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ABA transit number - a code developed by the American Bankers Association (ABA) which facilitates the routing of a check back to the bank of origin. The code, which appears on the face of the check, indicates the city or state of the bank it was drawn against, the name of the bank, and the Federal Reserve Bank District. ABA transit numbers are useful in tracing cashed or deposited checks. The code key can be obtained from the ABA.

abandonment - the act of deserting a pregnant or dependent wife or dependent children without providing proper support; the relinquishment of a legal claim, privilege, or right; the discontinuation of a planned and intended crime before its commission. See also **child abandonment** and **wife abandonment**.

abatement of nuisance - the removal of a nuisance by a court order. For example, if a person is maintaining a nuisance by storing explosives without a license, the court may direct its abatement by issuing an order to the sheriff to impound the explosives.

ABC - an acronym indicating the basic steps of cardiopulmonary resuscitation. The letters stand for Airway, Breathing, Circulation,.

abduct - to restrain a person by using or threatening to use deadly physical force with intent to prevent his liberation by either secreting or holding him in a place where he is not likely to be found; to carry away or detain a person by force; to unlawfully take or detain a female for purposes of marriage, concubinage, or prostitution.

aberration - a visual discrepancy between the image of an object produced by an optical lens or cathode ray tube and the object itself. See also **chromatic aberration**.

abet - to aid, encourage, or incite another person to commit a crime. The term implies that at least two persons are concerned in the commission of the offense: one who directly commits the act and a second who abets its commission. An abettor can be, but is not always, charged in a crime as a principal.

abjuration of allegiance - the renouncing under oath of all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign nation. An abjuration of allegiance is required in an application for United States citizenship.

abort button - a human-operated device that disconnects an automatically programmed response action. It is frequently used in computer rooms to prevent triggering of extinguishing agents after human observation has confirmed that fire is not present. The automatic discharge is interrupted if the abort button is pressed within a pre-set number of seconds after the fire alarm signal has sounded.

abrasion collar - a narrow ring around the entry of a bullet hole in the skin. The skin, being resistant and elastic, will be stretched by the impacting bullet. A narrow ring

around the bullet hole is formed by the abrasive action of the bullet. The ring may also contain residues from the surface of the bullet.

absent without leave (AWOL) - is often used to describe the failure to return from an authorized temporary absence. Also, going on leave or leaving a non-combat post without authorization.

abscond - to go away secretly or hide in order to avoid legal proceedings, as to jump bail. When a defendant absconds, the case is taken off the court calendar and the time period of the defendant's unlawful absence is discounted for the purpose of meeting speedy trial requirements. Flight to avoid prosecution or the execution of a sentence can result in prosecution for contempt of court, and flight across a state or national border to avoid prosecution is a federal crime. In corrections, to abscond is to depart without authorization from a geographical area or jurisdiction, in violation of the conditions of probation or parole. To abscond in this sense is not a violation of a statute and is thus not a crime. The act can, however, cause a probation or parole status to be revoked. In a less precise sense, to abscond is to flee with the property of another, as when a cashier absconds with entrusted money.

absolute liability - a type of liability that arises from extremely dangerous operations. For example, a highway construction contractor could be held liable for damages caused by the use of explosives. A claimant would not have to prove that the use of explosives is inherently dangerous. This does not apply to dangerous situations, but also where a person / corporation is totally "responsible" only for an act or omission whereby to it not shared by other parties. For example "duty of care" to provide a safe work environment, this would be absolute, whereby in many cases providing a safe working practices would be a shared liability

accelerant - any highly flammable substance used by an arsonist to start a fire. Commonly used accelerants are gasoline, kerosene, naphtha, and jet fuel.

accelerant marks - characteristic burn patterns caused by a liquid accelerant, such as gasoline. A surface struck by a Molotov cocktail will show "finger patterns" around and below the spot where the device shattered and ignited. In set fires, an accelerant will sometimes pool on a large, level floor and burn from the outside of the pool toward the center, leaving a distinctive mark on the floor. Flammable liquids will leave marks on furniture legs, rugs, and on the under portions of flooring. As an accelerant burns it will cause deep charring marks that point to its flow. Tracing the flow marks back to the place of spillage helps the investigator locate the origin of the fire. The areas most likely to contain residue of liquid fire accelerants are floors, carpets, and soil because, like all liquids, they run to the lowest level. In addition, these areas are likely to have the lowest temperatures during the fire and may have had insufficient oxygen to support the complete combustion of the accelerant. Porous or cracked floors may allow accelerants to seep through to the underlying earth. Other places where accelerants may be discovered are on the clothes and shoes of the suspect. Because scientific laboratory equipment cannot always be brought to the scene of a suspected arson, the investigator must rely upon a personal ability to detect the

possible presence of accelerants through smell and sight. The sensitivity of the human nose to gasoline vapor appears to be on the order of 1 part per 10 million. As such, the nose is as sensitive as any of the currently available vapor detection equipment. Experienced arson investigators will agree that their noses are as sensitive to gasoline as the equipment available to them. However, not all flammable liquids are gasoline. Olfactory fatigue and the possibility of an arsonist using a strong smelling substance to mask the presence of an accelerant are further reasons why a determination of arson cannot rest solely upon detection by smell. In addition to the sensitivity of the human nose, there are certain visual indicators of arson. These indicators reflect the effects on materials of heating or partial burning, which are used to indicate various aspects of a fire such as rate of development, temperature, duration, time of occurrence, presence of flammable liquids (i.e., accelerants), and points of origin. [\[note: this is more of an encyclopedic entry rather than a definition of the term; comments are appreciated regarding reduction of this content!!\]](#)

accelerated depreciation - a method of depreciation used in the computation of income taxes. The method speeds up the write-off of value at a rate greater than normal depreciation.

acceleration clause - a contract clause evidencing a debt, such as a mortgage or installment contract, that results in the entire debt becoming immediately due and payable when a condition of the contract is breached. Without an acceleration clause, the mortgagee or seller would have to sue for the amount of each payment as it became due, or would have to wait until the entire debt matured.

acceleration scuff - a scuffmark made when power is applied to the driving wheels with sufficient force to cause at least one of the wheels to spin on the road surface.

acceptable downtime - maximum elapsed time between a disruption and restoration of needed operational capacity or capability.

[ASIS SPC.1-2009]

access

access control - the control of persons, vehicles, and materials through the implementation of security measures for a protected area.

[ASIS GDL FPSM-2009]

(2) - the control of persons, vehicles and materials through entrances and exits of a protected area; an aspect of security that often utilizes hardware systems and specialized procedures to control and monitor movements into, out of, or within a protected area. Access to various areas may be limited to place or time, or a combination of both.

access control list - a list that defines the types of access to be granted or denied. It can be created for objects such as files, devices, and mailboxes. An access control list will often specify identifiers and the access rights to be granted or denied the holders of the identifiers, default protection for directories, or security alarm details.

access mode - a feature of an alarm monitoring system which allows sensors to be shunted by automatic or manual command. An alarm signal is silenced when a protected area is in the access mode. However, if the system is tampered with during the access mode, an alarm is annunciated.

accessory - a person who was not present when a crime was committed, but who was involved as a guilty party either before or after the crime. In some jurisdictions, accessories, accomplices, aiders, and abettors have guilt equal to the chief actor or principal in the crime. The rationale is that the guilt of a person who encourages or assists in the commission of a crime before or during the event is equivalent to that of a person who directly commits the criminal act and therefore requires the same penalty.

accessory before the fact - a person who, before the time a crime is committed, knows of the particular crime contemplated, assents to or approves of it, and expresses a view of it in a form which operates to encourage the principal to perform the act. An accessory before the fact is similar to a principal in the second degree. The difference relates to where the accessory was at the time the act was committed.

accessory after the fact - a person who, knowing that another has committed a felony, subsequently aids the felon to escape or prevents the felon's arrest and prosecution. An accessory after the fact must have an intention to assist and must actually do so. An accessory after the fact is subject to a lesser penalty than a principal or an accessory before the fact. This offense will often have another name, such as "concealing or aiding a fugitive from justice."

accident

accident analysis - the critical examination of facts for the purpose of identifying causal factors and prescribing measures designed to prevent recurrence.

