

PREFACE

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Series Editor

For many years as both an investigator and an academician, I have seen the need for a series of books that would specifically address the investigative process in more detail than what had been previously provided. Most texts on criminal investigation discuss the process and all crimes in one book as if all types of investigations are conducted in the same exact manner. In my view this is far from the case and while some steps are the same, each crime type brings a different perspective to the forefront. Furthermore, over some thirty plus years of experience as an investigator I have also come to realize “we” as investigators and supervisors of investigators have to be held accountable for some if not many of the unsolved cases that exist today, especially with homicides. Hence, the creation of this book series entitled *Jones & Bartlett Learning Guides to Law Enforcement Investigation* in which there will be several books addressing specific types of crimes and the investigative processes that should be applied.

The first of these is this book on death investigation that I have coauthored with Arthur S. Chancellor, another thirty-year-plus veteran of conducting criminal investigations. I use the title *Death Investigation* because it is more encompassing of what a death detective actually does. While most books on homicide investigation are valuable resources they tend to be too technical and do not focus on the basics. Therefore, this book outlines the process of conducting a death investigation in a simple and easy to follow manner.

Following this collaboration, Mr. Chancellor is taking on the task of writing a book on sexual assault investigations. Other topics in the series will eventually include interviewing children in criminal cases; investigating missing persons and children; and hopefully other topics such as computer crime investigations, and managing the investigative process, all with the goal of providing specific information that is directly related to the investigation of the type of crime at hand.