

2026 CSI Arizona Qualification Scenario

Due by March 13, 2026 at 11:55pm AZ time

Completed Scenario Answer Forms must be emailed in PDF format to

Leah.Prager@azflse.org. Please note that all submissions will be reviewed using an AI-detection method. Any entry found to include AI-generated content/responses in any section will receive point deductions according to the rubric.

On April 15th, 2024, at 10:15 PM, you respond to the 500 block of W. Forest Ave. for a fatal single-vehicle accident. The patrol sergeant briefs you with the following information:

At 9:00 PM, dispatch received a call from Tony Rizzo, owner of Tony's Family Pizzeria. He reported that his delivery driver, Charles Smith, had not returned from his last delivery and was not answering his phone. Tony said this was very uncharacteristic of Charles, who had left on his final delivery around 6:45 PM. The order was reportedly for Mr. Mark Johnson at 523 Uneeda St.

Two patrol officers checked the area and located a vehicle in a shallow wash near the 500 block of W. Forest Ave. The car was registered to Charles Smith.

Upon your arrival, you observe the victim deceased behind the wheel, not wearing a seat belt. His head rests against the steering wheel with a visible laceration on the right temple. Mud and debris are present on his clothing, and a set of shoe impressions lead away from the passenger-side door toward the roadway.

Scene Documentation and Preservation

- 1. Describe step-by-step how you would secure, document, and preserve this scene to maintain chain of custody and prevent contamination.**

Evidence Located

- 2. Below is a list of items found at the scene. For each item, describe:**

- **How would you collect, preserve, and document it?**
 - **What steps would be taken to process it?**
 - **What information would you analyze or compare it for?**
- a. Boot impression in wet soil near the passenger-side door of the car.
 - b. Cellphone mounted on the dashboard, screen still illuminated.
 - c. Receipt from Speedy Wash Car Wash in cup holder, dated April 15, 2024, 4:00PM.
 - d. Doorbell camera across the street from the crash site.
 - e. Visible fingerprints on the driver's side and passenger's side doors.
 - f. Car keys in the ignition- engine off, but battery on.
 - g. Partially open pizza delivery bag on the passenger seat – one pizza missing.
 - h. Tire impressions leading away from the scene towards Uneeda St.

Evidence Process and Follow Up Investigation Results

3. Based on the investigative findings below, describe specific follow-up actions you would take for each item to further the case. For each piece of evidence or lead, consider:

- **What additional analysis, testing, or comparison would you perform?**
- **Who would you interview or contact to gather more information?**
- **What investigative steps would help confirm or eliminate suspects?**
- **How does this evidence connect to the overall timeline or sequence of events?**

Evidence	Laboratory / Investigative Findings
Boot impressions	Size 10 <i>Fletcher's</i> casual shoe. Victim was wearing size 11 <i>Scoots</i> work boots.
Cellphone	The cellphone was on with a GPS app visible on the screen. The current directions displayed indicated to make a U-turn and head back to 523 Uneeda St.
Car wash receipt	Timestamped 4:00 PM. Paid in cash.
Doorbell footage	Video shows a vehicle stop around 7:30 PM and at 7:37 PM it slowly rolled into the ditch. The video was grainy and nothing else was visible.
Fingerprints (driver's door)	One set of prints is a match to Charles Smith. Secondary prints are a match to passenger side but not Charles.
Fingerprints (passenger's door)	Prints match the secondary set from the driver's door but not Charles.
Car keys	DNA mixture, inconclusive.
Pizza bag	Prints match Charles Smith and Maria Lopez. Sauce residue consistent with Tony's Family Pizzeria menu. Suggests Maria handled the bag.
Tire impressions	Consistent with a 2018 dark-colored SUV.
Additional database match	One fingerprint found on each side of the car matched an armed security guard application from Nevada under the name Mark Johnson.

- While interviewing Tony Rizzo, the owner of Tony's Family Pizzeria, you learn that Charles had been running late on his delivery through no fault of his own. He was supposed to deliver a pizza to Mr. Mark Johnson at 523 Uneeda St. Tony also mentions that pizzas are always delivered in a bright red warming bag. Additionally, Tony reported that coworker Maria Lopez was covering other deliveries and may have handled the pizza bag. Tony notes Maria seemed unusually attentive to the route and delivery timing and may have had contact with Charles prior to the final delivery.