accident proneness - a personal trait or predisposition, as opposed to some characteristic of the environment, that leads some persons to have more accidents than others within a given time period and under conditions where all face the same risks.

accident severity - a measure of the severity or seriousness of losses, rather than the number of losses. It can be measured in terms of dollar loss or injuries sustained rather than the number of individual accidents.

accidental ingestion - in urine drug testing, an assertion that a positive test for **cannabinoids** resulted from accidental eating of marijuana. A similar alibi involves the ingestion of poppy seeds which can produce a positive drug test result for opium. Positive results are rare, and when they occur they often involve the taking of the test specimen shortly after the tested individual has consumed a fairly large quantity of poppy seeds, such as those sprinkled on some bread products.

accordion load - fire hose loaded into a hose compartment by folding it back and forth accordion-style.

accountability - the state of being responsible and punishable for a criminal act. This responsibility is reduced or abolished in certain instances because of age, mental defect, or other reason.

accumulator circuit - a circuit that initiates an alarm signal as a function of accumulated information; a circuit programmed to send a signal when a door remains unclosed after a specified number of seconds, or when a specified number of sensors activate in one zone within a given period of time. Circuits are often rated. See also **class A circuit**; **class B circuit**.

acetone breath - breath characterized by a sweet, fruity odor, found especially in persons suffering from **diabetic ketoacidosis**. Acetone breath results from uncontrolled diabetes, a condition that can be confused with drunkenness.

acetone - a commonly abused inhalant. It is a volatile **ketone hydrocarbon** used as a solvent in such products as fingernail polish remover and plastic cements.

acid test ratio - cash plus other assets that can be immediately converted to cash divided by current liabilities. Because it indicates the ability of a business enterprise to meet its current obligations, the acid test ratio is one of the most important credit barometers used by lending institutions.

acknowledge - an action to verify, i.e., To verify receipt of an alarm condition by responding, such as to depress a special function key or throw a switch. It is an operation required in some alarm monitoring systems as a means of ensuring that the alarm condition has been acknowledged.

active leaf - the single door of a pair on which the active or locking hardware is mounted.

acoustic fuse - the fuse of a bomb sensitive to minute sonic or subsonic variations. The fuse operates from an influence exerted by the target on a sensitive detecting device within the fuse itself.

acoustic - related to hearing or to the science of sounds.

acoustic coupler - a telecommunication device that permits use of a telephone handset as a connection to a telephone network for data transmission by means of sound transducers.

acoustic pickup - a conventional or a specially designed microphone used for the detection of sounds such as noise made by a burglar breaking into protected premises.

acoustic room - an area shielded against eavesdropping.

acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) - a syndrome caused by a virus known as the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) which infects and destroys certain white blood cells, thereby undermining the body's ability to combat infection.

acquit - to set free, release, or discharge as from an accusation of crime. An acquittal is a judgment of a court, based either on the verdict of a jury or a judicial officer, that the defendant is not guilty of the offense for which tried. When acquittal is on all charges in the case, criminal justice jurisdiction over the defendant terminates. See also **not guilty verdict**; **guilty verdict**.

acrylic glazing - lightweight tempered plastics having an impact resistance about 17 times greater than glass of equivalent thickness.

act of God - an accident cause generally interpreted as being beyond human control. Examples are lightning, flood, cyclone and earthquake.

acting-out-behavior - carrying repressed impulses into action; indulging or manifesting some forbidden or detrimental behavior by a person who experiences trouble in talking about a conflict. More broadly, such behavior is unconsciously showing feelings, not in words but in action, as in impulsively breaking something without admitting anger.

action ex contractu - an action to recover damages for the breach of a duty arising out of a contract.

action ex delicto - an action to recover damages for the breach of a duty existing by reason of a general law.

activation - the final phase of the life cycle of a computer virus. It may involve partial or total destruction of its environment, the issuance of a message, or some other system disturbance.

active card - a card key that operates like a miniature transmitter. The card reader provides power to the card and the card emits a readable signal based on binary numbers. It is usually not suitable for security purposes due to cost, bulkiness, and interference with other transmitters or receivers which may be nearby.

active imaging - forming a visual image on a screen of low light scene by using an infrared illumination source. The technique is not dependent on available light energy to electronically form the image.

active ingredient - the alkaloid of a chemical in a plant that produces mind-altering and toxic effects. Cocaine, for example, is the active ingredient of coca leaf. Although active ingredients may be responsible for many of the effects of drug plants, they do not exactly reproduce those effects and in pure form have higher toxicity and potential for abuse.

active leaf - the single door of a pair on which the active or locking hardware is mounted.

[ASIS PSPSG 2007]

actual cash value - an amount equivalent to the replacement cost of lost or damaged property at the time of the loss less depreciation.

actuarial prediction - a set of methods for searching and identifying homogeneous subtypes or classes of individuals, and for predicting or understanding their behavior with a clinically and socially significant degree of precision. The methodology is more in the tradition of insurance research and population surveys than of psychology or sociology, in which one develops actuarial tables in order to predict such attributes as probability of a tobacco smoker's death at a given age. In psychological testing, it is used to predict a diagnostic classification from a series of test scores.

adamsite - popular name for **diphenylaminechloroarsine** (DM) a nauseating agent developed in 1918 for military applications. It has also been used for riot control.

addiction - any habitual use of a substance which leads to psychological and/or physiological dependence. As defined by the World Health Organization, it is "a state of periodic or chronic intoxication produced by the repeated consumption of a drug (natural or synthetic), which produces the following characteristics: (1) an overpowering desire or compulsion to continue taking the drug and to obtain it by any means; (2) a tendency to increase the dosage, showing body tolerance; (3) a psychic and generally a physical dependence on the effects of the drug; and (4) the creation of an individual and social problem."

additive effect - the action obtained when the combined effect of two separate drugs taken together is the sum of the two separate effects.

adjective law - a term relating to the concept that all laws can be organized in two divisions: substantive and adjective. Also called **procedural law** and **substantive law**.

adjudicate - to settle or determine a matter finally through the course of judicial authority. In criminal justice usage, the term is used with reference to a judgment of acquittal or conviction.

adjudication withheld - a court decision, made after a criminal complaint has been filed, to continue court jurisdiction short of pronouncing judgment. The usual purpose in stopping criminal proceedings prior to judgment is to avoid conviction when conviction is likely to bring unnecessary harm to the offender and/or unnecessary harm and expense to the public interest.

adjudicatory hearing - the fact finding process wherein a court determines whether or not there is sufficient evidence to sustain the allegations in a petition. It is analogous to a trial in criminal proceedings. Both proceedings determine matters of fact concerning alleged acts in violation of criminal law.

administration

administrative control - the form and plan of organization and the procedures and records that are concerned with the decision processes leading to management's authorization of transactions. Such authorization is a management function directly associated with the responsibility for achieving the objectives of the organization and is the starting point for establishing control of the organization's affairs, including accounting transactions.

administrative judge - a judicial officer who supervises administrative functions and performs administrative tasks for a given court, sometimes in addition to performing regular judicial functions. Typical duties are assigning cases to other judicial officers within a court; setting court policy on procedure; and performing tasks of an administrative nature such as those concerned with personnel and budgets.

administrative law - the law governing powers and procedures of administrative agencies, including judicial review of administrative action; the rules and regulations framed by an administrative body created by a state legislature or by Congress to carry out a specific statute. For example, a state law requiring certification of security officers might be administered by a state licensing board. The board would issue regulations and rules that have the weight of law as long as they keep within the scope of the authorizing state law. Such regulations often interpret in specific ways the legislature's general intent when it enacted the statute. In this way, an administrative body will take on powers that resemble legislative or judicial authority.

admiralty court - a court with exclusive jurisdiction over maritime cases, both civil and criminal. It decides causes of action arising out of or in connection with the sea.

admissibility - a characteristic or condition of evidence. To be admissible, evidence must be material, relevant, and competent. See also **material evidence**; **relevant evidence**; **competent evidence**.

