

# FCCJA Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) Practice Exam (Sample)

## Study Guide



**Everything you need from our exam experts!**

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# Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

**Remember:** successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

# How to Use This Guide

**This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:**

## **1. Start with a Diagnostic Review**

**Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.**

## **2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions**

**Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 - 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.**

## **3. Learn from the Explanations**

**After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.**

## **4. Track Your Progress**

**Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.**

## **5. Simulate the Real Exam**

**Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.**

## **6. Repeat and Review**

**Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.**

**There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!**

## Questions

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- 1. Which of the following is NOT a proper component of a warrant?**
  - A. Date and time**
  - B. Address**
  - C. Informant information**
  - D. A detailed description**
  
- 2. A latent print is most likely to be found at a crime scene on which type of surface?**
  - A. On clothing only**
  - B. Inaccessible areas**
  - C. On surfaces where handling occurred**
  - D. On the ceiling**
  
- 3. Which items may be involved in asset forfeiture?**
  - A. Contraband; property used in the commission of a crime; property purchased with proceeds of crime.**
  - B. Real estate only.**
  - C. Personal belongings unrelated to crime.**
  - D. Government property only.**
  
- 4. Which of the following is a type of searching used when scanning a crime scene?**
  - A. Grid**
  - B. Circle**
  - C. Random**
  - D. Linear**
  
- 5. Killing a judge or justice, active or retired, to interfere with official duties is a Special Circumstance.**
  - A. For hire**
  - B. Murder of a law-enforcement officer to interfere with duties**
  - C. Killing a pregnant woman during an act with intent to kill the fetus**
  - D. Murder of a judge or justice to interfere with official duties**

- 6. Labeled evidence packages: Which item identifies the case?**
- A. Case number**
  - B. Date/Time collected**
  - C. EIN**
  - D. Name**
- 7. Are juveniles transported in the same vehicle as adults?**
- A. No**
  - B. Yes**
  - C. Only with parental consent**
  - D. Sometimes, depending on distance**
- 8. PERK stands for which term?**
- A. Physical Evidence Recovery Kit**
  - B. Public Education and Response Kit**
  - C. Personal Emergency Response Kit**
  - D. Police Evidence Retrieval Kit**
- 9. For LEOS, which can give rise to liability?**
- A. Use of Force**
  - B. Vehicle Pursuits resulting in injury or damage to property**
  - C. Arrest/detention**
  - D. All of the Above**
- 10. ESRO/SRO information used for firearm eligibility is provided by which source?**
- A. Dispatch or criminal history**
  - B. Court records**
  - C. DMV**
  - D. NGRI records**

## Answers

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1. C
2. C
3. A
4. A
5. D
6. A
7. A
8. A
9. D
10. A

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Which of the following is NOT a proper component of a warrant?**

- A. Date and time**
- B. Address**
- C. Informant information**
- D. A detailed description**

A warrant must be narrowly tailored and include the specifics needed to authorize and carry out the search: who may execute it, the exact location to search, and the items to seize, plus the date and time the warrant is issued and/or to be executed. The address ensures you search the correct place, and a detailed description of the items ensures you seize only what's authorized. The information about who provided the probable cause or the tip—the informant details—belongs in the supporting affidavit that justifies why there is probable cause. It is not required on the warrant itself and including it there is not proper. The warrant should stand on its own to direct the officers, while the informant information remains part of the affidavit behind the scenes to support the probable cause. The other components—date and time, address, and a detailed description—are essential to create a valid, enforceable, and specific warrant.

**2. A latent print is most likely to be found at a crime scene on which type of surface?**

- A. On clothing only**
- B. Inaccessible areas**
- C. On surfaces where handling occurred**
- D. On the ceiling**

Latent prints come from oils and sweat left on the fingertips when a person touches something. They're most likely to appear on surfaces that were actually handled because that's where transfer occurs. While prints can sometimes be found on clothing or other touched objects, and overhead surfaces would only bear prints if they were touched, the strongest likelihood is a surface that has seen direct handling. Surfaces never touched or hard-to-reach areas are far less likely to yield recoverable prints.

### 3. Which items may be involved in asset forfeiture?

- A. Contraband; property used in the commission of a crime; property purchased with proceeds of crime.**
- B. Real estate only.**
- C. Personal belongings unrelated to crime.**
- D. Government property only.**

Asset forfeiture focuses on taking away property that has a connection to criminal activity. Items that may be involved include contraband, property used to commit a crime or to facilitate wrongdoing, and property purchased with the proceeds of crime. Contraband are illegal goods that are themselves unlawful to possess and are forfeitable. Property used in the commission of a crime, such as a car used to transport drugs or a tool used to commit a burglary, can be seized because it directly facilitates the offense. Proceeds of crime—money or assets obtained from criminal activity—can lead to forfeiture of items bought with those funds, even if the item wasn't used in the crime itself, if a clear link to illicit proceeds is established. Real estate isn't automatically forfeitable just because someone owns it; it becomes eligible when it's tied to criminal activity or purchased with illicit proceeds. Personal belongings that have no connection to crime aren't eligible for forfeiture. Government property isn't the only forfeitable category, since private property can be seized if it's linked to crime.

