

## The Importance and Tasks of Criminalistic Prevention in Crime Prevention

*Azim Shamsiyevich Baratov*

*Head of the Department of Criminalistics and Forensic Examination, Tashkent State University of Law  
baratovazim.75@gmail.com*

**Annotation:** This article explores the criminalistic aspects of crime prevention as an essential component of investigative practice. Criminalistics not only studies crime mechanisms and evidence evaluation but also develops preventive measures within criminal procedure. Preventive activity involves both investigative and expert-preventive actions aimed at eliminating causes and conditions that facilitate crimes. The research emphasizes that prevention must accompany investigation, identifying criminogenic factors and proposing solutions to avoid repetition. Key tasks include improving forensic methods and technical means, analyzing preventive investigative situations, and applying scientific recommendations to practice. The article also highlights the role of education, social environment, youth support, and socio-economic stability in preventing offenses. Moreover, collaboration among law enforcement, society, and information technologies increases the effectiveness of preventive measures. Thus, criminalistics ensures not only the detection of crimes but also their reduction through integrated preventive strategies.

**Key words:** criminalistics, crime prevention, investigation, forensic methods, preventive measures, social factors.

Criminalistics not only studies the mechanism and patterns of crime commission, the patterns of collecting, researching, evaluating, and using evidence related to the crime and its participants, but also develops appropriate measures for crime prevention.

Criminalistic prevention is associated with identifying the causes and conditions contributing to the commission of crimes, criminalistic objects and subjects, as well as applying specific preventive measures that complicate the commission of new crimes, suppressing or stopping the criminal actions of specific individuals.

Effective combating crimes involves not only their prompt investigation and exposure, identification of perpetrators, and prosecution, but also the application of preventive measures. The current situation in the field of crime prevention is unsatisfactory and requires serious correction.

Prevention of offenses should be aimed at neutralizing and eliminating the causes contributing to their commission. Investigative bodies play a special role in this process [1].

The development of means, methods, and techniques of a preventive nature has always been a subject of scientific research in criminalistics. At the same time, there is an opinion that crime prevention is not the subject of criminalistics.

Disagreeing with this opinion, criminalistics develops appropriate measures to eliminate crimes committed spontaneously, prevent crimes, and eliminate the circumstances that led to the commission of crimes in the process of collecting, researching, and evaluating evidence, the emergence of information about the mechanism and patterns of committing crimes, crimes, and their participants.

In forensics, cooperation with the media is organized in the implementation of preventive measures [2].

Criminalistic-preventive activities are divided into two types: investigative prevention and expert-criminalistic prevention. Its subject is built taking into account the requirements of criminal procedure law, the specifics of criminalistics as a science, and the specifics of its tasks. At the same time, the science of criminalistics does not affect the preventive aspects of the subject of other sciences (criminology, criminal law, and criminal procedure).

Recently, another scientific approach has emerged: the development of independent criminalistic recommendations for the prevention of certain types of crimes or crimes committed by a certain category of persons that are not part of a private investigative methodology. The investigator, embarking on the investigation of the crime, must simultaneously take measures to identify the circumstances that contributed to its commission, i.e., this activity, in our opinion, should be carried out in parallel with the investigation of the criminal case in order to obtain an answer to the question “What contributed to the commission of the crime?”, having its own specific goal - to propose measures to prevent similar criminal acts in the future[3].

The general task of criminalistic prevention is the constant improvement of scientific and technical means, tactics, and methods of investigating crimes, increasing the effectiveness and scientific and methodological level of investigation in general. This is one of the important and main preventive tasks of criminology, creating favorable conditions for solving most crimes committed. At the same time, the solution of this general task is inconceivable without the implementation of other specific tasks of criminalistic prevention. These include the following tasks and areas of criminalistic and preventive activity:

- development and improvement of methods and techniques for identifying the causes and conditions contributing to crimes, taking into account their criminalistic characteristics;
- identification in each investigative case of criminalistic objects and the corresponding influence within and outside the framework of the investigative process (based on the results of the investigation);
- Identification and study of the characteristics of typical investigative situations of a preventive nature arising during the investigation. Based on them, the development of the main directions of criminalistic activities to prevent crimes;
- determination of an approximate set of preventive criminalistic measures for the protection of various types of objects from criminal attacks, the most effective in each selected situation;
- development of measures to prevent an initiated crime and prevent an ongoing crime.

The subject of criminalistics' scientific and practical activity in crime prevention is a set of tasks that can be solved through specific criminalistic methods and tools. In addition, scientific and methodological support for solving preventive issues is one of the important tasks of criminology.

Along with solving the above issues, attention should be paid to the following aspects.

Crime prevention is a comprehensive set of measures and actions aimed at preventing crimes and reducing the crime rate in society. Several key aspects of crime prevention are:

Education and awareness: raising awareness in society can reduce crime rates. Education helps people better understand the consequences of their actions and make more rational decisions.

Development of social skills: contributing to the development of communication skills, conflict resolution, and emotional management helps people more effectively overcome life difficulties and avoid committing crimes.

Supporting youth: preventing juvenile delinquency involves providing opportunities for education, sports, cultural events, and employment to reduce the risk of involvement in criminal activity.

Improving living conditions: improving socio-economic conditions in certain regions, combating unemployment, drug addiction, and alcoholism will help reduce crime rates.

System of punishment and rehabilitation: an effective system of criminal punishment, including punishment for a crime and rehabilitation, contributes to reducing the recurrence of crimes.

Society's cooperation: The cooperation of society as a whole, including citizens, organizations, and government agencies, plays an important role in crime prevention.

Information technology and data analysis: The use of modern technologies and data analysis helps law enforcement agencies to predict and prevent crimes.

These methods and strategies can be adapted to each situation and characteristic. Effective crime prevention often involves a comprehensive approach that combines different levels of intervention to solve the problem of crime.

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