



SURVEILLANCE SURVIVAL GUIDE

The “First Rule” of Any Investigative Assignment: “S – E – E”

- **Safety:** There is no assignment that is worth serious injury or death. If the surveillance or assignment gives you an indication that it may be unsafe; it is time to rethink the assignment for an equally effective tactic that will reduce the risk to personal safety.
- **Efficient:** Everything you do, as an investigator, must be “cost effective” for the agency. You must avoid activities that waste time – remain focused on the case’s goals and the needs of the client.
- **Effective:** Concentrate on activities that will produce results for the client.

Get the Money First (Dale’s Rule)

- Surveillance is one of the more expensive operations done by any agency because it often involves many man-hours and expensive equipment. It is not unusual that the client will provide bad or misleading information. Often what we would call supposition or conjecture, the client will relate as fact that they want us to act upon. In this type of case, the surveillance will probably fall short of meeting the client’s expectations and be a problem in collection.

Surveillance Defined

- Surveillance is always a “covert operation.” It is not an undercover assignment; no contact with the subject is allowed. The goal is to observe the subject without interference – If contact is made, or the subject becomes aware that he is the target of a surveillance operation, the assignment is halted...

Before Starting Your Surveillance:

- Check Your Vehicle – It must be dependable and ready to go anywhere...
 - Do a standard drive check on your vehicle: The same as you would for any extended trip. Check the fluid levels, battery, tire pressure and make sure you have a full tank of gasoline. Your vehicle should also be equipped with extra motor oil, water, some basic tools and all the necessary documentation (registration and insurance).
- The Investigator’s Survival Kit – “Ten Items You Should Always Have...”
 - Camera / Video Camera
 - Thomas Guide / Maps / GPS
 - Cell Phone / Pager
 - Flashlight with red filter
 - Overnight Bag with clothing and toiletries

©DGA DETECTIVES & DGA BAIL BONDS 2009

- First Aid Kit – Well stocked with aspirin and other basics
- Water and Food for 24 hours
- Spare Batteries / 12 volt power source
- Note Pad / Mini Tape Recorder
- Honey Pot...
- Additional Equipment You Might Find Useful
 - Duct Tape & Trash Bags (Economy window tinting)
 - Night Vision Scope
 - Binoculars
 - 3-Cell Mag Light
 - Phone Book for Area
 - Hats and other disguises
- Personal Items – For any type of surveillance
 - Cash and Change
 - Credit Cards
 - Identification
 - Personal Phone Book
 - Day Planner
- Case Information – Field File
 - Client Information and phone number
 - Case manager information and phone number
 - Assignment sheet
 - Time Sheet
 - Subject Information

Four Basic Types of Surveillance

- Shadowing: This is the traditional type of surveillance that is done on foot where the agent maintains a close “tail” on the subject. In essence, he becomes the subject’s shadow.
- Static / CCTV: Closed Circuit Television is becoming more and more prevalent in today’s society. Almost every retail store and warehouse has a monitored CCTV surveillance system to document everything from shoplifting to workplace injuries.
- Electronic Surveillance: This covers a gambit of “high-tech” devices to observe and track a subject. These range from “real-time GPS” tracking devices to “pin-hole” cameras.
- Rolling / In Vehicle: The most common surveillance in California. The investigator uses a vehicle as a base of operation whether the subject is at home or on the move.

