



Murder investigation relies on two sources: clues and questionings. A **clue** is a trace or hint useful for the detection of a crime – for instance, a scrap of skin under the victim's fingernails. Clues are usually found on the **crime scene** or the **corpse** of the **victim**, and the most important of them is the **murder weapon**. Once the clue has been verified and authenticated, it is considered as a **piece of evidence**, or an **exhibit**. The **questioning** (or **interrogation**) allows **detectives** to probe their **suspensions** about the people involved in the crime, that is, the **suspects**. Some of them merely **testify** by giving a firsthand account of things seen or heard: these are called (eye-) **witnesses**. The murderer (or **culprit**) often hides among them. Once acknowledged or ascertained the **motive** behind a murder, the murderer is generally arrested and put to **trial**.