admission - a statement of guilt that is less than a full confession; an acknowledgment by either prosecution or defense that a statement of fact made by the opposing side is true. It can be a statement or an act by an accused before or after the commission of a crime which is inconsistent with a plea of innocence. An admission is not a confession, but when considered with other evidence may infer guilt. In corrections, an admission is the entry of an offender into the legal jurisdiction of a corrections agency and/or physical custody of a correctional facility.

admission against interest - an admission of a fact which, though short of a confession, tends to suggest possible guilt; for example, that the subject had a motive or opportunity to commit the crime.

admonition - a reprimand from a judge to a person accused, upon being discharged, warning him of the consequences of his conduct, and intimating to him that a repetition of the offense will bring more severe punishment. Also, any authoritative oral communication or statement by way of advice or caution by the court.

adulterate - make a drug inferior or impure by adding an improper substance; for example, the cutting of cocaine with sugars and cheap local anesthetics to make more of the substance available for sale. Drugs are often adulterated by more active (and less expensive) substances to make users think they are getting a more potent drug.

advance fee scheme - a scheme designed to obtain fees in advance for services the promoter has no intention of providing. Usually the promoter will claim to have means of obtaining buyers for one's business, property, securities, or other assets, or to have access to sources of loan financing.

advanced life support - basic life support plus definitive therapy. It includes the use of invasive procedures, drugs, and defibrillation by qualified medical practitioners.

adversary

adverse action - (FCRA § 603 (15 U.S.C. § 1681a)) in the context of background checks for employment, adverse action as stated in the **[Fair Credit Reporting Act] FCRA**, is “a denial of employment or any other decision for employment purposes that adversely affects any current or prospective employee.” Adverse action is more than the denial of a job to an applicant or volunteer. It can also be the denial of a promotion or a change in job duties, location, hours, or title; anything that is considered unfavorable by the employee, applicant, or volunteer.

[ASIS GDL PBS-2009]

adverse action notice - (FCRA § 615a (15 U.S.C. § 1681m)) this notice—which can be delivered orally, in writing, or electronically—is required in order to inform the consumer (job applicant, employee, or volunteer) that adverse action has been taken. The notice is required when the adverse action is, in whole or in part, a result of the consumer report provided by a consumer reporting agency. A letter or other notice informing the job applicant he or she has been denied employment is necessary when using the services of a consumer reporting agency and the employer is making an adverse employment decision on the basis of the consumer report provided by the consumer reporting agency. The notice must include:

- The name, address, and phone number of the **Consumer Reporting Agency** (CRA) that supplied the report;
- A statement that the CRA that supplied the report did not make the decision to take the adverse action and cannot give specific reasons for it; and
- A notice of the individual's right to dispute the accuracy or completeness of any information the agency furnished, and his or her right to an additional free consumer report from the agency upon request within 60 days.

The Adverse Action Notice must be preceded by a **'Pre-Adverse Action Notice.'**
[ASIS GDL PBS-2009]

adverse drug reaction - a negative somatic or psychological reaction to drug taking. A major problem in drug research has been the lack of agreement concerning what actually constitutes an adverse reaction. Many studies do not distinguish between types of adverse reactions, or they use subjective or poorly defined definitions.

adverse witness - a witness who is biased against or hostile to the party who has called him, and who therefore may be asked leading questions and cross-examined at trial.

advice of rights - the advisement given by the police to a suspect prior to questioning. Also called the Miranda warning. The advisement is typically assisted by the use of a form that contains the warnings, a place for the suspect to sign if he decides to waive his rights to remain silent and have counsel present, the name of the questioning officers, other persons present, the offense, time, date, and place of questioning.

affect - a broad class of mental processes referring to a person's emotional feeling or mood, often used interchangeably with emotions. Historically, affect has been distinguished from cognition and volition. Affect can be an important factor in drug intoxication.

affected class - that class of job applicants or employees with a common characteristic, such as race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or age who have been denied equal opportunity in violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, or an allied law.

affiant - the person who makes and subscribes an affidavit. See also **affidavit; affirmant; affirmation.**

affidavit - a written document that is used to support or justify the issuance of a search warrant. An affidavit is nothing more than a written statement made under oath. It sets forth details that provide the issuing judge with enough information for him to conclude that a crime was committed and that a search of a certain place will probably reveal the presence of some evidence pertaining to that crime. The affidavit therefore provides the type of information that is sometimes called probable cause.

affirmant - a person who testifies on affirmation, or one who affirms instead of taking an oath.

affirmation - a solemn declaration made under penalty of perjury.

affirmative action program - a detailed plan of action intended to overcome the causes and effects of discriminatory policies in the hiring, employment, and/or training of minority group members.

after-accident situation map - a scale drawing of a traffic accident scene. It is a graphical summary of results of an accident, usually without indication of assumptions or inferences concerning fault or cause.

aftercare - in drug abuse treatment, the package of services provided the client after successful discharge from a treatment program; community interventions designed to permit a client's effective integration/reintegration into society. Aftercare activities would include involvement in self-help groups, supported work programs, and staff follow-up contacts and interventions. In juvenile justice, the status or program membership of a juvenile who has been committed to a treatment or confinement facility, conditionally released from the facility, and placed in a supervisory and/or treatment program.

after hours depository - a locked receptacle for the deposit of items after regular hours.

[ASIS PSPSG 2007]

after image - the retention, usually momentary, of an image on a **cathode ray tube** screen. When an after image is permanent it is called a **burn-in**.

agar composition - a plastic-like substance used in **moulage** and casting. It is more elastic than plaster, and is particularly useful in picking up delicate impressions. When mixed with water, it will melt at the boiling point of water, and will solidify at about 100 degrees centigrade. When agar composition sets, it is fluid enough to pick up undercut impressions and for this reason is highly favored for crime scene processing.

age of consent - the chronological age of a female, usually 16 or 18, after which it is no longer felonious for another to have voluntary sexual relations with her.

agent of influence - a suborned or ideologically committed individual who occupies a sensitive position in an adversary's opinion-molding institutions or governmental agencies from which he is able to influence public opinion.

agent provocateur - an individual who is specifically hired by an organization to create trouble in a rival organization; an undercover operative or a person acting on behalf of the organization, who surreptitiously seeks to incite others to prohibited behavior so that the authorities may intervene or act in favor of the organization.

aggravated assault - the unlawful intentional inflicting of serious bodily injury, or unlawful threat or attempt to inflict bodily injury or death with the use of a deadly or dangerous weapon with or without actual infliction of injury. See also **assault**.

aggravated injury - injury that involves broken bones, loss of teeth, internal injuries, injuries requiring stitches, and loss of consciousness. When charging this offense, the police customarily count as an aggravated assault any assault causing an injury that requires medical treatment beyond first aid.

aggravating circumstances - circumstances relating to the commission of a crime which cause its gravity to be greater than that of the average instance of the given type of offense. Examples of aggravating circumstances are the causing of serious bodily injury, the use of a deadly or dangerous weapon, or the accidental or intentional commission of one crime in the course of committing another crime or as a means to commit another crime. Aggravating circumstances may be formally or informally considered by a judge or paroling authority in deciding the sentence for a convicted person within the penalty range provided by statute for a given offense. See also **mitigating circumstances**.

aggregate maximum release date - the calendar date on which a prisoner is to be fully discharged; the date that marks the end point of the time that a given prisoner can be under correctional jurisdiction.

aging receivables - a scheduling of accounts receivable according to the length of time they have been outstanding. The schedule will show which accounts are not being paid in a timely manner and may reveal the source of developing cash flow problems.

airway - is the breathing passage in the head or throat. The term is also applied to a device used to keep the breathing passage open.

alarm

alarm assessor - a device or system that allows an operator of an alarm system to evaluate or assess a reported alarm. For example, alarm assessment can be made possible with the use of a CCTV system that permits visual observation at a protected area where a motion sensor has activated.

alarm line - an electrically supervised wire circuit used for the transmission of signals from a protected area to a central receiving point.

alarm receiver - an **annunciator** with alarm line supervision which may or may not include an audible tone. An alarm receiver may process the signal for display on a separate annunciator. Some receivers have an integral or peripheral hard-copy printer for event-recording purposes.

alarm screen - a window screen, usually laced with fine wire, used as an intrusion detection device. Cutting or breaking the screen causes an open circuit and trips an alarm.

alarm sequential switcher - a device in a CCTV system which activates when sensors in a viewing zone detect an alarm condition. The switcher also automatically displays views from the affected zone.

alarm station - any of a wide variety of switches that depend upon human operation for the reporting of an alarm condition. Examples include fire alarm pull stations, holdup alarms, and medical emergency alarms.

alarm system - a combination of sensors, controls, and annunciators (devices that announce an alarm via sound, light, or other means) arranged to detect and report an intrusion or other emergency.

