

Basic Standard Exam Photo Series

A case identifier should be included in all photos. A ruler should be used to document the size of wounds, injuries, or other pertinent findings, as needed. All areas of the body that are to be photographed should be dry and as clean as possible before pictures are taken.

Remember: The case identifier should be positioned where when reading the identifier, the top of the identifier is directed as the 'head side' of the decedent.

Initial Overalls:

Open the body bag and take pictures of the decedent 'as is' in thirds, starting with the upper third portion of the body.

Take a picture of the ID band.

Take an 'ID' style picture of the decedent. Be sure to remove medical intervention from the face and ensure the face looks reasonably clean.

If the decedent has any property (i.e. watch, earrings, rings) take a picture of it on the decedent's body before removing it.

Clean Overalls:

Remove medical intervention, clothing, and property from the body. Make sure the decedent is clean. Wipe away blood, dirt, etc.

Take "clean" overalls of the decedent in thirds starting with the upper third portion of the body.

If the decedent is moved to a table, start with clean overalls of the posterior side of the decedent in thirds, and then flip them over to get clean anterior overalls. If the decedent is remaining in body bag, start with anterior clean overalls. Then, tilt/roll the body to one side, clean any debris, and get the posterior photos using the "clean" overalls procedure. You may need to tilt/roll the body on both sides and then photograph to fully capture the entirety of the posterior of the decedent.

"Around the World" Peripheral Views:

When decedent is clean and lying supine, begin taking lateral photos in thirds starting at the legs. Get an axillary shot after the first lateral pictures are taken. Then, do "around the world" on the head by doing a side profile, 'ID' photo, then other side profile. Repeat axillary shot and lateral thirds on the other side.

Tattoos, Scars, Injuries, Etc.:

If the decedent has any notable markings/defects, etc. you want to capture, do this after standard sets of photos are taken. Be sure to get a perspective shot and then a close-up shot so you have a reference of the location you're photographing.

Property:

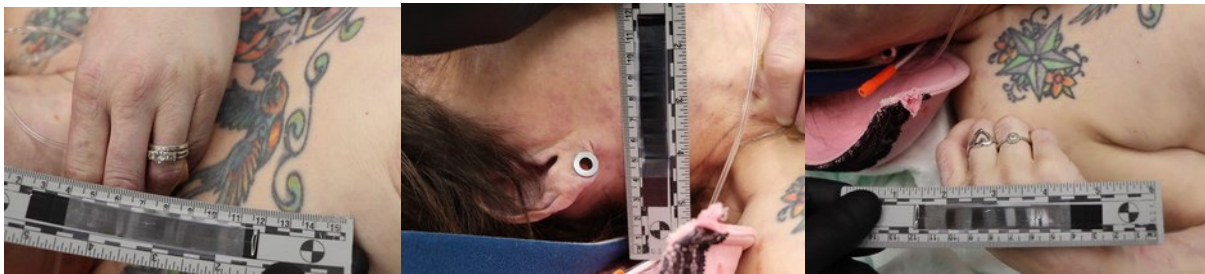
Lay out all of the decedent's property on a clean surface and photograph items with an identifier in the picture. Be sure to get pictures from a top-down angle and then a forward-facing angle to show any stones, defects, writing, etc. on the property.

EXAMPLES OF PHOTO SERIES

Initial Overalls:



Property before removal:



Clean Overalls:

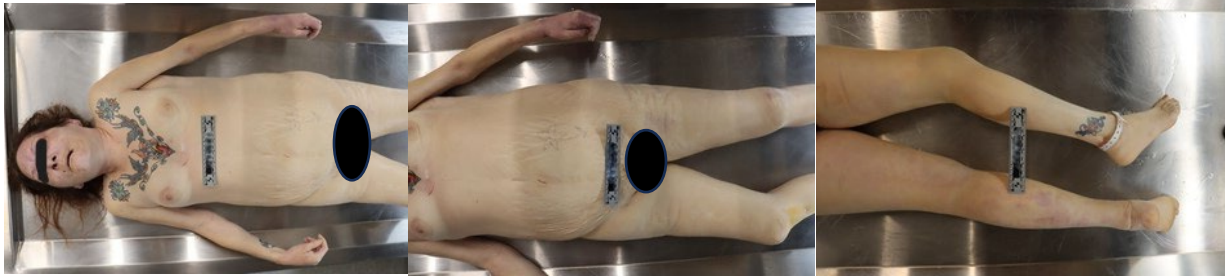
Back photos if on table:



Back photos if tilted:



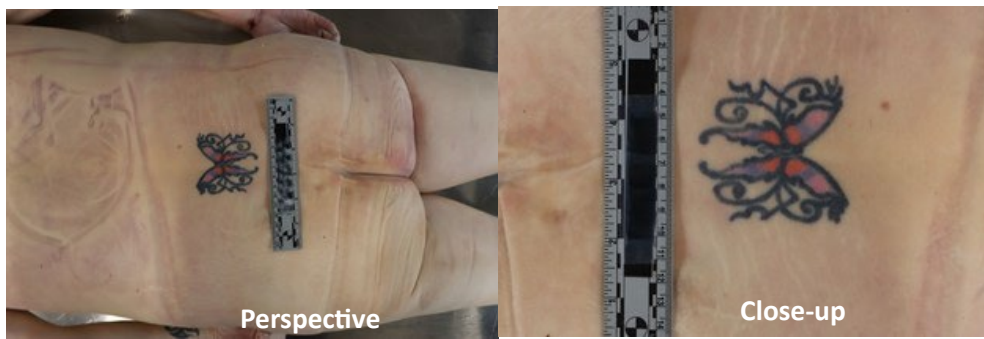
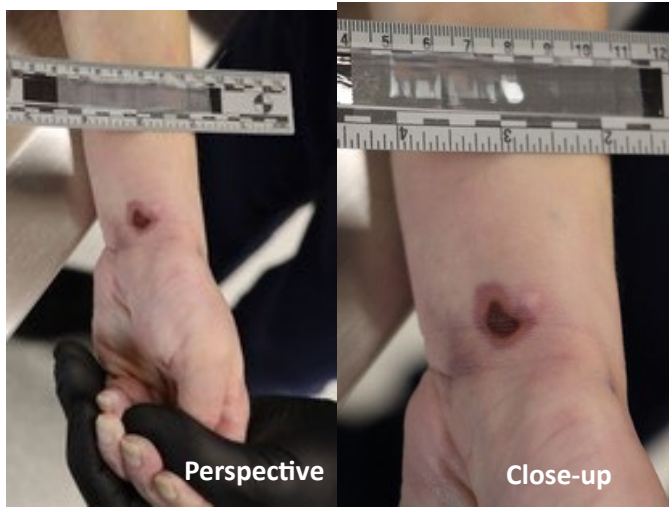
Continuing with clean overalls:



Around the World (one side shown):



Tattoos, Scars, Injuries, Etc.:



Property off body:

