

Second Edition

# CRIME SCENE AND EVIDENCE PHOTOGRAPHY



Steven Staggs

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By Steven Staggs

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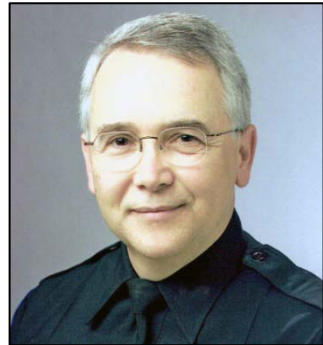
# Dedication

**This book is dedicated to Crime Scene Investigators who strive daily to bring criminals to justice and closure to victims and their families.**

## About the Author

### Steven Staggs

For the past 30 years Steven Staggs has been a forensic photography instructor and has trained more than 4,000 crime scene technicians and investigators for police and sheriff departments, district attorney offices, and federal agencies. He is also a guest speaker for investigator associations, appears as a crime scene investigation expert on Discovery Channel's *Unsolved History*, and provides consulting to law enforcement agencies.



Steve has extensive experience in crime scene photography and identification. He has testified in superior court concerning his crime scene, evidence, and autopsy photography and has handled high profile cases including a nationally publicized serial homicide case.

Steve is the author of the *Crime Scene and Evidence Photographer's Guide*, a field handbook for crime scene and evidence photography, which is in use by investigators in more than 1,000 law enforcement agencies.

Steve retired in 2004 after 32 years in law enforcement, but continues to teach forensic photography and crime scene investigations at a university in Southern California. He is the President of Crime Scene Resources, Inc. and Webmaster of the Crime Scene Investigator Network ([www.crime-scene-investigator.net](http://www.crime-scene-investigator.net)), the world's most popular Crime Scene Investigation and Forensic Science website.

## **About this Book**

This book is designed for those responsible for photography at the crime scene and in the laboratory. It may be used by law enforcement officers, investigators, crime scene technicians, and forensic scientists. It contains instructions for photographing a variety of crime scenes and various types of evidence. It is a valuable reference tool when combined with training and experience.

While this book contains instructions for various photographic techniques, the techniques in this book require basic photography skills and a working knowledge of the camera and accessories used by the photographer. This book is not intended to prescribe policies or procedures in the area of crime scene photography or investigation. Policies and procedures are established by the investigating agencies.

It is not the purpose of this book to reprint all the information that is otherwise available to the author and publisher, but to complement and amplify other texts. You are urged to read all the available material, learn as much as possible about crime scene and evidence photography, and tailor the information to your individual and agency needs.

Every effort has been made to make this book as complete and accurate as possible. However, there may be mistakes, both typographical and in content. Therefore, this book should be used only as a general guide and not as the ultimate source of crime scene and evidence photography information. Furthermore, this book contains information on crime scene and evidence photography only up to the printing date. The author and publisher shall have neither liability nor responsibility to any person or entity with respect to any loss or damage caused, or alleged to be caused, directly or indirectly by the information contained in this book.



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