

HERE'S WHY YOU SHOULD CONSIDER A

# LEGAL INVESTIGATOR AS CAREER



## WHAT DOES A LEGAL INVESTIGATOR DO?



Legal investigators work with attorneys to help get cases and evidence ready for trial. Duties of legal investigators include:



Preparing, serving and filing legal documents, such as affidavits, appeals, contracts, briefs, wills, real estate closings, etc.



Locating and interviewing witnesses and parties



Obtaining and examining evidence



Verifying existing evidence



Gathering and analyzing research data, including legal codes, documents, and articles



Preparing evidence and exhibits for trial



Reconstructing crime scenes



Conducting research for lawyers initiating legal action, supporting legal proceedings, and devising defense strategies



Filing pleadings with court clerks

### EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS



Legal investigator certificates courses are available online, in DVD format, or text; **you do not need a degree** to become a legal investigator.

### SALARY\*



In 2016, the annual median salary of a legal investigator in the United States was **\$54,370 per year or \$26.14 per hour.**

### JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN THE UNITED STATES\*

In 2014, there were **34,900** investigator jobs



**1,800** are expected to be added between 2014-2024

• Legal investigators may work directly for a law firm, attorney, public defender or district attorney, or they may provide their services on a contract basis.

## IMPORTANT QUALITIES OF A LEGAL INVESTIGATOR\*



Communication skills



Decision-making skills



Inquisitiveness



Patience



Resourcefulness



### LEGAL INVESTIGATORS MAY WORK BELOW AREAS:



Arson investigation



Product liability investigation



Personal injury and traffic accident forensics



Employment accidents



Investigation of financial and equity matters



Personal malpractice and negligence



Skip-tracing



Civil and criminal litigation matters

\*Source - U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



THE CENTER FOR LEGAL STUDIES