

Evidence / Property

Evidence

The Richland Police Department Evidence Technicians are responsible for maintaining the integrity of evidence and chain of custody for all property that comes into their possession. Once the evidence is placed into the property room, the evidence technicians maintain the evidence in accordance with state laws, city ordinances and departmental policies and procedures. The Richland Police Department's evidence room stores over 7,000 items, which are classified as evidence, safekeeping or found property collected from the Richland area.

The Evidence Technicians handle the processing and packaging of evidence that come from crime scenes. Items that have been placed into evidence as found property are held for 60 days. Items that have been placed into evidence as safe-keeping are held for 90 days. Once a case has been adjudicated through the court process, the Evidence Technicians handle the destruction and disposal of the evidence.

Forfeiture requests on seized evidence are also handled through the Evidence Technicians. Examples of seized evidence include money and vehicles. Fingerprinting citizens is also a part of the evidence technician's duties. Elimination prints may be needed for the state crime lab analysis, in order to compare latent prints recovered from the crime scene, to the potential victim and/or suspect.

Evidence Technicians train department personnel on proper procedures for handling and storing evidence. Besides departmental training, public presentations are also held for Richland citizens. The Citizens' Academy and the Summer Youth CSI Academy held at the Richland Police Department are two of the programs where evidence presentations are done.

The Evidence Department consists of one full-time Evidence Technician.

Property

If you want to claim or pick up property that has been held by the Richland Police Department call 509-942-7343 to schedule an appointment. Or you may email [Heidi Glasen](mailto:Heidi.Glasen) to schedule an appointment. Appointments can be scheduled between 9 am – 4 pm. Please have your case number available when calling or emailing the request.

The Evidence Department also processes and stores bicycles found in the City of Richland. Bicycles are held for 60 days before being donated to a local non-profit agency. If your bicycle has been stolen in Richland, contact the Evidence Technician to see if your bicycle has been turned in to the police department. Please have your theft report case number available when you call.