



Somerset Police Department

Public Information Office

Lt. Allan Coomer • Det. Shannon Smith
400 E. Mt. Vernon Street P. O. Box 1017 Somerset, KY 42502
Phone (606) 678-5176 Fax (606) 678-9239



News Release
SSNR10070801
October 7, 2008

SPD Officers Attend Software Training

Seven Somerset Police officers recently completed a 40-hour training course to expand their crime scene and accident investigation skills.

5 officers and 2 detectives, along with an Operation UNITE officer, received training in CADZone, a forensic mapping software.

The software works with the department's Total Station precision mapping instrument, made by Laser Technology, Inc. which is used to assist in the reconstruction of serious accident and crime scenes.

The total station works similar to land surveying equipment, utilizing an electronic transit, a glass prism reflector and an external computer. The previous methods of measuring a scene with a tape measure are replaced with the total station's faster speed and greater accuracy.

During the week-long course, officers received more detailed instruction on how to build scale drawings of accident and crimes scenes, three dimensional drawings and animations. Computer animations are becoming a standard in court proceedings to explain crash and crime scenes in more detail.

"The advanced training these officers were put through makes the department more prepared to handle serious accidents and crimes scenes," said Major Doug Nelson.

The training was conducted in Somerset at the Hal Rogers Regional Fire Training Center.

ATTACHMENT: Group Photo (Left to Right) front row: Officer Eric Moore, Det. Michael Grigsby, Officer Chris Gates, Officer Greg Martin. Back Row: Officer Jeff Girdler, Officer Larry Patterson, Instructor Bobby Jones, Det. Shannon Smith.