### 4. Which of the following is a type of searching used when scanning a crime scene?

- A. Grid**
- B. Circle**
- C. Random**
- D. Linear**

A grid search is a systematic method for scanning a crime scene that ensures thorough coverage by dividing the area into intersecting sections and sweeping in two perpendicular directions. This approach is especially effective for larger indoor scenes or open outdoor areas because it creates overlap and reduces the chance of missing evidence. In practice, investigators first sweep the area along one set of parallel lines, then repeat the sweep along a second set of lines at right angles, forming a grid. Other patterns—such as a single-direction strip search, circular or spiral patterns, or random searches—do not provide the same guaranteed coverage or overlap, which can leave gaps. Therefore, the grid pattern is the type used when scanning a crime scene to maximize detection and minimize missed items.

**5. Killing a judge or justice, active or retired, to interfere with official duties is a Special Circumstance.**

**A. For hire**

**B. Murder of a law-enforcement officer to interfere with duties**

**C. Killing a pregnant woman during an act with intent to kill the fetus**

**D. Murder of a judge or justice to interfere with official duties**

Special circumstances are triggered when a homicide is aimed at disrupting the functioning of government or the administration of justice. Killing a judge or justice to interfere with official duties fits this idea directly because it targets the person who oversees and decides legal matters, with the explicit intent to impede the judicial process. The judge can be active or retired, but either way, attacking them to influence outcomes or undermine official duties is the type of interference these provisions are designed to deter. The other scenarios involve different targets or motives (murder-for-hire; killing a law-enforcement officer to interfere with duties; terminating a pregnancy-related act) and do not specify interfering with the judiciary, so they do not meet this particular special-circumstance wording.

**6. Labeled evidence packages: Which item identifies the case?**

**A. Case number**

**B. Date/Time collected**

**C. EIN**

**D. Name**

Labeled evidence packages rely on a unique identifier that ties every item to the specific investigation. The case number serves as that unique link, because it is assigned to a single case in the agency's records and is placed on every piece of evidence, paperwork, and custody form. This makes it possible to pull all items related to a case together, maintain chain of custody, and present a coherent history in court. Date and time collected helps establish when items were gathered but isn't unique to the case and could repeat across cases; an EIN is an organizational identifier not used to identify a specific case, and a name can refer to different people or multiple cases, so it doesn't reliably identify the entire case. Therefore, the case number is the item that identifies the case.

**7. Are juveniles transported in the same vehicle as adults?**

**A. No**

**B. Yes**

**C. Only with parental consent**

**D. Sometimes, depending on distance**

Separating juveniles from adults during transport is a safety and rights protection practice. Juveniles are more vulnerable to coercion, intimidation, and harm, and their privacy and well-being are better safeguarded when they're not transported with adult offenders. For these reasons, departments generally use dedicated juvenile transport or separate secure compartments, ensuring appropriate supervision and reducing risk. Distance, parental consent, or other factors do not change this standard rule; separate transport is the norm. Exceptions might occur only in rare emergencies when no separate vehicle is available, but that isn't the normal practice.

## 8. PERK stands for which term?

- A. Physical Evidence Recovery Kit**
- B. Public Education and Response Kit**
- C. Personal Emergency Response Kit**
- D. Police Evidence Retrieval Kit**

PERK stands for Physical Evidence Recovery Kit. This term is used to describe the standard set of tools and supplies investigators use at a scene to collect, package, and preserve tangible evidence while maintaining proper documentation and chain of custody. The emphasis is on physical items, the act of recovering them, and the kit that enables it. Typical contents support orderly collection and prevent contamination, with items like gloves, evidence bags and seals, swabs, labels, and an evidence log. The other options describe concepts that aren't about collecting or preserving evidence at a scene, so they don't fit the established terminology used in field investigations.

## 9. For LEOS, which can give rise to liability?

- A. Use of Force**
- B. Vehicle Pursuits resulting in injury or damage to property**
- C. Arrest/detention**
- D. All of the Above**

Liability can arise whenever a law enforcement action violates rights or falls short of professional standards, and that risk spans several common areas: use of force, vehicle pursuits that injure people or damage property, and arrests or detentions. With use of force, if the force used is not reasonable under the circumstances, it can infringe constitutional rights and lead to civil liability for the officer and likely for the agency. Vehicle pursuits carry high risk because aggressive driving or violating policy can cause injuries to innocent bystanders or damage to property, exposing the department and officer to liability for negligent or improper pursuit decisions. Arrest or detention situations can trigger liability when a person is unlawfully restrained or detained without probable cause, amounting to false imprisonment or violation of rights. Because all three areas can produce civil or administrative accountability, the best answer is all of the above.

## 10. ESRO/SRO information used for firearm eligibility is provided by which source?

- A. Dispatch or criminal history**
- B. Court records**
- C. DMV**
- D. NGRI records**

The key idea is that firearm eligibility checks rely on law enforcement-generated records. ESRO/SRO information is drawn from dispatch and criminal history data—records that capture arrests, reported incidents, charges, and dispositions. These sources provide up-to-date, actionable history about an individual's interactions with law enforcement, which is exactly what eligibility screens assess. Court records or DMV records aren't the primary feeds for ESRO/SRO data. Court records may be consulted for dispositions in some cases, but the official ESRO/SRO feed comes from dispatch/criminal history. DMV records focus on driving history, not criminal activity, and NGRI records are a specific mental-health-related status that isn't the general source used for firearm eligibility.

## Next Steps

**Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.**

**As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.**

**If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at [hello@examzify.com](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://fccjadcs.examzify.com>**

**We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!**

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