

SPECIAL AGENT BASIC TRAINING (SABT) EXAM 1 – CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

**VISIT US ONLINE FOR
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

<https://sabt1criminalinvest.examzify.com>



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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 insignia represents O-5 in USN mid-grade officers?**
 - A. Lieutenant Commander (gold leaf)
 - B. Commander (silver leaf)
 - C. Captain (eagle)
 - D. Lieutenant (two silver bars)

- 2. Which of the following is true about CLEOC?**
 - A. CLEOC is a physical command center on site
 - B. CLEOC stores all investigative reporting in NCIS report writing system
 - C. CLEOC handles only budget data
 - D. CLEOC is a training center

- 3. What does IA stand for?**
 - A. Internal Analysis
 - B. Investigative Action
 - C. Interim Assessment
 - D. Information Access

- 4. Define the five categories of rape/aggravated sexual contact - "The Egregious 5". Which of the following is one?**
 - A. Rendering victim unconscious
 - B. Threats of minor consequence
 - C. Public embarrassment
 - D. Consent given in writing

- 5. Who may authorize the search of a private residence on a military installation?**
 - A. Base commander
 - B. Commanding officer
 - C. Installation legal officer
 - D. Judge

- 6. Which statement best describes the position of the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces within the military appellate system?**
- A. The Court of Criminal Appeals is the top level, above the service courts
 - B. The Supreme Court directly reviews all military cases
 - C. The Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces is above the Court of Criminal Appeals
 - D. The Federal Circuit handles all military appeals
- 7. Which statement about ROI OPEN is accurate?**
- A. It is used to reopen a closed investigation
 - B. It is used to request assistance from another NCIS office
 - C. It is used to change case priority
 - D. It is used to report information to initiate an investigation for internal purposes
- 8. To be assigned military defense counsel, an accused service member has to be:**
- A. An accused service member
 - B. A civilian attorney
 - C. A non-accused service member
 - D. A family member
- 9. What is the IA used for?**
- A. Used to formally document all investigative actions during an investigation
 - B. Used to summarize the case in a single line
 - C. Used only for interviews
 - D. Used to replace ROI
- 10. All hand-written notes must include which items?**
- A. CCN; Date/Location Notes Taken; Author/Creator (Name and/or Initials); Page _ of _
 - B. Subject's name; Social Security number; Officer badge number; Case title
 - C. Date of birth; Address; Phone number; Employer
 - D. Witness statements; Photos; Evidence log; Location

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which insignia represents O-5 in USN mid-grade officers?

- A. Lieutenant Commander (gold leaf)
- B. Commander (silver leaf)**
- C. Captain (eagle)
- D. Lieutenant (two silver bars)

Recognize how Navy officer ranks are shown by insignia. The pay grade O-5 corresponds to the rank of Commander, whose insignia is a silver oak leaf. That silver oak leaf distinguishes it from nearby grades: a gold oak leaf marks Lieutenant Commander (O-4), a silver eagle marks Captain (O-6), and two silver bars mark Lieutenant (O-3). So the insignia described as a silver oak leaf is the correct representation for O-5.

2. Which of the following is true about CLEOC?

- A. CLEOC is a physical command center on site
- B. CLEOC stores all investigative reporting in NCIS report writing system**
- C. CLEOC handles only budget data
- D. CLEOC is a training center

CLEOC is a centralized repository that stores all investigative reporting within NCIS's report writing system. This setup keeps case documents in one accessible location, ensuring consistent documentation, easy retrieval, and proper workflow integration for investigators and supervisors. It's about how reports are filed and managed, not about a physical command center, budgeting functions, or training facilities. The other options describe roles (being a physical location, handling budget data, or serving as a training center) that don't match CLEOC's function as the centralized storage and workflow component for investigative reporting within NCIS.

3. What does IA stand for?

- A. Internal Analysis
- B. Investigative Action**
- C. Interim Assessment
- D. Information Access

The main idea here is understanding what IA commonly stands for in a criminal investigations setting. IA is used to denote Investigative Action—the actual steps and activities investigators carry out to advance a case. This includes planning the inquiry, following leads, interviewing witnesses, collecting and examining evidence, and coordinating actions taken to resolve the investigation. The other options don't fit as well in this context: Internal Analysis, Interim Assessment, and Information Access refer to different concepts not typically used to label the core activities of conducting an investigation.

4. Define the five categories of rape/aggravated sexual contact - "The Egregious 5". Which of the following is one?

- A. Rendering victim unconscious**
- B. Threats of minor consequence
- C. Public embarrassment
- D. Consent given in writing

The idea being tested is recognizing one of the five circumstances that make rape or aggravated sexual contact more serious, often called an egregious factor. Rendering the victim unconscious is the best example because it shows incapacitation—the victim cannot resist or consent, enabling the offender to commit the act despite the victim's inability to participate. That level of incapacitation is a hallmark that elevates the offense to an aggravated category. The other options don't fit that threshold: threats of minor consequence don't demonstrate the same level of incapacitation or coercion, public embarrassment isn't a recognized aggravating factor in these offenses, and consent given in writing would typically negate rape rather than constitute an egregious category.