[ASIS GDL FPSM-2009]

alco-analyzer gas chromatograph - a breath testing device used to determine alcohol concentrations in the blood of persons suspected of being under the influence of alcohol.

alcohol testing - determining blood alcohol concentration by analysis of a biological specimen, such as breath, blood, or urine. In the breath testing technique, a sample of deep lung breath is collected from the subject's air output and held captive in a device that measures hydrocarbons. Hydrocarbons will be present in the deep lung breath of a person who has recently consumed an alcoholic beverage. An exaggerated reading, however, can occur if in the 15-minute period immediately preceding the test the subject consumed or regurgitated alcohol. Thus, a 15-minute waiting period prior to testing is recommended to guard against an exaggerated reading. A breath alcohol test is regarded as a screening test which, if positive, should be immediately followed by a confirmation test using a more sensitive analytical technique, such as the analysis of blood or urine. A breath tester typically has components for collecting a breath sample, holding the sample in a chamber, sensing any hydrocarbons that may be present in the sample, emitting a readout display of the well-established relationship between the concentration of alcohol in blood and deep lung breath, calibrating controls, and energy source.

alcohol - any beverage that contains ethyl alcohol (ethanol), the intoxicating sedative-hypnotic in fermented and distilled liquors. Made synthetically or produced naturally by fermentation of fruits, vegetables, or grains, alcohol is the oldest and the most widely used social drug in the world. A CNS depressant, depending on the concentration consumed, alcohol acts as an analgesic, tranquilizer, sedative-hypnotic, soporific, intoxicant, anesthetic, or narcotic. At low doses, it can act as a stimulant. At high doses, it can create stupor. Use with other depressants, or with antihistamines or solvents, can be extremely dangerous. Alcoholic beverages are usually classified into the fermented drinks beer and wine and distilled spirits. Fermented drinks contain about 2 percent to 17 percent alcohol. Distilled spirits contain over 90 percent alcohol (e.g., grain alcohol). Absolute alcohol is the calculated amount of alcohol, free from water and other substances.

alcoholic - a person unable to correct the physiological and other bodily disturbances which have accumulated as the result of consuming alcoholic beverages. Alcoholic and alcoholic personality are generally discredited terms used loosely to describe a composite of personality traits which predispose a person to alcohol addiction. Such traits include maladjustment, sexual and emotional immaturity, low self-esteem, and low tolerance to frustration or tension.

alcoholism - a ubiquitously used term with a wide variety of ambiguous meanings about which there is little consensus. It is sometimes used narrowly as a synonym for

addiction and at other times to refer to alcohol abuse generally. Alcoholism is sometimes viewed as a disease syndrome, other times not. It is sometimes regarded as having physical dependence characteristics and sometimes as having psychological dependence characteristics.

algorithm - a simple set of rules arranged in a logical order that will solve all instances of a particular problem. In security applications, combinations of sensor inputs may be categorized into specific patterns which trigger certain **annunciation** responses as defined by equipment circuitry or software.

alias - a name used for an official purpose that is different from a person's legal name. It derives from *alias dictus* which means "otherwise called." An alias is a false name that has been substituted for a correct legal name on such documents as a driver's license or a check, or a false name established for the purpose of such substitution.

alibi - a defense used by one charged with a crime that he or she could not have committed the crime because he or she was elsewhere at the time.

alibi witness - someone who testifies in support of a defendant's alibi, usually claiming to have been with or to have observed the defendant in a place other than where the crime was committed at the time of its commission.

alidade - a rule equipped with simple or telescopic sights and used for determining direction. An alidade is often used in preparing sketches of crime scenes.

aligning tube - 1. a lock component which orients and joins the latch and knob spindles of certain bored locksets. 2. in some combination locks, a tube which houses the spindle, located between the dial ring and the lock.

[ASIS PSPSG 2007]

alkaloid - one of a diverse group of some 5,000 bitter compounds of plant origin containing nitrogen as well as carbon, oxygen, and hydrogen, that are usually physiologically or pharmacologically active. Most medical plants owe their biological activity to alkaloids. Examples include caffeine, morphine, and nicotine. The term is also applied to synthetic alkaloids, which have structures similar to plant alkaloids.

alkalosis - an abnormal condition of acid-base balance that results when the body loses too much carbon dioxide by hyperventilation (respiratory alkalosis) or too much acid from vomiting, e.g., metabolic alkalosis. It may also be caused by excessive intake of alkaline substances, such as antacids or sodium bicarbonate.

allegation - a statement by a party to a legal proceeding setting out what will be proved.

alleged - is a general descriptor for crimes not yet proven, such as when a person has been accused of or is under suspicion for a crime but who has been neither convicted nor exonerated by a trial.

Alliance For Cannabis Therapeutics (ACT) - an alliance of patients, their families and physicians, researchers, administrators, and politicians organized for the purpose of ending the federal prohibition against using cannabis for medical applications. ACT works to repeal federal laws which prohibit the medical availability of cannabis; encourages and supports the enactment of state and federal laws which define cannabis as a drug with medical value; encourages aggressive and neutral scientific study of the cannabis plant for its therapeutic applications; provides the public with factual information on cannabis, its history, medical applications, and the laws governing its use; helps individuals, physicians, state agencies, and others regarding the proper legal procedures used to obtain access to cannabis and its derivatives under existing federal regulations.

alligator effect - in arson investigations, the checkering of charred wood, giving it the appearance of alligator skin. Large, rolling blisters indicate rapid, intense heat, while small, flat alligator marks indicate long, low heat.

all-or-none law - a principle describing the characteristic response of a nerve fiber or a muscle, especially the heart muscle, whereby any stimulus above threshold level causes the nerve or muscle to respond to its fullest extent or not at all.

all-out - a signal indicating a fire is out or under control and that all or most of the fire fighting units are ready to resume normal assignments.

alphamethyl fentanyl - a derivative of fentanyl that is about 200 times as potent as morphine. Because it has no approved medical use and carries a high potential for addiction, it is classified as a Schedule I controlled substance. When first synthesized, this drug was technically legal and was a popular “designer drug.” It is much sought after by addicts for its heroin-like effects.

alphanumeric - a term descriptive of characters consisting of numbers and letters. In computer usage, for example, an alphanumeric string of characters can represent a **user identification code (UIC)**.

alphanumeric key pad - a device in an alarm system similar to a push button telephone dial. The key pad generates a signal (to release a door lock, for example) when the buttons are pressed in a coded sequence.

also known as (**AKA**). Denotes an **alias** or false name.

altered state of consciousness - a psychological state in which a person's perception of time and space is somehow influenced by autosuggestion or by the use of a chemical preparation; any mental state that is recognized as representing a sufficient deviation in subjective experience or psychological functioning from certain general norms for an individual during alert, waking consciousness; a broad, high-level abstraction covering a variety of states induced by a variety of methods and agents such as the phases of sleep and dreaming, intoxication, meditative and visionary states, delirium, and somnambulism.

alternate juror - a person added to a jury panel. They are substituted for a juror who during the trial dies, becomes ill, or is excused or disqualified by the trial judge.

alternate worksite - a work location, other than the primary location, to be used when the primary location is not accessible.

