

Criminal Investigation,

Seventh Edition

Chapter Two

Crime and Its Investigation

Purpose of an Investigator

1. To establish that, in fact, a crime was committed.
2. To identify and apprehend the suspect.
3. To recover stolen property.
4. To assist the state in prosecuting the party charged with the offense.

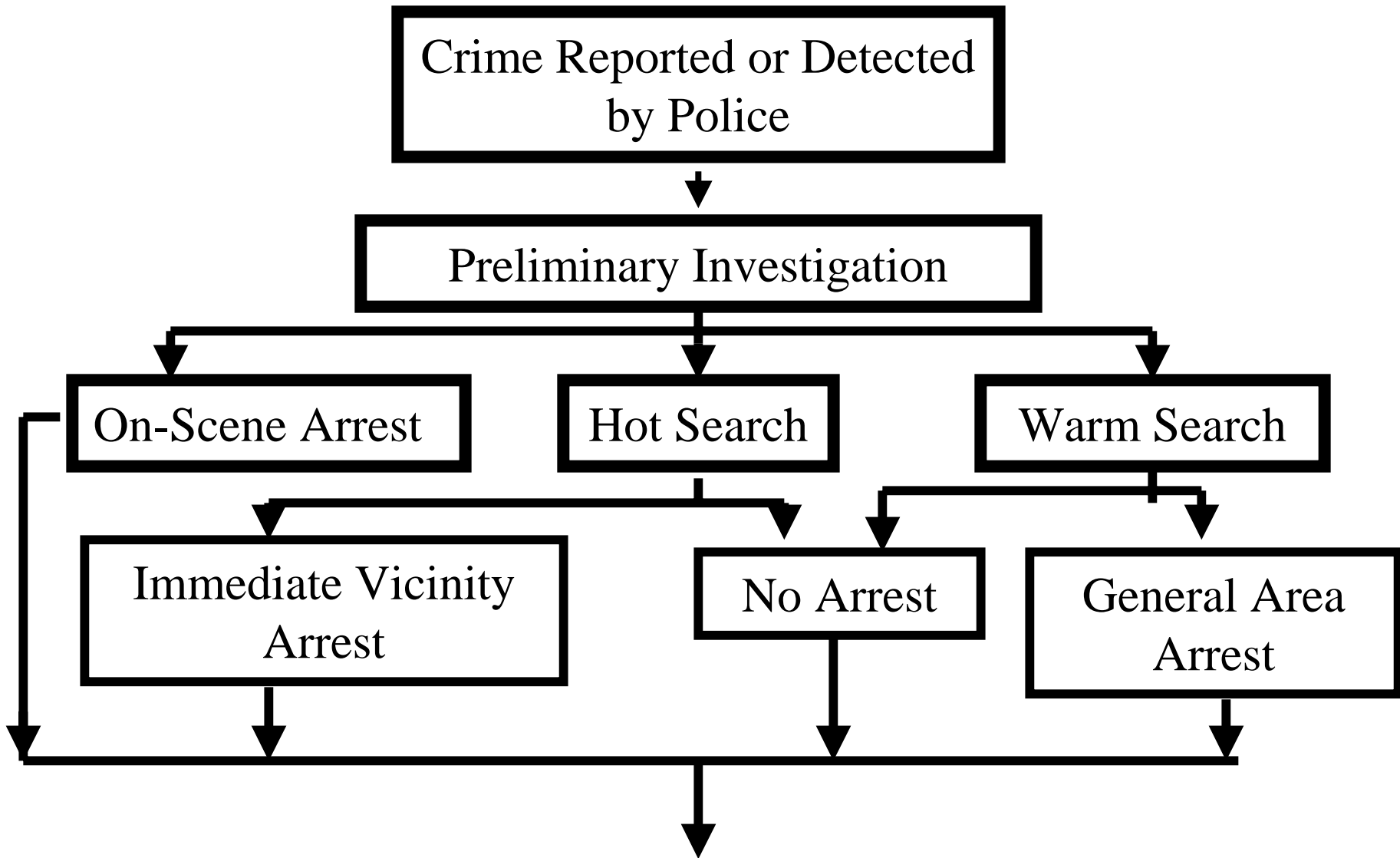
Essential Qualities of the Investigator

1. **Self discipline.**
2. **Knowledge of law.**
3. **Patience.**
4. **Thoroughness.**
5. **Attention to detail.**
6. **Systematic.**
7. **Objective.**
8. **Deductive reasoning – an explanation of the crime tested against the evidence.**
9. **Inductive reasoning – using the evidence and formulating a theory of the crime.**

