

Crime scene reconstruction

Abstract

The theme of this Diploma thesis is crime scene reconstruction (also known as crime reconstruction). The author of this thesis focused primarily on Czech law. Crime scene reconstruction is a type of criminalistic reconstruction. It is a forensic science discipline based on reconstruction of events and situations that occurred as crime was being committed. Crime scene reconstruction is mainly used for cases of severe crime activity such as rape or murder. It was legislated to the Czech Criminal Procedure Code as one of „Special Means of Evidence“ in 2001 when the so-called „the big novelization“ of the Criminal Procedure Code took place. The other special means of evidence legislated alongside with reconstruction were confrontation, recognition, investigation attempt and on-site examination.

The main aim of this diploma thesis is to thoroughly describe crime reconstruction as one of the means of evidence. The leading method used in this project is the descriptive method followed by the comparative method. Finally, analysis is also used in an attempt to bring some new perspectives on the theme. A secondary aim of this diploma thesis is to compare reconstruction with other chosen Means of Evidence legislated in the Criminal Procedure Code. Lastly, a next supporting aim is an attempt at analysis of real case reconstruction. The outcome of this project is the provided overview on some changes that might be implemented in the future.

This thesis is divided into ten chapters. The first chapter introduces the topic of Criminalistic Reconstruction, including its history and progression in time. The next chapter deals with the different types of Criminalistic Reconstruction. The following six chapters are describing various aspects of crime Reconstruction such as legal implementation, tactics and its participants. The eighth chapter compares Reconstruction with other Means of Evidence. In the ninth chapter, there is an analysis of real-life reconstruction. In the final part of the thesis, the author presents her conclusions on possible changes *de lege ferenda*. Lastly, in the conclusion, an overall opinion on the theme is expressed.

Keywords: Crime Scene Reconstruction, Means of Evidence, Crime