[ASIS GDL BC 01 2005]

alternating current (AC) - an electric current that continuously reverses direction. It is usually the primary power source for alarm equipment.

alternatives concept - a prevention approach to drug abuse. The underlying assumption is that illicit drug use becomes a less attractive outlet for individuals who are involved with constructive activities of their own choosing. The key element in the alternatives concept is process rather than product. The specific activities and outlets are secondary. Of primary importance is the process that takes place within the individual of exploring and searching for ways to satisfy inner needs.

altimeter bomb - a bomb (frequently homemade) triggered by the change in atmospheric pressure relative to the altitude and the earth's surface.

amanita mushrooms - a family of large mushrooms that grow in many parts of the world. Some are poisonous and deadly, and a few are edible and delicious. Two varieties, the *Amanita muscaria* and the *Amanita pantherina*, are used as psychoactive drugs. The *muscaria* (also called the fly agaric) grows in the western United States. It is also the traditional intoxicant of a number of primitive tribes of Siberia. The red peel of the mushroom's cap is easily removed and can be dried and smoked. The whole mushroom can be eaten fresh, cooked, dried, or brewed into a tea.

amateur burglar - a burglar who tends to act on impulse and opportunity. The targets are frequently the more vulnerable buildings, such as schools, churches, and small businesses, and the valuables taken are generally low risk items such as cash and postage stamps.

ambient noise - acoustic noise existing in a defined space, such as a protected room or area. In some intrusion detection applications, ambient noise is measured and evaluated electronically. When the ambient noise matches predefined characteristics, an alarm signal is **annunciated**.

ambient temperature - the temperature of the medium surrounding an object. For example, when the air surrounding a heat sensing device reaches a pre-selected temperature the device will activate. A fire sprinkler head is a type of device sensitive to ambient temperature.

ambush evidence - surprise evidence in the course of a trial, often last minute secret evidence intended to sway the jury with courtroom drama.

amercement - the act of punishing by an exactment, assessment, or deprivation; a **pecuniary** penalty in the nature of a fine. For example, if a fiduciary steals what he has been entrusted to protect, his punishment could include, in addition to the punishment for the crime, a fine equal to the value of the property plus interest.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) – 1. signed into law in 1990, U.S. Public Law 101-226 prohibits discrimination based on disability, that is, the inability to perform daily tasks using traditional methods. 2. A U.S. federal law dealing with minimum standards of building accessibility, as well as other issues concerning individuals with disabilities.

[ASIS PSPSG 2007]

amino acid - in questioned document examinations, the residue left on paper as a result of perspiration when the finger or other parts of the body come into contact with it.

ammonal - a shell-bursting charge composed of ammonium nitrate, ammonium powder, and trinitrotoluene (TNT).

amnesty - a form of executive or legislative clemency, usually extended to a class or group of offenders, such as draft evaders. In many countries, amnesty is extended as a part of national celebrations. In criminal justice usage, amnesty is a pardon granted by a sovereign authority (often before any indictment, trial, or conviction) to a group of persons who have committed offenses against the government, which not only frees them from punishment, but has the effect of removing all legal recognition that the offenses occurred. See also **pardon; general pardon**

amortization - the return of debt, principal, and interest in equal annual installments; the return of invested principal in a sinking fund.

amotivational syndrome - a condition sometimes seen in chronic drug users. It is characterized by a general lack of motivation and loss of personal will, rendering the victim highly susceptible to suggestions and manipulation by other persons.

ampere - a unit of electrical current equivalent to the steady current produced by 1 volt applied across a resistance of 1 ohm.

ampere-hour - is a unit of electricity equal to the amount produced in 1 hour by a flow of 1 ampere.

amphetamine psychosis - a reaction seen in chronic users of amphetamines. It is characterized by vivid visual, auditory, and olfactory hallucinations and delusions. A model psychosis that closely resembles paranoid schizophrenia has been seen to result from long-term amphetamine use. There is often difficulty in distinguishing amphetamine psychosis from schizophrenia, but it appears that visual hallucinations are more usual in amphetamine psychosis cases, while thought disorder is more usual in schizophrenia cases. There is conflicting evidence in the relative personality factors in precipitation, but many researchers believe that amphetamine psychosis is

produced primarily in persons who already manifest a personality disorder or predilection for paranoid reaction.

amphetamine relatives - synthetic drugs, such as methylphenidate hydrochloride (Ritalin) and phenmetrazine hydrochloride (Preludin), that have characteristics similar to the **amphetamines**, with which they are often used interchangeably for recreational purposes. Also called amphetamine analogues or amphetamine congeners.

amphetamine variants - hallucinogens that are chemical variations of amphetamine synthesized in a laboratory. These drugs are numerous and differ from one another in their speed of onset, duration of action, potency, and capacity to modify mood with or without producing hallucinations. They are usually taken orally, sometimes "snorted," and rarely injected. The common variants are DOM, STP, DOB, MDA, TMA, PMA and 2,5-DMA. Amphetamine variants appear in the Controlled Substances Act as Schedule I hallucinogens.

amphetamines - a family of stimulants whose medical use is currently limited to narcolepsy, attention deficit disorders in children, and obesity. They constitute a class of synthetic sympathomimetic amines that are similar in some ways to the body's own adrenaline (epinephrine) and that act with a pronounced stimulant effect on the central nervous system. Chemically there are three similar types: racemic amphetamine or amphetamine sulfate (Dexedrine), and methamphetamine hydrochloride (Methedrine, Desoxyn), with amphetamine sulfate being the least potent and methamphetamine the most, and dextroamphetamine having the fewest side effects.

amplifier - a device that creates an enlarged reproduction of an input without drawing power from it; a device that amplifies voltage, current, or power.

amplitude distortion - the extent of variance between an amplifier's output signal and its input signal. Amplitude response is the extent of amplitude measurements made at various points on the frequency range of a device when it is operating at rated capacity.

amyl nitrite - a quick-acting volatile inhalant that dilates certain small blood vessels (primarily in the brain and heart), lowers high blood pressure, and relaxes (involuntary) muscles. Effects take place within 30 seconds and last only 2 to 3 minutes. Unlike other inhalants, amyl nitrite is a stimulant rather than a depressant, and may be dangerous for people with low blood pressure, glaucoma, or anemia. Among illicit users, the drug is prized for its alleged sexual stimulation or prolongation of orgasm effects. It is usually sold in small glass vials.

amylase azure test - a crime lab test that indicates the presence of saliva. Amylase is an enzyme peculiar to saliva and its detection in or on an object can be significant to an investigation. Amylase, for example, might be found on cigarette butts, envelope flaps, and postage stamps.

anabolic steroid - any of a group of compounds, derived from testosterone or prepared synthetically, which aid in constructive metabolism, including the building of cell components such as proteins and fats. They are used to treat certain anemias and malignancies, to promote body growth and weight gain, to strengthen bones in osteoporosis, to counter effect estrogen, or to promote masculinizing characteristics. Anabolic steroids are sometimes used illegally by athletes in an attempt to improve their strength and performance.

anachronism - something on a suspect document that could not have possibly been present when it had been drawn up at the time indicated.

analgesia - the absence of sensibility to pain while remaining conscious. It is often due to nerve damage, hypnosis, acupuncture, the use of pain-relieving drugs, or entities that activate the body's natural pain-relieving system.

analgesics - a major classification of drugs that produce relief from, or diminished sensitivity to, pain without loss of consciousness. Analgesics may be divided into three basic categories: (1) the opiate narcotics, e.g., opium, codeine, morphine, meperidine hydrochloride (Demerol), hydromorphone hydrochloride (Dolophine); (2) non-narcotic, prescription drugs; and (3) non-narcotic, nonprescription, mild analgesics, e.g., aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid) and acetaminophen (Tylenol).

analog communication - a form of communication consisting of a continuously varying waveform. An electrical signal on a telephone circuit is typically an analog waveform.

analog sensor - a detector sensitive to changes that occur within a continuous range of possible changes. An example of an analog sensor is a rate-of-rise heat detector.

analog-to-digital converter (ADC) - a unit that converts analog signals to digital data; a device that senses an analog signal and converts it to a proportional representation in digital form; an electromechanical device that senses an electrical signal and converts it to a proportional representation in digital form.

analysis - the methodical investigation of a problem, and the separation of the problem into smaller related units for further detailed study.

analytical confirmation - the confirmation of a field test made of a suspect sample in which the finding was positive. The field test is analytically confirmed by a second test which uses procedures as sensitive or more sensitive than the field test.

anaphylactic shock - is a severe and sometimes fatal hypersensitivity reaction to the injection or ingestion of a substance to which the organism has become sensitized by a previous exposure. Symptoms, including anxiety, weakness, shortness of breath, laryngeal edema, cardiac and respiratory abnormalities, hypotension, and shock, may occur within minutes of exposure. Treatment must be prompt and usually involves the use of epinephrine, the maintenance of an open airway, and the treatment of cardiac and other problems.

anaphylaxis - a lessened resistance to a drug resulting from a previous use of the same drug.

anechoic chamber - a sound cavity in a horn or siren that minimizes echoes and vibrations.

anesthetics - inhalant drugs that abolish the sensation of pain. Local anesthetics produce loss of sensation only at the area of drug injection and are not used recreationally. General anesthetics affect the entire body and may produce loss of consciousness. While a number of drugs have anesthetic properties, the principal anesthetics are the vaporous chloroform and ether, and the gaseous nitrous oxide.

