TACTICS OF PRESENTATION FOR IDENTIFICATION DURING INVESTIGATION OF PROPERTY THEFTS COMMITTED BY JUVENILES

Abstract. Purpose. The purpose of the article is to highlight the tactics of presentation for identification during the investigation of property thefts committed by juveniles. Results. The article identifies the particularities of the tactics of certain investigative (search) actions at the subsequent phase of investigation, in particular, identification and investigative experiment. The specificity of the subsequent phase of the investigation, relying on the criminological literature review, is that before it begins, the investigator has sufficient evidence of the involvement of a particular person in the commission of a criminal offence. Analysis of criminal proceedings reveals that the most common items presented for identification were: a) items and documents – 64%; b) suspected juveniles in kind – 54%; c) suspects from photographic images – 21%. The author establishes that the main tactical mistakes made by investigators in conducting an identification are: lack of proper organisation of an identification – 57%; superficial preliminary interrogation – 38%; non-use of technical means of recording the procedural action – 19%; conducting an identification at the subsequent phases of the investigation – 82%; ignoring tactical recommendations for conducting an investigative (search) action – 17%. The study also emphasises that the effectiveness of an identification is largely dependent on the preparation for it. These include preliminary interrogation of the identifying person, during which the possibility of identification is determined. Conclusions. The identification should be carried out as soon as possible after the investigation is commenced. In the case of an identification of a juvenile, statisticians should not be students from the same educational institution as the person being identified. It is advisable to invite teachers, psychologists who have participated in interrogations, or other persons who are respected by juveniles and can serve as support for them to participate in the identification. It is also advisable to provide psychological preparation to juveniles on the content and significance of an identification. If necessary, identifications may be made from photographs, by voice, etc. This may be due to both security reasons and to avoid the possibility of disruption of the investigative (search) action by the person being identified. Key words: theft, juvenile, organisation, tactics, presentation for identification, investigation.

1. Introduction
The next phase of the investigation of property thefts committed by juveniles is usually associated with the completion of urgent initial investigative (search) actions, during which: the main sources of evidence are collected; investigative situations are resolved; stories put forward on the basis of analysis of primary materials are checked; perpetrators are identified and apprehended. The specificity of the subsequent phase of the investigation, relying on the forensic literature review, is that before it begins, the investigator has sufficient evidence of the involvement of a particular person in the commission of a criminal offence. At this phase of the investigation, on the basis of the information received prior to its commencement and additionally collected, the issues of solving this crime are being resolved (Gavlo, 1990, p. 19). At the next phase of the investigation, the investigator begins by analysing and evaluating the collected factual data, clarifying the situation, putting forward appropriate stories and determining the further direction of the investigation.

Theoretical and practical issues related to the investigation of theft crimes committed by juveniles have been addressed by well-known domestic and foreign scholars in various fields, in particular: L.P. Bakanova, V.D. Bernaz, P.D. Bilenchuk, V.V. Biriukov, A.F. Volobuiev, O.Yu. Drozd, O.A. Kryuchenko,
The preparation of the investigative (search) action includes: additional study of the criminal proceedings; establishment of general features of the suspect’s appearance; selection of statisticians; organisation of assistance from related services (Criminal Investigation Department, district police officers), preliminary interrogation of the person to be identified; investigator’s assessment of the situation from the point of view of the possibility of conducting an identification; creation of the necessary conditions and environment for its conduct; determination of the necessary set of technical and criminological recording devices.

According to K.O. Chaplynskyi, organisational and preparatory measures for the identification should consist of the following elements: 1) preliminary interrogation of the identifying person (victim, witness); 2) decision-making on identification; 3) determination of time, place and method of identification; 4) determination of the order of presentation for identification (if there are several offenders); 5) creation of optimal environment for conducting this investigative (search) action; 6) determination of the method of recording the course and results of the identification; 7) preparation of the necessary scientific and technical means; 8) ensuring the safety of persons participating in this procedural action; 9) involvement (if necessary) of specialists or an interpreter; 10) selection of objects (statisticians) among whom it is necessary to conduct an identification; 11) drawing up a plan for conducting an identification; 12) involvement of witnesses (at least two); 13) holding an instructional meeting (briefing) among all participants in this investigative (search) action (Chaplynskyi, 2007, p. 14).

