

Mykola M. Yefimov. Forensic description as an element of the methodology of investigation of criminal offenses against morality. The scientific article is devoted to the study of some aspects of the investigation of criminal offenses against morality. Peculiarities of forensic characteristics as an element of the methodology of investigation of this category of criminal offenses are considered.

The author emphasizes that any method of investigating certain types of criminal offenses has a certain structure, an important element of which is the forensic characteristics. The concept of forensic characteristics as an element of methodology, quantity, content and significance of structural elements of this scientific category remain vague and contradictory. Moreover, at the turn of the millennium, the question of the expediency of the existence of forensic characteristics as a scientific category in general became acute. Therefore, it should be borne in mind that the value of forensic characteristics can be divided into practical and theoretical. For police officers who are directly involved in the investigation, the most important thing is the practical application of a tool that will help in the investigation process.

It is noted that the method of investigation of certain types of criminal offenses is a system of scientific provisions, as well as methodological and practical recommendations developed on their basis for the investigation of certain types and groups of criminally punishable acts.

It is emphasized that the structure of the studied scientific category is as follows: forensic characteristics of criminal offenses; analysis of primary information and initiation of criminal proceedings; circumstances to be proved in criminal proceedings; typical investigative situations; features of conducting initial investigative (search) actions, covert investigative (search) actions and other measures; features of further investigative (search) actions, covert investigative (search) actions and other measures; features of the use of special knowledge during the investigation of a criminal offense; preventive activities of the investigator in relation to the causes and conditions that contributed to the commission of a criminal offense; features of the investigator's activity at the final stage of the investigation.

Keywords: *criminal offenses against morality, forensic characteristics, methods of investigation, investigative (search) actions, investigation planning.*