ANFO - a low explosive made of ammonium nitrate fertilizer and fuel oil.

angina pectoris - acute pain in the chest caused by reduced blood supply to the heart muscle, usually caused by coronary artery disease.

ankle belt - a leg-restraining device applied to the ankles of a violent subject. It consists of a braided line passed around each ankle and then secured. A variation of the device allows it to be used when a violent subject is being transported by motor vehicle.

annunciation

annunciation circuitry - is that element of an alarm system's control function which provides the means of conveying information from the control function to the **annunciation** function

annunciator - that element of an intrusion detection system which alerts human intelligence to an alarm condition; a visual or audible signaling device which indicates the status of detection sensors; a visual or audible signaling device, operated by relays, that indicates conditions of associated circuits. See also **howler**; **stroke bell**; **klaxon**.

anomie - a state of normlessness in which there is a breakdown of the rules governing social behavior. It is used to explain some suicides, and to describe the conflict between culturally instilled goals and socially approved means of attaining those goals. The anomie theory suggests that deviance and crime occur when there is an acute gap between cultural norms and goals and the socially structured opportunities for individuals to achieve those goals.

ANSI strike - any of many strikes designed to fit door and frame preparations as specified in the applicable document in the ANSI A115 series, common usage refers to a strike with dimensions of 4-7/8" X 1-1/4".

[ASIS PSPSG 2007]

anthrax

anthropometry - a system of identification using body measurements, e.g., height, length of arms, fingers, feet, and size of skull. The system was created by Alphonse Bertillon.

anti-anxiety tranquilizers - tranquilizers prescribed as sedatives to reduce anxiety and tension, sometimes called minor tranquilizers, as distinct from the major or antipsychotic tranquilizers. They are widely prescribed as sedatives that have relatively few other significant effects on emotional, cognitive, or perceptual processes, although there is much disagreement surrounding the extent to which they achieve this goal. Unlike the antipsychotic tranquilizers, which do not produce euphoria or other pleasant effects and are rarely used non-medically, the anti-anxiety tranquilizers produce effects subjectively similar to alcohol and barbiturates and are often used non-medically.

anticipatory offense - a step toward the intended commission of another offense. Also called an **inchoate offense**.

anti-climax dampening effect - an effect upon a subject being tested by the polygraph technique in which all questions other than the one feared by the subject will be anti-climactic. Responses to the anti-climactic questions will appear to be dampened in the measurements recorded by the polygraph instrument.

anti-depressants - a major classification of drugs sold only by prescription, and used medically to improve mood in severely depressed patients. Generally divided into the tricyclic compounds amitriptyline hydrochloride (Tofranil), and the MAO inhibitors, the anti-depressants are rarely used for non-medical purposes since they have little immediate pleasurable effect on normal mood states. This varied group of drugs seems to have a stimulant effect in cases of pathologic depression but appears to have little effect in normal states. Chronic usage, however, has been shown to have clearly defined stimulatory action. While some of the stimulants have been medically used as anti-depressants, their effects are inconsistent.

anti-disturbance device - a device built into a homemade bomb so as to trigger the bomb if it is jarred, moved, or disturbed in anyway.

anti-disturbance fuse - is designed to function upon receipt of some physical disturbance to the explosive ordnance after the fuse is armed. It is employed almost exclusively as an anti-personnel device and may be incorporated as a component of nearly every type of explosive ordnance.

anti-freeze extinguisher - a type of fire extinguisher designed to operate at low temperatures. The extinguishing agent contains calcium chloride solution or a proprietary compound having a low freezing point.

anti-friction latch - a latch bolt that incorporates any device which reduces the closing friction between the latch and the strike. See also **anti-pick latch; anti-shim latch; anti-wedge shackle**.

anti-human test - a crime lab test that determines whether a suspect stain contains blood or other body fluids of human origin. In certain cases where the stain is found not to be human, the exact animal species may be determined.

antimony trisulfide vidicon - a type of CCTV camera designed for daylight or well-illuminated scenes and usually installed indoors. It has a spectral response similar to the human eye.

anti-passback - a feature of an access control system which prevents successive use of one card to pass through any portal in the same direction. To attain this protection, a separate reader is required at each entrance and exit. Anti-passback prevents a card from being passed back to another person for the purpose of gaining unauthorized access.

anti-personnel bomb - a bomb intended to primarily injure or kill people, frequently home-made as in a pipe bomb, and designed to fragment upon explosion.

anti-pick latch - a spring latch bolt having an attached parallel bar that prevents a thin-bladed tool from exerting pressure to force open the latch

anti-psychotic tranquilizers - a major classification of drugs commonly used to treat psychiatric problems falling under the rubric of psychosis. The classification has four groups: (1) phenothiazines, such as chlorpromazine (Thorazine); (2) Rauwolfia compounds, such as reserpine (Serpasil); (3) butyrophenones, such as haloperidol (Haldol); and (4) thioxanthenes, such as Navane. Because they lack euphoric properties and generally produce unpleasant side effects, they are rarely used non-medically.

anti-shim latch - has a mechanism in the lock which prevents the bolt from being pried back into the door.

antisocial personality - a personality characterized by a basic lack of socialization and by behavior patterns that bring the individual repeatedly into conflict with society. It is also a diagnostic category recommended by the American Psychiatric Association for persons over age 15 who demonstrate a history of continuous and chronic antisocial behavior in which the rights of others are violated. This diagnosis is recommended in place of the older psychiatric categories "sociopathic personality disorder" and "psychopathic personality disorder."

antiterrorism - defensive measures used to reduce the vulnerability of individuals and property to terrorist acts, to include limited response and containment by local military forces.

[ASIS PPSG 2007]

antiterrorism awareness - fundamental knowledge of the terrorist threat and measures to reduce personal vulnerability to terrorism. See also **antiterrorism**.

[ASIS PPSG: 2007]

antivirus software - programs to detect and remove computer viruses.
[ASIS GDL TASR 042008]

anti-wedge shackle - is a padlock shackle having extended shoulders that surround the shackle and thereby protect it from being wedged or cut.

anxiety attack - an acute episode of intense anxiety and feelings of panic, accompanied by symptoms such as palpitations, breathlessness, sweating, gastrointestinal complaints, and feelings of imminent disaster. The attacks usually occur suddenly, may last from a few seconds to an hour or more, and may occur infrequently or several times a day. Treatment includes reassurance, the use of anxiolytic and ataraxic drugs, sedation, and often psychotherapy.

anxiety disorder - is a condition in which severe and persistent anxiety interferes with daily functioning.

aorta - the great artery arising from the left ventricle; the main trunk from which the systemic arterial system proceeds.

aortic regurgitation - a phenomenon observed as a dicrotic notch in a cardiosphygmograph tracing produced by the polygraph instrument. It is caused by blood pressure changes resulting from the expulsion of blood through the semilunar valves in the left ventricle of the heart.

apnea - cessation of breathing; partial **asphyxia** frequently observed in the reactions of guilty/deceptive subjects and persons who attempt to distort measurements during polygraph testing.

appeal of right - is an appeal which must be heard and decided on its merits. In criminal cases, defense appeals of final judgments are most frequently appeals of right, i.e., the defendant's right to appeal from a conviction is guaranteed by law.

