

Dear Supervisor –

As we know, credentials are becoming increasingly important in the evidence photography industry. And with the new Evidence Photographer Certification, your employees won't just raise the standard...they will become it.

The Evidence Photographers International Council (EPIC) proudly announces the Evidence Photographer Certification, focused on the needs of photographers involved with crime scenes. Created by seventeen leading experts in the industry along with the Professional Photographic Certification Commission, the Evidence Photographer Certification will set the industry guidelines and standards—needed in this ever-changing industry—and will provide this information through optional instruction. This new certification is not just a piece of paper, it will become a part of your employees' reputations, increasing others' trust in their abilities.

The Evidence Photographer Certification encompasses the essential qualities needed in a professional evidence photographer, especially those involved with crime scenes. This certification is unique for evidence photographers. Every test answer is fully referenced to at least one current, readily available textbook regarding forensic or general photography. It is also backed by the Alliance of Visual Artists (AVA) who has successfully educated photographers for over 128 years through the Professional Photographers of America (PPA).

Why should your employees earn the Evidence Photographer Certification?

Creditability in the courtroom

As with any field, professional credentials are important. They can often be the deciding factor what is the correct way of completing an assignment. And will your word (or your employees' words) be accepted in a courtroom decision? Back up your agency's photographs, decisions, and testimonies with certification - proving that your evidence photographers are experts.

Respect in the workplace and the industry

Nearly 71 % of certified professionals say that credentials give them more prestige among their colleagues. *Salary Survey: Monitoring Your Net Worth, CertMag, 2005*

Validation of achievement in an industry-valued skill

Evidence Photographer Certification is an opportunity for individuals to earn the credential that proves their competence in the ever-changing field of evidence photography. It is specifically developed for you and/or your employees, testing the skills and knowledge that are necessary for an expert evidence photographer.

Increased knowledge, leading to increased job satisfaction

Evidence photographers who want to be certified must meet the stringent requirements of the program and maintain a level of competence and professionalism that will serve as the international standard in the field. Meeting these requirements will increase their confidence personally and professionally.

The certification can be obtained in a few simple steps:

Each step includes:

One and a half days of **optional education** taught by an evidence photography expert.

A **written test** covering material that is referenced by at least one current, readily available textbook on forensic or general photography.

Image submissions that confirm a participant's skill

Certification will cover five test specifications:

Camera Systems - this category will include the use and knowledge of digital and film cameras, as well as the various lenses and attachments that might be utilized on either type of camera.

Composition - this area will focus on various aspects of composition, including color relationships, framing, using perspective, measuring scales and background.

Exposure and Meters - this area will include how to meter for the correct exposure and the relationship between shutter speed and f-stop.

Lighting - this portion of the examination will measure how to best light the subject, possible types of lighting (Studio, Ambient, Flash, Daylight), lighting design and lighting equipment.

Legal Aspects of Photography - items included in this section relate to any court ruling's or legal procedure's impact upon forensic photography.

The certification will be administered by the Professional Photographic Certification Commission, the leading certifying body for imaging professionals in the world. (www.certifiedphotographer.com)

For more information on testing and education go to our Web site www.EvidencePhotographers.com/certification

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Claire W. White
Association Director