The above list of preparatory actions will fully ensure the quality of the procedural action under consideration. Therefore, we consider it necessary to consider the main of these preparatory actions.

Prior to the identification of a suspect, the person who will identify shall be questioned about the suspect’s appearance. According to the CPC of Ukraine, article 228, “before presenting a person for identification, the investigator, prosecutor shall find out if the identifying person can identify this individual, interviews him or her...” (Honcharenko, Nor, Shumylo, 2012).

Following the study by K.O. Chaplynskyi, in 90% of cases, witnesses and victims are invited to identify the perpetrators of the attack, the means of committing the crime and other objects they observed in connection with the criminal event (Chaplynskyi, 2007, p. 8).

During the interrogation of the person to be identified, it is necessary to follow the sequence of presentation of the features of a person’s appearance according to the following scheme: general physical, anatomical, functional concomitant and special features.

It greatly simplifies the description of appearance features to determine which
of the famous people (politicians, musicians, actors) the person whose features are described resembles. This ensures the formation of a mental image, including that of the investigator, improves the quality of description and composite portraits, and reduces the time required to obtain important information.

The expressions and terms used by the interrogator in describing certain features of the suspect cannot be changed by the investigator in relation to criminological terminology. The testimony is documented verbatim in the record.

It is well known that during perception, noticeable, special features of people are better remembered. This requires establishing whether the person had any such features. If any, what they were, where they were located on the relevant parts of the body and the circumstances under which they were seen. In this case, information relevant for the search for the perpetrator will be obtained. If it is established that the person's features are on parts of the body covered by clothing, and their presentation will require exposure, it is advisable to conduct an examination.

If the interviewee states that he or she heard the suspect speak, it is necessary to find out the pace, use of phrases, terminology, correctness of sentence construction, accent, etc. This will provide some information about the speaker's identity, which will facilitate the search for him or her.

At the end of the interrogation, it is necessary to find out whether the person can identify and on what grounds. As a result, I. Kohutych argues that the purpose of interrogating the person who will identify is to obtain information about the appearance, features and signs of the object previously observed by that person and to find out his or her ability to identify it.

After all, if the interrogated person states that he or she does not remember the signs by which he or she could identify the object, it is inappropriate to conduct this investigative action (Kohutych, 2004, p. 412).

During the procedural action in question, the identifying person may name a number of features that he or she did not mention during the interrogation when he or she sees the previously observed object again. Such a situation is logically explainable and should not be regarded as a contradiction between the testimony during interrogation and identification (Lukianchikov, 1990, p. 27).

A different situation may arise when a person lists some features in the record but identifies the person by other features during the identification. In this case, reasonable doubts may arise as to the objectivity of not only the identification, but also the interrogation. Therefore, the investigator should make efforts to ensure that during the interrogation, if possible, the maximum number of features by which the person will be able to make an identification is mentioned. Such a comprehensive clarification of these circumstances is very important both for deciding on the expediency of presenting an object for identification and for assessing the results of the identification (Dzhyha, Baulin, Lukianets, Stakhivskyi, 1999, p. 111).

There are cases when, during interrogation, a victim or witness cannot describe the objects he or she observed but claims to be able to identify them. In this regard, there is a recommendation in the criminological literature to conduct the procedural action in question. In addition, it should be emphasised that the investigator must make a decision on this allowing for other circumstances of the criminal proceedings.

3. Particularities of interrogation of a juvenile

Special attention of the investigator should be paid to the interrogation of a juvenile who will identify. Juveniles may have difficulty describing the content of what they have seen and identifying the features of the perpetrators. This is due to age and mental developmental characteristics. Accordingly, this should not serve as a ground for refusing to conduct an identification.