appeal proceedings - orderly steps by which a court considers the issues and makes a determination in a case before it on appeal. The major steps are: (1) the appeal is initiated by the filing of a formal document in the court having appellate jurisdiction; (2) a record of the original proceedings in the trial court is obtained by the appellate court; (3) briefs are filed in court by the opposing parties; (4) if there are to be oral arguments, a hearing is scheduled and the arguments heard; and (5) following completion of arguments or submission on briefs, the court deliberates, reviewing the record of the earlier proceedings and considering the allegations and arguments of the parties, and announces its decision in the case. See also **interlocutory appeal**; **discretionary review**; **reversible error**.

appearance - the act of coming into and submitting to the authority of a court.

appellant - the person who contests the correctness of a court order, judgment, or other decision and who seeks review and relief in a court having appellate jurisdiction, or the person in whose behalf this is done.

appellate court - any court that reviews a trial court's actions, or the decisions of another (but lower-level) appellate court, to determine whether errors have been made and to decide whether to uphold or overturn a verdict.

applied stimulus - an external stimulus applied to a polygraph examinee for the purpose of adjusting polygraph instrument controls. An example of an applied stimulus would be to ask the examinee to solve a simple mathematical problem. As the examinee ponders the problem, the polygraphist adjusts the controls.

aqueous film forming foam - a fire extinguishing substance consisting of water and a foaming agent.

arbitration - a proceeding established by previous agreement in which both sides to a controversy submit their dispute to persons designated or to be chosen.

architectural hardware - hardware used in building construction, especially that used in connection with doors.

[ASIS PSPSG: 2007]

arch pattern - one of the three basic groups of fingerprint patterns.

archiving - the storage of backup files usually for a given period of time.

area detection - a technique for detecting an intruder's presence anywhere within a specifically defined area under protection. An area mat is a thin rubber or vinyl mat containing metallic strips, usually concealed under carpets. An alarm is triggered when an intruder steps on the mat. The protection of large interior areas can be achieved with volumetric detection devices such as microwave, passive infrared, and ultrasonic sensors.

argument of counsel - the final statements given to a court or jury by a prosecutor and defense attorney.

armed – a person equipped with a weapon (firearm), such as a pistol or rifle, from which a shot can be discharged.

[ASIS GDL PSO 11 2004]

armed robbery - robbery committed with the use or threatened use of a deadly or dangerous weapon. See also **robbery**.

arming signal - a coded message or signal transmitted from a protected premises to a central station or other monitoring location which informs that the alarm system has been armed by an authorized person.

arming station - is a switching device from which an alarm system is placed into operation.

armored car company - a company which, for itself or under contract with another, transports currency, securities, valuables, jewelry, food stamps, or any other item that requires secured and insured delivery from one place to another with armed personnel.

[ASIS GDL PSO 11 2004]

armored car personnel - an armed employee of an armored car company who is engaged exclusively by that company and is liable for the safe transportation, care, and custody of valuables.

[ASIS GDL PSO 11 2004]

armored front - a plate or plates secured to the lock front of a mortised lock by machine screws in order to provide protection against tampering. Also called an **armored face plate**.

armpit carrying - a shoplifting technique in which the thief places an item, such as a rolled up sweater, under the armpit inside a jacket or coat.

arm's length transaction - a sale involving two parties who are independent of each other.

arraign - to bring an arrested person before the court, where the charge is explained and a plea is taken. If later indicted, the same process is repeated in a higher court.

arraignment - is the hearing before a court having jurisdiction in a criminal case, in which the identity of the defendant is established, the defendant is informed of the charges and of his or her rights, and the defendant is required to enter a plea. Besides the pleas of guilty or not guilty, many states and the federal court permit pleas of nolo contendere and some accept pleas of not guilty by reason of insanity or former jeopardy. In misdemeanor cases where the offense is minor, all actions comprising adjudication are often taken on the first and only occasion on which the defendant appears before the court. In felony cases, the arraignment occurs after proceedings are begun in the trial court by filing of an indictment or information. In jurisdictions where probable cause is determined in a lower court and trial takes place in a higher court, there may be a preliminary arraignment in the lower court.

arrest - the taking or keeping of a person in custody by legal authority, especially in response to a criminal charge; specifically, the apprehension of someone for the purpose of securing the administration of the law, especially if bringing that person before a court.

[ASIS GDL PBS-2009]

arrest rate - the number of arrests as a percentage of the crimes known to the police; the number of arrests as a percentage of the entire population or a cohort thereof, such as arrests of males within the total population or of male juveniles within the male population.

arrest record - a list of a person's arrests and or charges that have been made against him, usually including those that have been dropped and those that have been adjudicated.

arrest to quarters - restriction of an individual to their armed forces residence.

arson - the intentional damaging or destruction, or attempted damaging or destruction, by means of fire or explosion of the property of another without the consent of the owner, or of one's own property or that of another with the intent to defraud, or attempting the above acts.

arson debris analysis - the examination of arson debris to determine the presence of accelerants or other substances introduced to a fire scene to facilitate destruction. Debris collected from the scene of a suspected arson can be analyzed to learn if a distillate was used to accelerate the fire and, if so, testing can classify the distillate by product, such as gasoline, fuel oil, or paint solvent. Debris most suitable for analysis will be absorbent in nature, e.g., padded furniture, carpeting, plasterboard, and flooring.

arsonist profiling - an investigative technique designed to assist in the identification of an arsonist. The profile is prepared from available clues such as the ignition device and accelerants used, preparation, methodology, and entry/departure methods and routes.

art investment fraud - any of a wide variety of scams in which the victim is lured into purchasing at a low price what he or she has been led to believe is a valuable work of art. In a common scheme, the criminal identifies potential victims by advertising a no-cost contest related to art appreciation. The criminal later contacts the contest entrants by telephone and claims to be an art investment broker. The criminal offers to sell a valuable art object at a greatly reduced price. The purchaser pays for the object and later learns that it is a relatively worthless copy.

artery - a vessel that carries blood away from the heart to various parts of the body. See also **Cartoid**.

artificial intelligence - the capability of a device to perform functions that are normally associated with human intelligence such as reasoning, learning, and self-improvement.

artificial ventilation/respiration - any method of forcing air into and out of the lungs to start breathing in a person whose breathing has stopped; a life saving technique in which air is forced into and from the lungs by external means when natural breathing ceases. Also called **rescue breathing**.

asphyxia - a lack of oxygen or excess of carbon dioxide in the body that is usually caused by interruption of breathing and results in unconsciousness. Asphyxia can result from an injury, electric shock, and drowning.

asphyxiate - is to suffocate or deprive the body tissue of oxygen.

asportation - the unlawful removing or carrying away of the personal property of another.

assassin's special - a small, easily concealed handgun, such as a .22 caliber automatic, that is often fitted with a silencer.

assault - unlawful intentional inflicting, or attempted or threatened inflicting, of injury upon the person of another. See also **aggravated assault**.

assembly language - a computer language that directly interacts with the hardware. It is considered a low-level language, as opposed to high-level languages such as COBOL and FORTRAN.

assessment center method - a method of evaluating candidates for jobs through the administration of various tests which often include simulation and performance techniques. The assessment center method is usually associated with the selection of seasoned employees who are in competition for mid-level or higher positions. The term assessment center does not refer to a place, but to the process by which employees are evaluated so that they may be given appropriate assignments. The process typically involves placing the subject under intense observation in a variety of simulations and stress situations over a period of several days.

assets - any real or personal property, tangible or intangible, that a company or individual owns, that can be given or assigned a monetary value. Intangible property includes things such as goodwill, proprietary information, and related property.

