

Death Investigation for First Officer and/or Supervisor on the Scene

Course Objectives

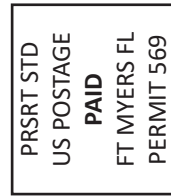
Many law enforcement agencies lack a dedicated death investigation unit, requiring uniform officers and supervisors to assume greater responsibility at death scenes. This two-day training provides first responders and supervisors with the knowledge, skills, and procedures necessary to conduct thorough initial and follow-up investigations into deaths.

Through a combination of lectures, case studies, and practical guidance, participants will gain an understanding of postmortem changes, scene management, legal considerations, and investigative techniques applicable to all types of death investigations. The course also addresses high-profile and complex cases, such as officer-involved shootings and in-custody deaths.

Course Overview

Participants will learn to:

- **Recognize and interpret postmortem changes**, including Livor Mortis, Rigor Mortis, Decomposition, Cadaveric Spasm, Algor Mortis, and Tache Noire, while distinguishing between cause and manner of death
- **Secure and manage the scene** with attention to 4th Amendment issues, scene control, and exigency
- **Handle initial procedural challenges**, including observation, documentation, and Miranda considerations, especially when a dedicated investigator is not present
- **Investigate natural deaths**, including sudden unattended deaths, autopsy considerations, family interviews, medications, activity before death, personal history, and cultural/religious factors
- **Notify next of kin** appropriately and timely, including guidance on location and communication methods
- **Examine potential suicides** by evaluating methods, written/unwritten notes, trauma types, family concerns, motivations, insurance, and civil implications
- **Investigate non-vehicular accidental deaths** such as plane crashes, auto-erotic deaths, and natural disasters, including unique challenges and delayed investigations
- **Manage officer-involved shootings and in-custody deaths** by understanding case law, subject and witness officer rights, and Garrity considerations
- **Apply current trends and best practices** relevant to death investigations, court testimony, and investigative techniques



Legal and Liability
Risk Management Institute
700 N. Carr Rd., #595
Plainfield, IN 46168

Phone: 317-386-8325
FAX: 317-386-8228
www.llrmi.com

December 15 & 16, 2026 • Columbus, Ohio

TRAINING SEMINAR

Death Investigation for First Officer and/or Supervisor on the Scene

December 15 & 16, 2026
Columbus, Ohio

SPONSORED BY:

Columbus Division of Police
Columbus, Ohio



**LLRMI Experienced Instructors
Make the Difference**



Instructor

Robert G. Lowery, Jr.
Major (Retired)
Florissant Police Department
Florissant, Missouri

Register On-Line at: www.llrmi.com



Legal & Liability Risk Management Institute

James R. Alsup, Director

www.llrmi.com

Seminar Agenda	
Tuesday, December 15, 2026	
8:00 – 8:30 am	Registration
8:30 – 11:30 am	• Introduction to Death Investigation • Postmortem Body Changes • Scene Security
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Lunch (On Your Own)
12:30 – 4:30 pm	• Miranda and Other Initial Problems on Death Scenes • Natural Death Investigation • Notification of Next of Kin • Case Studies
Wednesday, December 16, 2026	
8:00 – 11:30 am	• Suicide Investigation • Non-Vehicular Accidental Deaths
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Lunch (On Your Own)
12:30 – 4:30 pm	• Officer Involved Shootings • Other In-Custody Deaths
4:30 pm	Certificate Presentation

Instructor Bio

Robert Lowery was the 5th police official to be appointed as Commander of the elite 35-year Greater St. Louis Major Case Squad, a multi-jurisdictional violent crime task force concerned with the high profile murder investigations in Missouri and Illinois. Serving 2.5 million citizens across 12 counties. Formed partnerships with Federal Law Enforcement agencies, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United State Marshal Service, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Secret Service and Internal Revenue to maximize resources available for in-progress homicide cases. Robert created the Technical Operations Group, a specially-trained team designed to provide electronic support in tracking and locating suspects. Robert created the Family Liaison Program which provided specially-trained investigators to work with families of victims of homicide cases, investigated violent crimes with 500 Law Enforcement Investigators from over 100 local, county, state, federal agencies and managed high-level murder cases in collaboration with numerous officers and agencies.

Robert is a member of the International Homicide Investigators Association, Quantico, Virginia, United State Department of Justice, Federal Agency Task Force on Missing and Exploited Children, Washington DC, International Coroners and Medical Examiners Association and Federal Bureau of Investigation and National Academy Association.

3 Ways to Register

Register Online at www.llrmi.com

Fax Form to: 317-386-8228

Mail Form to: Legal and Liability Risk Management
700 N. Carr Rd., #595
Plainfield, Indiana 46168
Federal ID: 81-0692135

VISA

AMERICAN EXPRESS

MasterCard

If you have any questions please call: **317-386-8325**

❖PREPAYMENT IS NOT REQUIRED TO REGISTER❖

Upon receiving your registration we will send an Invoice to your department or agency. Checks, claim forms, purchase orders should be made payable to LLRMI.

Seminar Title:

Death Investigation for the First Officer and/or Supervisor on the Scene

Seminar ID:

#17191

Dates:

December 15 & 16, 2026

Registration Time:

December 15, 2026, 8 am

Instructors:

Robert Lowery, Jr.

Seminar Location:

Columbus Police Training Academy
1000 N Hague Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43204

Hotel Reservations:

Drury Inn & Suites Columbus/Grove City
4109 Parkway Centre Drive
Grove City, Ohio 43123
1-800-325-0720
\$131.00 King Room (plus tax)

Group Code:

10167679
To receive special room rates, please identify yourself with this group code.

Registration Fee:

\$325.00
Death Investigation for the First Officer and/or Supervisor on the Scene Training, **Printed Training Manual** and Certificate of Completion

Registration Form – Death Investigation for the First Officer and/or Supervisor on the Scene #17191

Names of Attendees

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Agency _____

Invoice To Attention of: (Must be completed.) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____ Fax _____

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