If the investigator believes that there is a high probability of mistaken identification of another person, it is necessary to make a decision, including on the refusal to conduct this procedural action. This is due to the fact that the suspect and his or her defence counsel will certainly emphasise their non-involvement in the crime, arguing that the investigator needs to work on the involvement of the person identified during the identification and base their line of defence on this. False identification can lead not only to a deterioration of the investigative situation, but also to the inability to prove the guilt of this person. This can have particularly negative consequences when the identifying person is a juvenile. The latter may painfully endure the event, withdraw, refuse to cooperate with the investigation, etc.

An identification is a unique investigative action that is never duplicated, which requires the investigator to carefully prepare for it. Therefore, O.Ya. Baev argues that it is unacceptable to conduct an identification even after an operational identification, in particular, using a photograph of a person who should be presented for identification in the future. After all, in this case it can be regarded as a staging of this important action, which, of course, has no evidential value (Baev, 1992, pp. 166–167).
The criminal procedure legislation of Ukraine requires that the person to be identified shall be presented to the identifying person together with other persons of the same sex in the number of at least three who do not have sharp differences in appearance and clothing. To meet this requirement means that the investigator shall present at least three persons who do not have sharp differences for identification.

When proceeding with an identification, the investigator must ensure that all the requirements necessary for conducting this investigative (search) action are met.

The need to present living persons for identification may arise in cases where: 1) The suspects were not previously known to the victims or witnesses, but were observed by them in connection with criminal events; 2) The suspects impersonate other persons or do not have documents proving their identity, or have presented documents that do not belong to them; 3) The victims or witnesses knew the suspects before, but cannot provide any information about them (for example, they studied together in high school but have not seen each other for 20 years) or name them incorrectly; 4) The identifying person knows the person being presented to him or her and correctly names them, but the latter denies the fact of acquaintance (Chaplynskyi, 2007, p. 29).

The law establishes only the minimum number of persons for the identity parade – not less than three. The maximum number of persons for the identity parade is not defined. This is decided by the investigator on a case-by-case basis.

According to the noteworthy results of a study by P.V. Shyldyryan, in practice photo tables are prepared in such cases, including photographs of not one, but sometimes ten or twenty (and even more) people from among those who were in the crowd during the riots and could have been active participants or organisers of the riots. These photographs are “diluted” with several depicting persons who are clearly not involved in the events under investigation. Of course, in such cases, there should be no images of persons who would have a sharp difference in appearance with the suspects seen by the witness (victim) (Shyldyryan, 2005, p. 176).

In addition, some scholars emphasise the inappropriateness of using a large number of objects in an identification, as the attention of the identifying person is distracted. This can certainly affect the identification results. It should be underlined that an increase in the number of objects, for example, up to 5, is appropriate when the interrogated person could not or was uncertain about the signs of the object that he or she could identify. This, in our opinion, will ensure the objectivity of the procedural action under consideration.

Furthermore, the investigator shall find out from each statistician whether they know the person who will be in the identity parade, whether they have been acquainted before.

The frivolous behaviour of a juvenile who is presented for identification (disorderly behaviour, rude behaviour towards the identifying person) can have a significant impact on the identifying person and reduce the evidential value of the results of this investigative action. Other juveniles, on the contrary, show excessive embarrassment, constraint, and fear of unknown consequences. Given these circumstances, teachers or other acquaintances of juveniles who are not interested in the outcome of the case are invited as attesting witnesses (Lukianchikov, 1990, p. 32). It is not advisable to load the identity parade with juveniles from the same educational institution where the person to be identified and the identifying person study. This may lead to information leakage and further harassment of juveniles by students and, possibly, teachers.

The choice of the time of an identification should depend on the fact that the identifying person eventually forgets the object he or she has observed, and most likely forgets the signs and features on which the identification process is mainly based. Therefore, the identification should be carried out as soon as possible after the commencement of investigation. The place of identification is usually the investigator’s office. If necessary, an identification may be conducted in the place where the identifying person observed the object, or in another place determined by the investigator, allowing for the specific circumstances of the case (for example, in an open area if the objects of identification are too bulky, in particular, vehicles) (Vlasenko, Ivanov, 2003).

If the person to be identified is a suspect in custody, it should be determined whether he or she is likely to escape before the identification, in order to take measures to enhance security or arrange for the identification to take place directly in the pre-trial detention centre.

