

Applications may be submitted at [www.dfs.virginia.gov](http://www.dfs.virginia.gov), the course listing is located under "Forensic Training" The event password to submit an application for the Crime Scene Sketching course is: 1544d2.

**The registration will close on November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 5:00PM unless the course receives an overwhelming number of applications, which will prompt closing the course sooner.**

It is very important that you include your duties and responsibilities when prompted during the application process; that information is needed to be considered for this course. Remember, you must have a valid email address to complete your application and follow the instructions to create a profile (one email address per profile, no duplications). In the field for "middle initial", input a

hyphen (-) if you do not have one since it is a required field. The email address utilized will receive a confirmation message once the application is submitted and a following email stating acceptance or denial to the course once the application has been reviewed. If you have already created a profile, you need only to log-in after entering the event password above. \*\*\* If you do not receive a confirmation email, check your spam folder. If it DOES end up there, then most likely, the email indicating your acceptance will be sent to spam as well. \*\*\*

For additional information, view “Course Resources”, as additional information may be posted. If you have any questions or concerns with submitting, please feel free to contact me.

Tiffany J. Alston  
Virginia Department of Forensic Science  
Division of Technical Services  
Forensic Training Section  
8850 Times Dispatch Blvd.  
Mechanicsville, VA 23116  
Desk: 804-588-4132  
Cell: 804-992-3654  
Main phone line: 804-786-6936  
Fax: 804-786-6985