



OREGON-IDAHO HIDTA PROGRAM

HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA

Midwest Counterdrug Training Center

Video Surveillance for Drug and Border Investigations

Tuesday, October 14 - Thursday, October 16, 2025

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Location: Nampa Police Department

Directions: [820 2nd St S., Nampa, ID 83651](#)

Registration

This course is restricted to US law enforcement personnel along with other local, state, and federal civilian law enforcement employees to include criminal analysts, and corrections officers.

Tuition/Fees

There is no cost to attend this training.

Course Description

This 3-day course teaches the techniques and skills needed to shoot Surveillance Video with camcorders and other video equipment. Students will be exposed to state-of-the-art covert video surveillance systems and will be offered the opportunity to use them in realistic hands-on scenarios. The course will focus on both long-range camcorder surveillance and covert systems. It will include how to plan a successful video surveillance and the situational awareness necessary for safe operations. This class begins with camcorder basics and is appropriate for those with little or no experience as well as participants with years of video experience. This course combines classroom instruction with numerous hands-on practical, realistic exercises. The instructor reviews each participant's video after each exercise.

A night session will teach participants how to use night scopes in conjunction with video cameras to observe drug dealing at night under low light and no light conditions. **Please note that Day 2 will have afternoon and evening hours to accommodate night surveillance exercises.**

Covert audio transmitters are an important part of drug work. Participants will learn how to link the audio from those transmitters to their camcorders. Participants will practice using professional microphones with camcorders in order to record confessions, eyewitness accounts, and victim statements.

Topics Included

- The power of video as a source of evidence
- Introduction to camcorders, covert cameras, pole cameras, and digital video formats

- The elements of video continuity
- How to document surveillance for domestic and foreign terrorism, narcotics trafficking, auto theft operations, murder-for-hire investigations, and human trafficking
- Automatic and manual focus
- Optical and digital zoom
- Safely shooting surveillance video and other forms of uncontrolled action
- Daylight exterior practical exercises
- Low-light exterior practical exercises with night vision and IR illumination devices
- Recording quality audio from covert body receivers and other audio sources
- Using interchangeable (35mm format) video lenses with compatible video cameras
- Safely using and recording with covert video systems
- Using video evidence during pre-operational briefings

Course Length

Video Surveillance for Narcotics Enforcement is a 3-day (24 hour) course.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites to attend this course.

Instructor Provided Equipment

The instructor carries enough video camcorders, covert video cameras, and night vision equipment for the entire class to complete all required surveillance exercises. Students will get hands-on time with a variety of modern cameras and recording devices.

Optional Student Provided Equipment

While not required, students are encouraged to bring agency-provided video cameras, night scopes or night recording devices, and covert audio and video recorders. The instructor will help students maximize their current equipment's recording capabilities.

To register go to: [Register for Video Surveillance for Drug and Border Investigations](#)