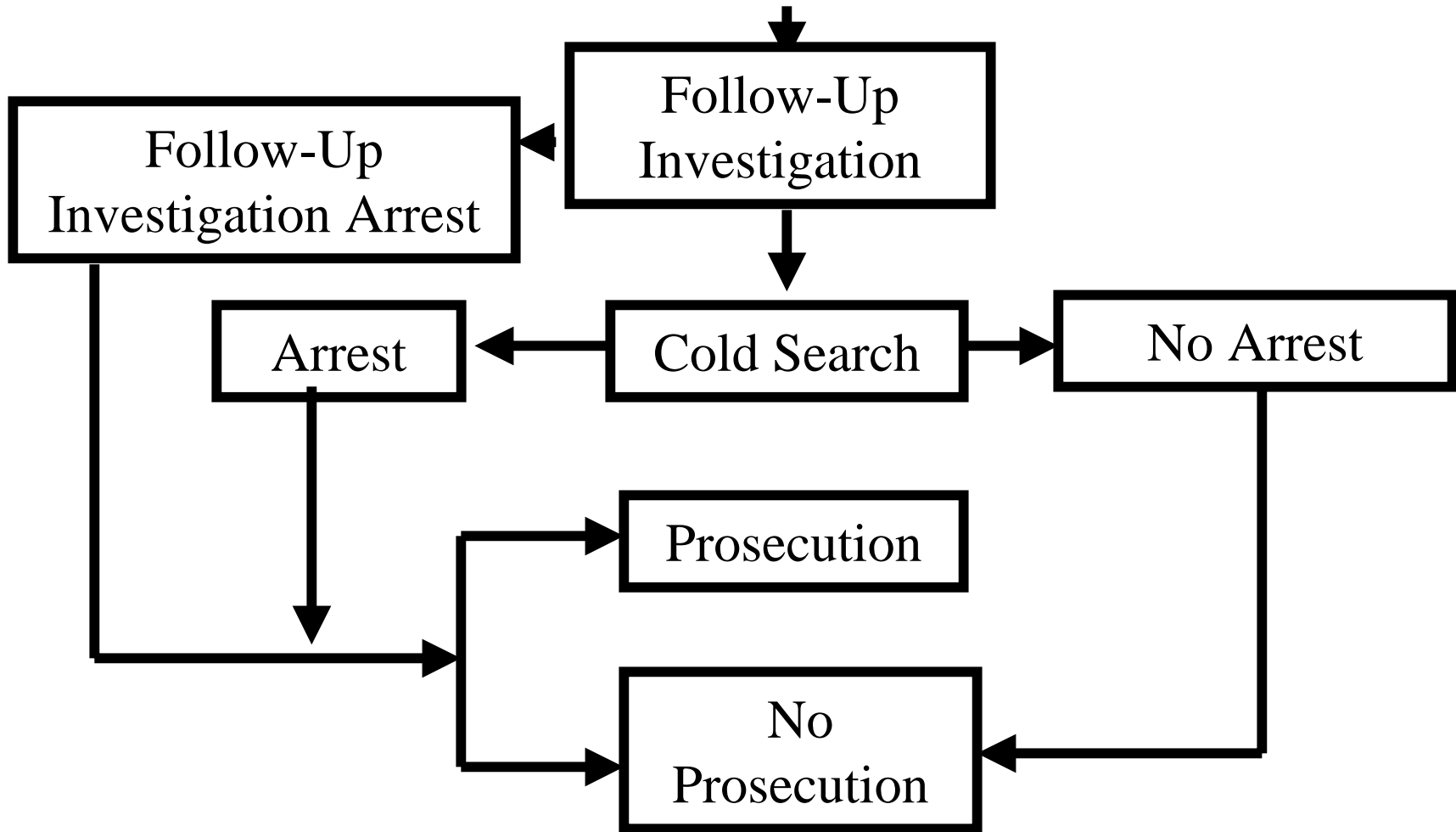
Essential Qualities of the Investigator

- 10. Sensitive and compassionate toward victims and suspects.**
- 11. Avoid being cynical.**

Major Events in the Investigation of a Crime



Major Events in the Investigation



Preliminary Investigation

1. Are medical services needed?
2. Was a crime committed?
3. Preserve the integrity of the crime scene?
4. Separate witnesses, interview individually.
5. Document case and gather evidence.
6. Write an offense report.
7. Provide needed information to other officers.
8. Seize evidence.

Interviews

- It is critical that officers obtain a statement from witnesses and any possible suspects early in the investigation and prior to the investigation focusing on an individual(s). The statements may be needed to allow investigators to focus on an individual(s).
- All statements must be obtained in a manner that is within the constitutional rights of the individual.

Follow-Up Investigation

1. Read all reports and know the details.
2. View all evidence.
3. Contact the officer who did the original report.
4. Evaluate the legal significance of statements, and any known laboratory findings, order others if appropriate.

Follow-Up Investigation

5. Employ, as appropriate, specialized techniques such as physical or electronic surveillance and polygraph examinations.
6. Identify, locate, and arrest the suspect.
7. Conduct an in-custody interrogation in conformity with legal requirements.
8. Recover stolen property.

The End