

Kriminalistický ústav

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Education and training of experts and scene of crime examiners in the Czech Republic

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Pomáhat a chránit

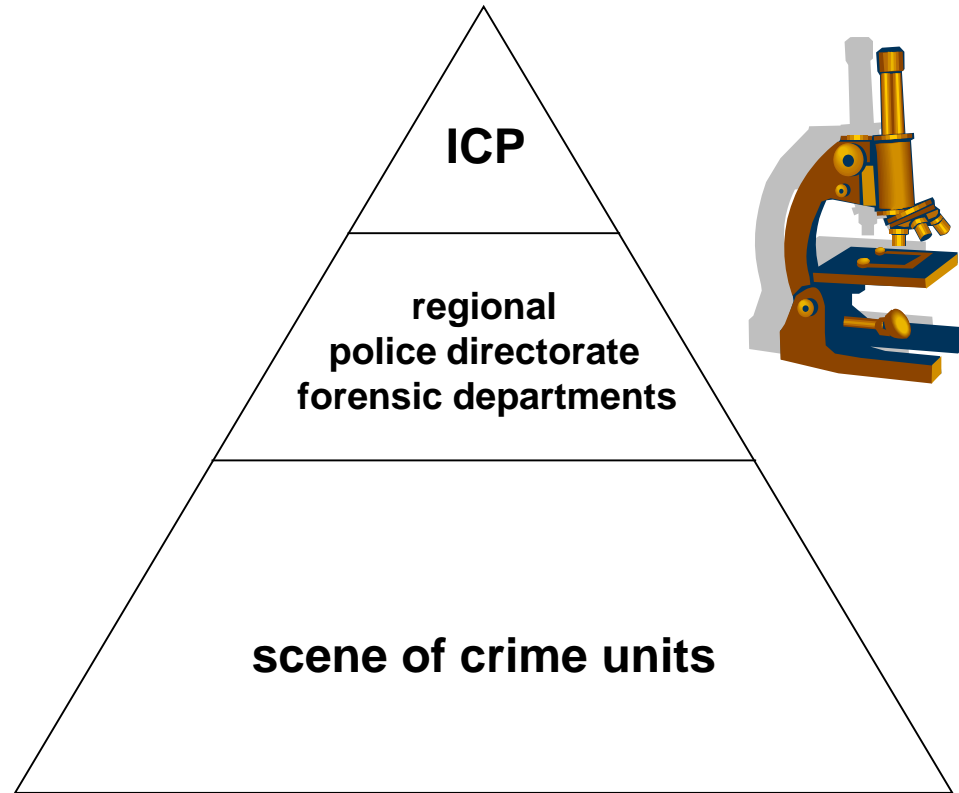


Three-level system

**Nation-wide responsibility
in forensic examination**
Methodical guidance
Research and development

**Regional responsibility
in forensic examination**

Scene of crime examination
Documentation
Identificational acts



Institute of Criminalistics

- nation-wide body of the Czech Republic Police specialized on forensic science
- supreme body of forensic science service of the Police
- central methodical point related to forensic science and scene of crime
- scientific institution in forensic science
- international cooperation in forensic science area
- Guaranteed independence in forensic science activity
- Accredited laboratory by national accreditation agency according EN/ISO IEC 17025:2005,



Institute of Criminalistics

Recorded in the List of expert institutions of the Ministry of Justice in the 2nd division in branches:

- forensic science
- electrotechnics
- chemistry
- handwriting
- engineering



Branch „forensic science“ is represented by:

footprints, electrotechnical engineering, defectoscopy, toolmarks, firearms, handwriting, examination of documents, fingerprints, chemistry, physics, video examination, biology, genetics, anthropology, audio examination, photography examination, computer forensics (data analysis).

Sections of Technical and Forensic Examination

- organisational units of regional police directorates
- 8 from 14 police regional directorates
- activity in 16 fields of forensic examination

toolmarks, shoeprints, electrical engineering, defectoscopy, ballistics, handwriting, technical examination of documents, examination of writing machines, fingerprints, chemistry, physical chemistry, biology, genetics, videorecordings examination, photographic expertise, data analysis

- from 30 to 70 members of staff
- accredited laboratories by national accreditation agency according EN/ISO IEC 17025:2005



Legislation

- Police Act No. 283/2008
- Instruction of Police President No. 100/2001 on activity at the scene of crime of the Czech Republic Police

CSI examination procedure incl. collecting of evidence, special measures and role of important subjects

- Instruction of Police President No. 175/2016 on professional competence for forensic expert and crime scene activity performance
criteria for professional competence of SOCOs and forensic scientists incl. evaluation



System of Education and Training

Training and Education of Forensic Experts and SOCOs		
Forensic experts	Professional training	Qualifying course for forensic experts
		Qualifying exam of forensic experts
	Renewal of competence	Renewal of expert competence exam
Scene of crime examiners	Professional training	Qualifying course for SOCOs
	Renewal of competence	Scene of fire examination workshop
		Recovery of GSR particles workshop
		Shooting scene examination workshop
		Collection of fingerprints workshop
		Insect recovery from decomposed body workshop
		Explosion scene examination workshop
Other	Additional training	Odorology workshop
		Scene of crime examination workshop

Education and Training of Forensic Experts

Certificate of competence is given to a person who meets following criteria:

- Professional training – at least 1 year under supervision of senior scientist
- Qualifying course for forensic experts – Police Academy – 2 months
- Study stay at the ICP (regional labs), OKTE or at external institution (> 5 working days)
- Expert exam before the committee – legislative and expert part
- The certificate of competence

Renewal of competence certificate (5 - 7 years from date of expert competence exam):

- Study stay (> 3 working days)
- Gaining credits
- Renewal exam – presentation of expert activity, legislative and (expert) part



Scene of Crime Units

81 units of crime scene examiners (at district police departments),

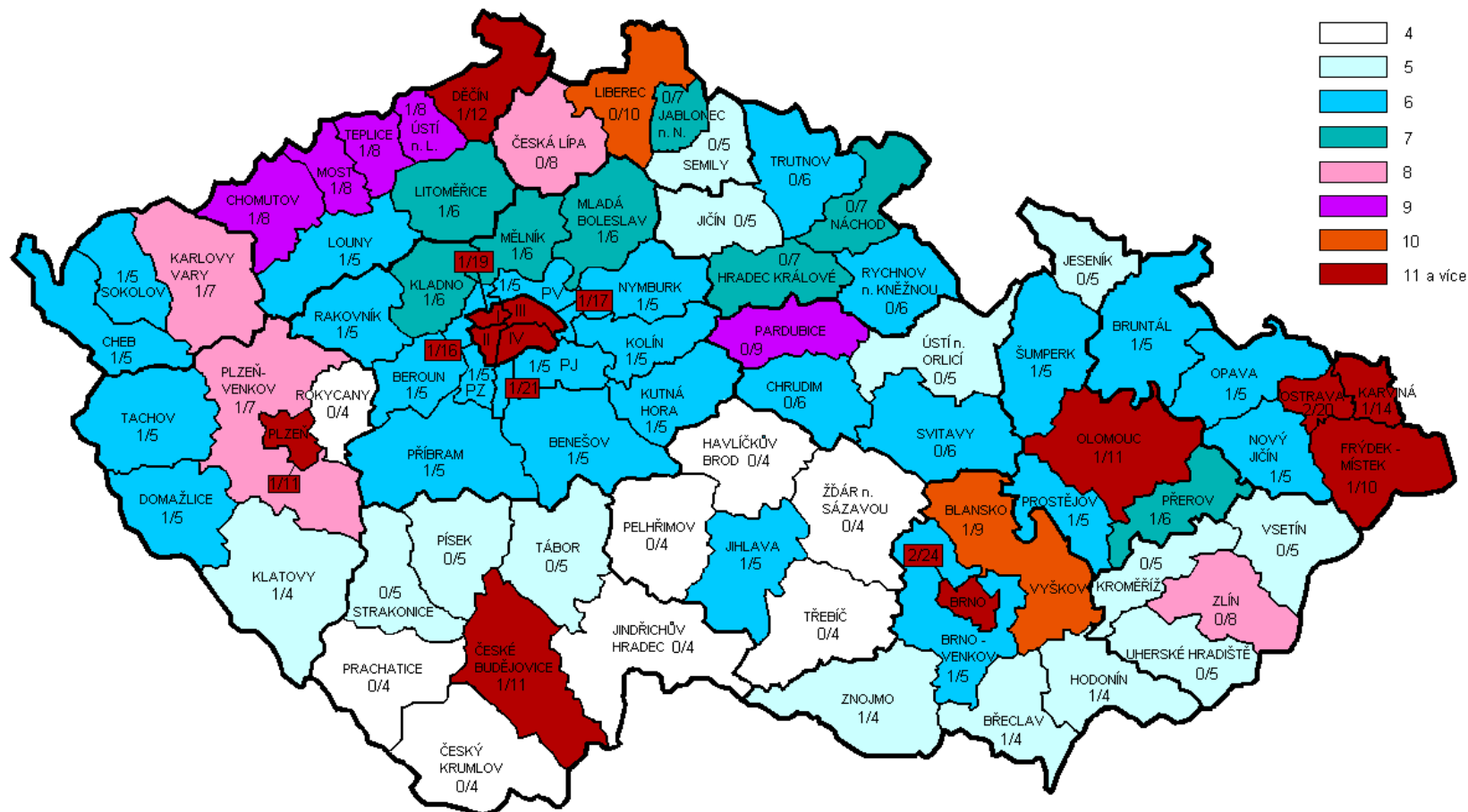
621 crime scene examiners

Main roles:

- Crime scene investigation
- Crime scene documentation (plan, photographs, video)
- Identificational measures – fingerprints, buccal swabs, three-part photographs - IS FODAGEN



Scene of Crime Units



Scene of Crime Units

SOCO – has crucial influence on the quality of the CSI, decide which evidence is found, collected and documented and also sent to the laboratory

Informal requirements –

- knowledge of fields of forensic examination
- experience - CSI after years spent at basic police station
- to be interested in the CSI
- CSI more than job

SOCO – the most experienced police officer at the crime scene at present



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Education and training of SOCOs

In accordance with Instruction of Police President No. 175/2016 on professional competence for forensic casework and crime scene activity performance

Certificate of competence is given to a person who meets following criteria:

- Professional training (takes at least half of year)
- Professional study stay (> 5 working days)
- Qualifying course of SOCOs (12 weeks, 70% of practice, 30% of theory)

Renewal of competence certificate

- after 7 years of employment
- professional study stay (> 3 days)
- a short follow-up course once every 3 years at the police school – an offer from up to 10 various topics - (fingerprints, scene of shooting incident etc.)

Future

Renewal of competence after 7 years, life-long education and training

- professional study stay (at least 3 days) once in 7 years
- e- learning courses and web-based exam
- to meet qualification criteria - requirement for future job of SOCO

Thank you for your kind attention!



Discussion:

How is education and training of forensic experts and scene of crime officers in your country?

What are competence criteria?

Harmonisation?