

These are among the most Frequently Asked Questions regarding the Forensic Services Unit (FSU).

**Q. Do you provide civilian fingerprinting?**

**A.** Presently the FSU does not provide fingerprinting services to the general public. The exceptions to this are Police personnel, City of Durham requests and Guardian Ad Litem Representatives. Appointments must be made in advance with the unit secretary at 919-560-4432. If you are in need of the service and do not qualify under the exceptions above, you may contact the following agencies:

Durham County Sheriff's Office  
560-0905

State Bureau of Investigation, Raleigh  
662-4500

City/County Bureau of Identification, Raleigh  
856-6300

**Q. Are you hiring Crime Scene Technicians?**

**A.** Positions for Crime Scene Technicians and other jobs in the Forensic Services Unit are posted on the City of Durham Website under the Employment Section. Positions are posted for a limited time as the jobs become available. See our "Future Plans" section of this website for upcoming job openings.

**Q. What are the job requirements for a Crime Scene Technician in Durham?**

**A.** Please see the link to the Crime Scene Technician job description on the Forensic Services Unit homepage.

**Q. I am a victim of a crime awaiting FSU response to my car, home or business that was burglarized. The responding officer has left the scene. What do I do in the meantime?**

**A.** The FSU strives to respond to all requests for service in a timely manner. If you are advised by the responding officer that FSU will respond when available, please take whatever steps are necessary to safeguard your location. If at all possible, try to limit the contamination of areas where FSU may be able to process for fingerprint, DNA or trace evidence. These are usually the points of entry and/or exit and items or places where the perpetrator may have touched or handled in some way. If items or places must be handled by you, try to use gloves or another barrier to prevent contamination.

**Q. Is CSI: Durham like the CSI shows on TV?**

**A.** Real police agencies and forensic units differ around the state and country and it is the same with TV shows. Durham uses an array of processing techniques and equipment to provide crime scene investigation for the city of Durham and other surrounding agencies. See our "Future Plans" section of this website for further information.

