

SKETCHING

Equipment Needed

- Graph paper
- Paper
- 50- to 100-foot retractable measuring tape
- 1000-foot walking wheel
- Folding rule
- Ruler
- Oversize clipboard with storage pocket
- Eraser
- Magnetic compass
- Personal protective equipment (when needed)
- Flashlight
- Notebook
- Pencil

The accuracy of all measuring devices should be ensured by comparison to a measure of certified accuracy, such as a NIST traceable ruler.

Prepare preliminary sketch(es) and measure:

- Immediate area of the scene, noting case identifiers and indicating north on the sketch.
- Relative location of items of evidence, correlating evidence items with evidence records.
- Evidence prior to movement.
- Rooms, furniture or other objects.
- Distance to adjacent buildings or other landmarks.
- Record the time, date, name of the person who contacted the authorities, and incident information as soon as notification of a crime is received. These notes should be kept separate from the sketch.

Source: *Crime Scene Investigation, A Guide for Law Enforcement* (2013)

2019 Courtesy NFSTC@FIU
shop.nfstc.org/printables

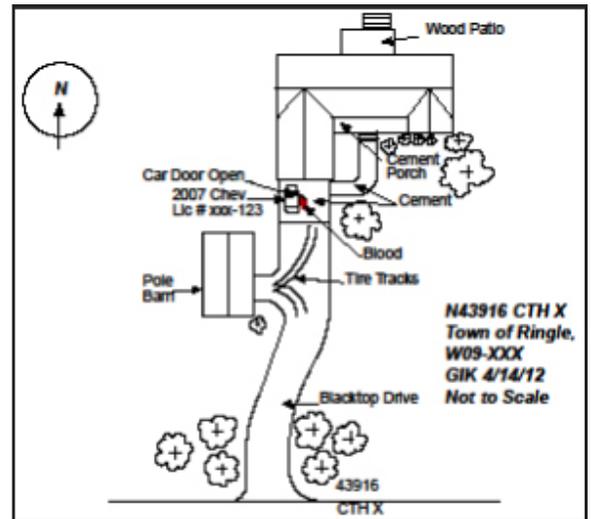


Figure 1. Overhead sketch of crime scene. An overhead view shows a floor plan and is the most frequently used view in sketches.

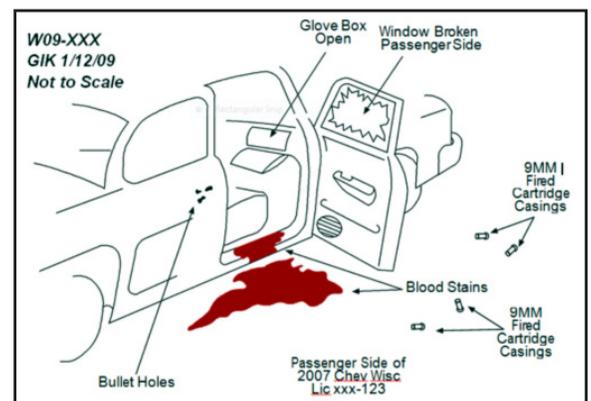


Figure 2. Perspective sketch of vehicle homicide scene. A perspective sketch contains a vanishing point and depicts objects of evidence as they would appear to the eye with reference to relative distance and depth.

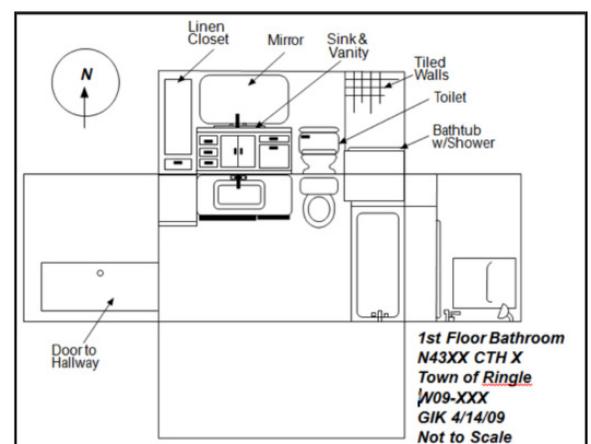


Figure 3. Exploded sketch of bathroom. The exploded view shows a floor plan with walls laid out flat. Objects on the floor and on walls, such as bullet holes or bloodstains, are shown in their relative positions in the exploded view sketch.