**Careers in Forensic Science Key Terms**

**Criminalistics** – (or Forensic Science) the application of science in collecting and analyzing physical evidence in criminal cases (court of law)

**Crime Scene Investigator** – processes crime scenes to collect and preserve physical evidence

**Forensic Photographer** – uses photographic techniques to document crime scenes and evidence, as well as provide image enhancements and exhibits for analysis and courtroom presentation

**Trace Evidence Examiner** – identifies and/or compares physical evidence through chemical, physical, and instrumental analysis

**Latent Print Examiner** – processes and examines latent fingerprints in criminal cases

**Forensic Serologist/Forensic Biologist** – processes, compares, and/or identifies biological evidence in criminal cases

**Forensic Toxicologist** – examines body fluids and organs to determine the presence of drugs and poisons

**Questioned Document Examiner** – studies the handwriting and typeface on questioned documents to determine their authenticity and/or origin

**Firearm Examiner** – examines firearms and discharged ammunition; also conducts distance determination and tool mark examination

**Forensic Entomologist** – studies insects to estimate the time of death

**Forensic Computer Science** – collects and identifies data from computers and other digital devices

**Forensic Engineering** – concerned with failure analysis, accident reconstruction, and causes and origins of fires or explosions

**Forensic Odontology** – identifies and compares dental evidence in criminal cases

**Forensic Pathology** – a branch of medicine used for legal purposes and concerned with determining causes of death