- While canvassing the neighborhood, you locate another neighbor (Lydia Barnes) with a doorbell camera that clearly shows Charles' car turning onto Uneeda St. at 7:03 PM.

Interviews

You now have four people to interview:

- Tony Rizzo
- Maria Lopez
- Mark Johnson
- Lydia Barnes

5) What key questions would you ask each person to support your case?

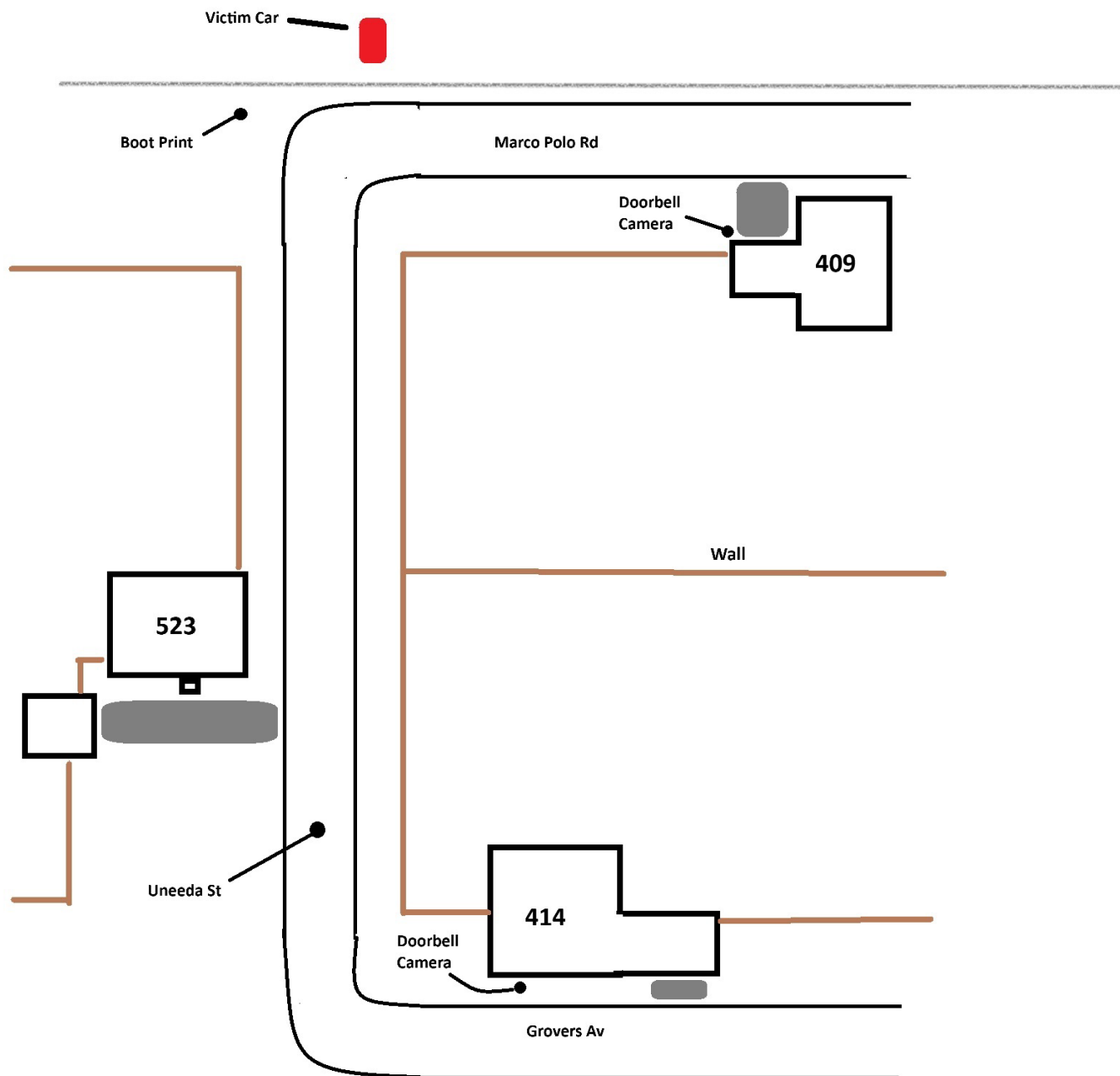
Case Completion

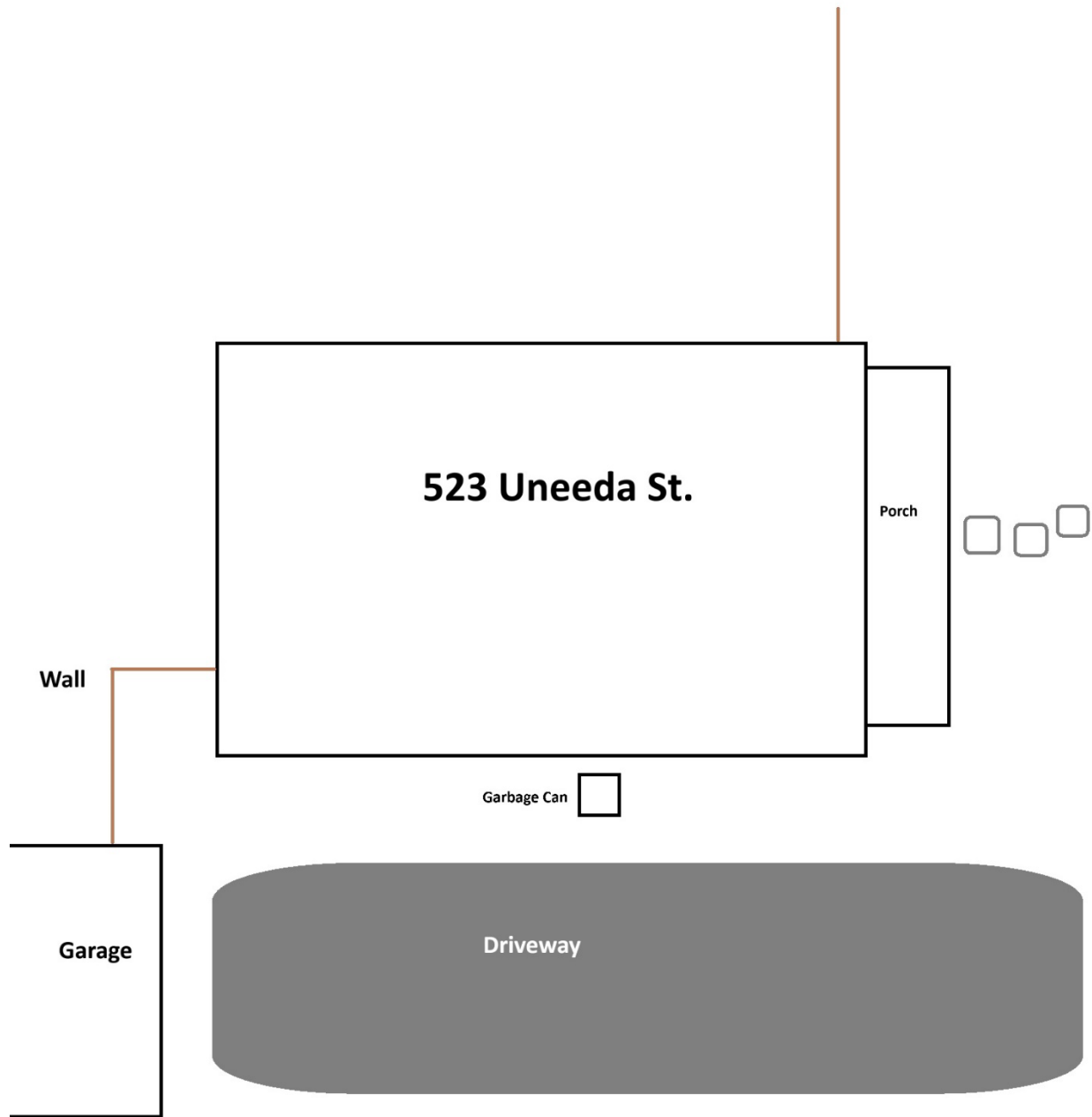
6) What additional investigative or legal steps would you take to ensure the case is complete?

Hypothesis

7) Based on all collected evidence and investigative results, what is your theory of what happened to Charles Smith (the victim)?

Wash Area





Speedy Car Wash

1024 N Central Ave
602-555-4321

Deluxe Ext Wash.....	\$12
Interior Det.....	\$6
Air Fresh.....	\$2
Total	\$20

Thanks for stopping by!!

April 15, 2024 -- 4:00pm