5. Who may authorize the search of a private residence on a military installation?

- A. Base commander**
- B. Commanding officer
- C. Installation legal officer
- D. Judge

On a military installation, the base commander has the authority to authorize security actions necessary to maintain order and safety, including searches of private residences within the installation. This reflects the command structure and the need for rapid, coordinated action by security forces under proper legal oversight. While a judge's warrant is the formal route when time allows and civilian law applies, installation searches can be authorized through the base commander's directive, with the installation's security and legal teams handling the specifics. The unit commanding officer generally does not hold installation-wide authority, and the installation legal officer provides legal counsel rather than unilateral search authorization.

6. Which statement best describes the position of the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces within the military appellate system?

- A. The Court of Criminal Appeals is the top level, above the service courts
- B. The Supreme Court directly reviews all military cases
- C. The Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces is above the Court of Criminal Appeals**
- D. The Federal Circuit handles all military appeals

In the military appellate structure, the Courts of Criminal Appeals are the intermediate appellate courts for each service, reviewing convictions from courts-martial. The Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces sits above them as the highest military appellate court, delivering final review within military justice before any potential consideration by the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court does not automatically review all military cases; it grants certiorari selectively. The Federal Circuit does not handle military appeals. Therefore, the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces being above the Court of Criminal Appeals best describes their position.

7. Which statement about ROI OPEN is accurate?

- A. It is used to reopen a closed investigation
- B. It is used to request assistance from another NCIS office
- C. It is used to change case priority
- D. It is used to report information to initiate an investigation for internal purposes**

The key idea is how new information starts an internal inquiry. ROI OPEN is the entry point used to log information that will trigger an internal investigation. It creates a formal internal case file so investigators can assess the lead, assign resources, and begin the investigative process. This option fits best because it directly describes initiating an internal investigation from reported information. It isn't about reopening a closed case (that would be a different action to reactivate a file), nor about requesting assistance from another NCIS office (that would involve a cross-office workflow), and it isn't about changing how urgent or high priority a case is (that's a case-management prioritization step). ROI OPEN specifically documents information to start an internal investigation.

8. To be assigned military defense counsel, an accused service member has to be:

- A. An accused service member**
- B. A civilian attorney
- C. A non-accused service member
- D. A family member

The main idea is that defense counsel is assigned to the person who is charged in a military case. In the military justice system, the accused service member has a right to representation, and the government or the accused may appoint a defense attorney to represent that charged individual. So the requirement is that the person receiving military defense counsel is the accused service member. A civilian attorney can be appointed to represent the accused, but they remain tied to the person who is charged. A service member who is not accused, or a family member, does not receive a defense counsel assignment in the context of a specific case.

9. What is the IA used for?

- A. Used to formally document all investigative actions during an investigation**
- B. Used to summarize the case in a single line
- C. Used only for interviews
- D. Used to replace ROI

The main idea is that this document is the formal, chronological record of everything an investigator does during a case. It captures every action taken—scene processing, evidence handling, interviews, warrants, communications, decisions, and follow ups—so there's a complete trail that can be reviewed later. This makes the investigation accountable, helps with chain of custody, and supports legal review by supervisors, prosecutors, or courts. It's broader than an interview record, which only logs what was said in interviews; it's not meant to summarize the case in one line, and it isn't intended to replace the interview record.

10. All hand-written notes must include which items?

- A. CCN; Date/Location Notes Taken; Author/Creator (Name and/or Initials); Page of
- B. Subject's name; Social Security number; Officer badge number; Case title
- C. Date of birth; Address; Phone number; Employer
- D. Witness statements; Photos; Evidence log; Location

The main idea here is making handwritten notes identifiable and traceable so they can be linked to the right case, authorship, and the full sequence of pages. A CCN (unique case/control number) ties the note to a specific investigation. Including the date and location when the note was taken provides the exact timing and place for the information, which is essential for reconstructing events and coordinating with other records. Recording the author or creator ensures accountability—knowing who wrote the note helps validate content and lets others follow up with the right person. Page numbering guarantees the notes are complete and in order, preventing lost or scrambled pages and making it easy to review the entire record. The other options pull in information that isn't universally required for every hand-written note. Personal identifiers of the subject (like Social Security number or full birth details) or sensitive data such as addresses and phone numbers aren't routinely needed in every note and can raise privacy concerns. Items like witness statements, photos, or evidence logs belong in separate documents or attachments rather than being a mandatory part of every note.

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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.

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

<https://sabt1criminalinvest.examzify.com>

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

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