

POLICE CIRCULAR ORDERS No. 124

Subject—Text Identification Parade

Text
Identification
Parade.

Instances have come to notice to show that Text Identification Parades are not being held properly and intelligently. When weapons used in an offence or suspects having particular marks of identification (such as blood-stain or cut marks in case of articles and beards, distorted or deformed bodies in case of persons) are put in a Text identification Parade, the other articles or suspects with whom the disputed ones are mixed at the parade should be made to have the same features or appearance. Otherwise, the disputed ones become conspicuous and easily identifiable by the existing marks or deformities and thereby the Text Identification Parade loses the evidentiary value. If a blood-stained article is put in, all other articles should have similar blood-stains. If a bearded man is put in, the people with whom he is mixed should have beards. If such an arrangement is not possible, the specific marks of identity should be concealed in the disputed one by some device and the articles/man, which/who are mixed with the disputed one/man should be made to bear similar appearance by a similar device as would make the identification really worthy of credence and admissible in Courts.

All I. Os. should carefully observe such a procedure in future. Without such proper effort, mere routine Text Identification Parades bristling with defects merely mean wasted effort and lead to acquittals. Hence the great need for proper arrangements and intelligent application.

(Previous Police Circular Order No. 2 of 1959)