Shadowing Surveillance

- Defined – Moving Surveillance of an individual that is on foot
- Check List
 - Maintain Visual -- Always keep subject within a visual range

©DGA DETECTIVES & DGA BAIL BONDS 2009

- Cover – Use physical, distance, disguise, and darkness cover
- Superior Mobility – Your mobility should be superior if possible; bicycle, motorcycle or other vehicle
- Changeability – Be ready to ride a bus or take a taxi if the subject changes from pedestrian to another form of transportation

Static / CCTV—Close Circuit Television Surveillance

- Defined – Surveillance of a place, not a person
- Check List
 - Vantage Point – Ability to see object or location from a hidden position
 - Surveillance Equipment – Normally CCTV
 - Communications – With other agents
 - Arrest Procedure and Tactics
 - Company policy
 - Use of force
 - Powers to arrest
 - Local Police Department Contact

Electronic Surveillance

- Defined – Remote surveillance of a person or vehicle
- This is a field of surveillance that is constantly evolving. Currently, we refer to this type of surveillance when we use GPS Tracking devices. There are a variety of different types that can be planted on a vehicle. These range from the standard GPS unit that can be retrieved and read for the subject’s travel history, to the “real-time” tracking device that also uses cell phone technology and can be overlaid on a map in a receiving computer. This type of technology can be used in conjunction with other types of surveillance.
- Check List
 - Privacy Laws – Investigator’s Little Black Book, page 415 - 478
 - Is there an expectation of privacy?
 - Is the remote device legal under the circumstances?
 - Telephone monitoring
 - “Beep Tone” rule
 - Business Monitoring Rule
 - Home Monitoring Rule
 - California Telephone Rule
 - Subject Vehicle Tracking -- Ownership?
 - Installation place, time & process
 - Set up a time and place to install the device
 - If the device has to be installed covertly; practice on a vehicle similar to the one that will be the subject

Rolling Surveillance

- Defined – Surveillance of a person from a Vehicle
- Two Phases of a Rolling Surveillance
 - Vantage Point from a vehicle on a fixed position
 - Rolling Surveillance
- Vantage Point Check List (Six Items to Establish and Maintain a Vantage Point)
 - Establish subject's Vehicle location
 - Exit Direction (E D) of highest probability
 - Vehicle Cover
 - Physical coverage of vehicle
 - Physical coverage in vehicle
 - Verbal & Pretext covers
 - Contact Local Law Enforcement
 - Visibility
 - A wide angle of subject's vehicle and home is the perfect position; however, it must be noted that other considerations must be taken into account to secure the subject does not see or suspect he is being observed. Most often, a narrow view is more advantageous to protect your cover and "roll-ability."
 - Roll-ability – The ability to covertly follow the subject after he leaves in his vehicle
 - Changeable Factors – Murphy's Law
- Rolling Surveillance Check List
 - Maintain an average speed to maintain surveillance
 - Maintain cover using distance, angle and other vehicles
 - Maintain visual of the subject vehicle
 - Maintain roll-ability at starts and stops
 - Maintain maneuverability, leave yourself an out in traffic
 - Changeable Factors – Murphy's Law
 - Advanced Rolling Techniques
 - Paralleling
 - Speed & Peek
 - Yo – Yo
 - R-U-R
 - R-U-S

Video & Photo Techniques

- Basic & Advanced Cameras
 - Basic Needs
 - Advanced Systems
 - Covert Systems
- Basic Videography & Photography

©DGA DETECTIVES & DGA BAIL BONDS 2009

- The “money” shot – Quality Counts
- Cover & Concealment
- California Privacy Laws
 - Public Areas
 - Legality of lenses and other aids
- Documentation of Evidence
- Digital vs. Film

The Surveillance Report

- How & What to Document
- The Field Report
- The Case Report

Rolling Surveillance: Field Techniques in Practice (With Evaluation)

- Setting up a vantage point
- Maintaining documentation
- Video & Photo Skills
- Rolling with the subject
- Maintaining proper contact
- Documentation on the move
- Single & Multiple Vehicle Chase
- Use of Advanced Techniques
- Basic Driving Skills

Shadowing Surveillance: Field Techniques in Practice (With Evaluation)

- Eyes on the Subject
- Maintaining mobile superiority
- Change Mode & Reaction
- Documentation on the move
- Distance & Cover
- Inside a Mall or Business
- Inside an Office Building
- Contact Situations

Final Exam

- Surveillance Report
- Case Report
- Basic Skills

...