



Thanks to all who read our previous newsletter and especially those who took time to comment. We hope to progress even more in time to come and hope that everyone can keep on supporting us in achieving new heights.
Jannie van der Westhuizen - Founder & CEO

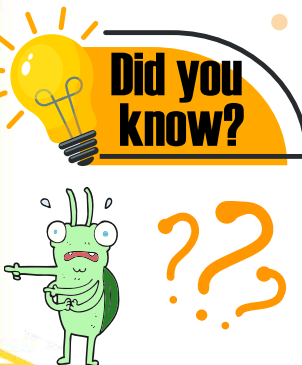
Letter from our Chairman



David Lekota

Thank you, Wesco team, for welcoming me on board as Chairman of Wesco Forensics Services. As we all know, today's business environment is becoming increasingly complex, driven not only by digital disruption but also by increased regulation and regulatory enforcement across most jurisdictions. We work with many of the country's pre-eminent organizations to assist them in managing these complex business challenges by providing leading-edge technology platforms, professional advice, and on-the-ground experience to confront the risks and challenges they face. Being proactive is key, whether investigating and responding to alleged misconduct, including fraud or corrupt practices, assessing business integrity, or quantifying and helping to resolve complex and costly commercial disputes and claims. Now, how can Wesco Forensics Services stay competitive in a fast-changing, fractured environment? We believe it will be a game-changer to utilize technology and science in the fight against crime and to reduce risks for businesses in resolving mysteries. At Wesco Forensics Services, we believe in research and development through science and technology. It is my great honor to be here.
David Lekota - Chairman

Bugs can help solve a crime. It's actually called forensic entomology. While bugs can't actually solve a crime, investigators are able to look inside of an insect's (typically a maggot's) stomach and are able to determine how long a body has been decomposing.



Wesco is in its final stages of offering profiling for persons and institutions through groundbreaking technology. Once again, Wesco takes the lead in this highly sought-after value addition.

- 1. In-House Training for Farmers, Neighborhood Watches, & Members of Private Groups Fighting Crime**
(This workshop aims to empower citizens to support law enforcement by preserving evidence and fostering swift responses to create safer communities.)
- 2. In-House Training for Attorneys and Advocates**
(Comprehensive training covering the intricacies of firearm analysis, tool-mark identification, and ballistic evidence interpretation.)
- 3. In-House Training for Security Members & Other Stakeholders**
(An opportunity to revolutionize your skills and protect crime scenes effectively.)

Call us  for more info



Topic of the Month

INFORMATION ON CRIME SCENES, WHEN THE SAPS TAKE CONTROL.

Upon the arrival of the SAPS at a crime scene, the first responder—whether a neighborhood watch member, private security officer, or civilian—will hand over the scene along with all pertinent information about it to the first police member who arrives. This is typically a VISPOL (uniformed) member from a local police station.

Given that each crime scene must be handled based on its unique characteristics, only general guidelines for approaching crime scenes can be outlined. The SAPS Detective Learning Programme (SAPS, 2009) outlines the procedures to be followed upon receiving a crime report:

- In the event phase, the public is typically engaged and in the optimal position to stabilize the situation and manage the crime scene.
- The reporting phase is when a member of the public notifies the SAPS 10111 call center about an incident. The call-taker is responsible for accurately gathering all necessary information in detail and transmitting this information to the dispatcher.
- During the activation phase, the dispatcher mobilizes role-players to the crime scene as needed.
- The responding phase occurs when the first member arrives at the scene. Lt-Col (ret) Frans van der Merwe stressed that during this phase, the first member should approach the scene with careful consideration for personal safety, the safety of others, and the preservation of the crime scene. Upon reaching the scene, the first member is required to notify the dispatcher of their arrival and proceed to assess the situation, conducting thorough observations. It is possible that the perpetrator could still be present at the crime scene upon the arrival of the first member.

In such cases, any individuals deemed as suspects should be handed over to the backup team to ensure their removal from the crime scene and prevent any potential contamination. The investigating officer must ensure that any potential evidence is obtained from the suspect as soon as possible. This includes their clothing and footwear (Lochner and Zinn, 2015). If a shooting took place, it is imperative to examine the suspect's hands for gunshot residue.

- During the controlling phase, the first member should prioritize caring for the injured, assume responsibility for the initial scene handover from the public, identify and establish a command center, and function as the command center commander until an official commander is designated. The first member, regardless of rank or position, is tasked with assuming control and ensuring that no unauthorized individuals, including higher-ranking police officers unrelated to the incident, gain access to the crime scene. Instances have occurred where various police officials, including senior officers, and members of the media were permitted onto the crime scene, leading to potential contamination through mishandling of evidence, traversing the area, and even removing physical proof. The primary responsibility of the first responding police member is to safeguard the crime scene until the arrival of crime scene examiners from the Criminal Record Center and the investigating officer. Lt-Col (ret) Van der Merwe added that the first member must identify the nature of the incident and give a situation report to the dispatcher.
- During the securing and safeguarding phase, the first member must identify the nature of the incident and give a situation report to the dispatcher. It is also during this phase that a perimeter will be established around the incident site and access control measures to safeguard the area will be implemented. Upon arrival, control of the scene is transferred to the crime scene manager.



Forensics
Loves
Truth



TO GET THE FULL ARTICLE ON CRIME MANAGEMENT, WHEN THE SAPS TAKE CONTROL, CONTACT:

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