[ASIS GDL GLCO 01 012003]

assets protection - the function of shielding from danger or harm the money, receivables, information, resources, rights, property and other valuables of an owner.

assignable cause - the causal factor designated as having a relationship to an accident.

associative evidence - evidence linking a suspect to the crime scene or to the offense. Fingerprints, shoe and tire impressions, and matching hairs, fibers, fragments, and paint chips are examples.

assumed identity - a change of name, address, and/or appearance for the purpose of avoiding detection.

assumption of risk - a common law defense against tortious claims. For example, a person who rides as a passenger in an automobile would be said to have "assumed the risk" of accident and therefore has no action against the driver should an accident occur. Another example would be that a security officer has "assumed the risk"

associated with assaults made against him in the performance of security officer duties.

astro-pak - the trade name for a two-part explosive used in blasting. A two-part explosive is composed of two chemicals each of which is not explosive until joined together.

asynchronous attack - an attack of a computer system which takes advantage of the asynchronous nature of computer operating systems. An attack might be aimed at confusing the queuing of jobs waiting to be performed.

at ship's tackle - a term used in cargo transactions to indicate the point at which possession changes hands.

atavism - a theory of criminal behavior which postulates that criminality diminishes in the evolutionary development of humanity and that its appearance as a biological predilection in some persons is a hereditary throwback on the evolutionary scale.

ataxia - gross muscular incoordination, as occurs in alcohol intoxication.

at-risk populations - subgroups within the population whose members have been identified as being particularly susceptible to becoming criminals or criminal victims.

atrocious - the result of conduct that is outrageously or wantonly wicked, criminal, vile, cruel, extremely horrible, or shocking.

attachment - a proceeding by which a person or his property are restrained in accordance with a direction of a civil court to secure payment of a judgment or the presence of the person when the case is being tried. An attachment of property is a writ issued in the course of a lawsuit, directing the sheriff or a law enforcement officer to attach the property of the defendant to satisfy the demands of the plaintiff.

attack dog - a dog used to protect people.

attempt - an act done with intent to commit a crime but falling short of its actual commission; a form of conduct, coupled with intent, which tends to effect the commission of a crime.

attendant's key - a selective master key used in a hospital keying system.
[ASIS PSPSG: 2007]

attenuation - a reduction in signal strength.

attenuator - is a mechanism for reducing signal strength by a known amount.

attestation - the act of signing a written instrument as witness to the signature of a party, at his request.

attorney general - the chief legal officer of the United States and head of the Department of Justice; also the chief legal officer of a state.

attractive nuisance - a dangerous place, object, or condition to which children may be attracted. The owner of an attractive nuisance has the legal duty of taking unusual care to prevent injury to those who may be attracted to it. Examples are construction projects, swimming pools, and animals.

attribute - a field of information maintained in the rights database that identifies some characteristic accorded to all holders of the identifier. For example, if an identifier possesses the resource attribute, holders of that identifier can charge resources, such as disk usage, to the identifier.

audio discriminator - a sound detection and evaluation device capable of discriminating between different types of sounds such as the difference between a passing truck and breaking glass.

audio listen-in device - a device that monitors the sounds at a protected facility to determine when an intrusion occurs and/or to determine the nature of the intrusion after it has been detected by other means. Audio monitoring is typically an arrangement of microphone, amplifier, and receiver that allows a person at a separate location to listen for suspicious sounds.

audio response unit (ARU) - an output device that provides a spoken response to digital inquiries from a telephone or other device. The response is composed from a prerecorded vocabulary of words and can be transmitted over telecommunication lines to the location from which the inquiry originated.

audio restore capability - the automatic resetting of an alarm device or system within a specific time period.

audit - an examination of procedures and practices, made for the purpose of identifying and correcting unwanted conditions.

auditor - person with competence to conduct an audit. [ISO 9001:2000]
[ASIS SPC.1-2009]

audit trail - is a sequential record of system activities sufficient to enable the reconstruction, review, and examination of the sequence of events in the path of a transaction from its inception to final results.

authentic act - that which has been executed before a notary public or other public officer, duly authorized, or which is attested by a public seal, or has been rendered public by the authority of a competent magistrate, or which is certified as being a copy of a public register.

authentication - the act of establishing the identity of users when they start to use a system. Most commercial operating systems use passwords as the primary authentication mechanism.

authentication server - is a device used in conjunction with a password authenticator.

authenticity determination - a crime lab test made in cases involving allegations of tape tampering and/or alteration by a defense expert, and when the legitimacy of the recording cannot be established through chain of custody and testimony.

authorization level - a designation that assigns to a particular object or location a security rating or value. For example, an entry point to a highly sensitive zone might be designated Authorization Level I while the access point to a less sensitive area might be Authorization Level V. In the terminology of access control systems, authorization levels are the focal points of protection.

auto theft - theft of a motor vehicle with the intent to not return it.

auto theft squad - is a team of police officers, not necessarily detectives, that focuses on the identification and suppression of organized professional automobile theft activities. An auto theft squad will typically monitor areas where heavy losses occur and inspect used car lots and junk yards for evidence of stolen automobiles and parts. The squad often maintains special files such as known automobile thief and modus operandi indexes.

autoclave bomb - a bomb designed to explode when atmospheric conditions change.

autoerotic death - an accidental death, usually by strangling, in which the victim dies performing a bizarre sexual act. The victim, while trying to achieve sexual gratification, will typically use rope or cord to constrict the neck.

automated identification system (AIS) - a computerized fingerprint identification system used by the FBI that provides speedy and efficient identification services.

automatic calling unit - a dialing device which permits a machine to automatically dial calls over a communication network. The unit is frequently used to summon an emergency response agency (police, fire, or ambulance service) in conjunction with an alarm system.

automatic custody transfer - a system for automatically measuring and sampling products at points of receipt and delivery.

automatic deadbolt - a deadbolt designed to extend itself fully when the door is closed.

[ASIS PSPSG: 2007]

automatic flush bolt - a flush bolt designed to extend itself when both leaves of the pair of doors are in the closed position.

[ASIS PSPSG: 2007]

automatic funds transfer - the transfer of money from one bank account to another without intervening paperwork through direct linking of computers.

automatic iris - a feature of a CCTV camera that automatically adjusts the lens aperture in response to changing light conditions. The adjustments are made according to a sampling of video signals from the camera. In addition to providing a clearer picture, an automatic iris will extend the life of the lens and protect against damage from exposure to extremely bright light.

automatic line disconnect - a feature designed to defeat computer hackers by disconnecting a line after three unsuccessful attempts at a password or ID code.

automatic restore - a feature of an alarm system which automatically resets the alarm apparatus within a specified time after receipt of an alarm. Many security monitoring systems will log the original alarm before resetting so as to create a record of alarm events.

automatic shutdown - a system in which certain instruments are used to control or maintain the operating conditions of a process. If conditions become abnormal, the automatic shutdown feature stops the process.

automatic smoke control system - a fire suppression system that uses high power fans to draw smoke into ductwork and expel it through exterior vents.

automatic sprinkler system - a fire extinguishment system that activates automatically, usually on a rate-of-rise principle, and which features the release of water through sprinkler heads distributed throughout the protected area.

autonomic nervous system - that division of the human body which regulates the body's internal environment and is generally involuntary. It plays an important part in producing the physiological reactions recorded by the polygraph instrument.

autoptic evidence - evidence that results from something that has been seen or examined.

autosadism - inflicting pain to one's self to obtain sexual pleasure.

auxiliary code - in access control, a secondary control code capable of activating keypad functions. It is often used as a temporary code assignment so that the primary code is not revealed.

auxiliary fire alarm system - a system maintained and supervised by a non-governmental entity. The system features alarm devices that when activated cause an alarm to be sent to a municipal fire headquarters or fire station.

auxiliary force - manpower consisting of persons, not necessarily emergency response personnel, who supplement the regular emergency response force in emergency situations.

auxiliary lock - a lock installed on a door or window to supplement a previously installed primary lock. It is typically a mortised, bored, or rim lock.

auxiliary support unit - an element in a police department whose primary function is to support law enforcement activities by performing various technical or housekeeping duties. Persons assigned to the auxiliary support unit are almost always non-sworn employees.

avalanche

aversive therapy - a form of therapy in which painful effects, such as electric shock or induced nausea, are produced so that they may be associated with a form of addictive, criminal, or otherwise undesirable behavior. The objective is to create in the individual an aversion to that type of activity. Aversive therapy techniques have been applied to homosexuals, child molesters, alcoholics, drug addicts, and rapists.

avoidable accident - an accident preventable by proper behavior, or by environmental or equipment modifications or controls. All accidents are theoretically avoidable within the limits of human understanding of scientific and behavioral phenomena. However, not all accidents can be avoided by all individuals.

avulsion - a wound in which there is a tearing away of a structure or part.

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