According to Y.D. Lukianchikov, the investigator shall direct and activate both the mental activity of the identifying person and his or her volitional efforts in advance (Lukianchikov, Moisiev, 1998, p. 48).

In our opinion, the identifying person should be psychologically prepared (the significance of an objectively conducted identification should be explained to him or her, he or she should be inclined to give truthful testimony, be supported to overcome the feeling of fear.
of meeting the persons to be identified, etc.) However, the person should not be guided to identify a specific person.

Providing psychological preparation in proceedings on the criminal offences under consideration is possible, first of all, when the identifying person is a juvenile, or, when due to his or her moral and volitional qualities, psychological characteristics, cannot defend his or her position, anticipating the possibility of further revenge from both suspects and interested parties. In this case, the investigator needs to conduct thorough psychological preparation.

In addition, it should be noted how investigators assess the impact of the measures they take on the course and results of the procedural action: 87% of respondents said that it gave the juvenile self-confidence; raised the level of consciousness and attitude to participation – 85%; ensured the establishment of psychological contact – 81%; allowed a fuller use of tactical techniques and their complexes – 79%; reduced the time for conducting – 77%; improved the understanding of the meaning and content of the investigative (search) action by juveniles – 29%.

The investigator should ensure the participation of a teacher if the identification involves a juvenile witness (victim) under the age of 14 or an accused (suspect) under the age of 16; resolve the issue of participation of legal representatives or close relatives of juvenile participants in the identification (Honcharenko, Nor, Shumylo, 2012). Involvement of a psychologist or teacher who has already participated in the interrogation of a juvenile will help avoid negative influence on the latter and ensure a more predictable result for the investigator. The involvement of these persons should also be regarded as providing psychological support to the juvenile.

According to criminological practice, specialists were involved in 31% identifications, of which psychologists were involved in 64% of the total number of cases, and teachers in 36%.

4. Objects of identification

The objects of identification are usually the stolen property and personal belongings of the thief (items of clothing, burglary tools, etc.) lost or forgotten by the thief at the scene of the theft or thrown away by him or her at the time of arrest or seized from him or her as a result of a personal search or at his or her place of residence, as well as the means of transporting the stolen property. In cases when eyewitnesses remembered the person who committed the theft, the thief him or herself may be identified.

For example, items seized from the accused (or from persons to whom he sold the stolen goods) that look similar to the stolen goods shall be presented to the victim for identification. If the victim identifies these items, it means that the thief has been in possession of the stolen property. Moreover, items with individual branded numbers (e.g. watches, cameras, tape recorders, TV sets, cars, etc.), if the victim has documents for them, usually do not need to be presented to him or her for identification. However, in cases where the number on the stolen items has been removed or destroyed, it is advisable to present the victim for identification based on their appearance.

When investigating the theft of domestic animals and birds, it may be necessary to present both live and dead animals to the victim for identification, including their skin, legs, tail, collar, etc. Animals may be presented in a herd of animals approximately similar in species, breed, sex, age and colour. Individual characteristics include special signs on animal’s body, injuries and other consequences of the disease, as well as their reactions to a certain name or appeal of their owner, which should be reflected in the records.

The thief’s tools and other personal belongings left by the thief at the scene of the theft may be presented for identification to his or her relatives or acquaintances who may have seen these items. However, persons who are presented with an object seized from a theft scene should not know where it was found and for what purpose it is presented for identification. This allows to exclude cases of deliberate misidentification of objects and, conversely, obviously erroneous misidentification of the presented objects (Makarenko, 2010, p. 34).

If necessary, an interpreter or a person who understands deaf or mute sign language should be provided.

As for the participation of forensic experts, it is recommended to involve a specialist in phocoscopy during voice and speech identification. The criminologist can assist the investigator in recording the results and the identification process by means of photo, audio or video recording. The investigator shall prepare the necessary lighting devices and means of recording the course and results of the identification.

According to the procedural status, the identifying person is warned or not warned of criminal liability under Articles 384 and 385 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine (Criminal Code of Ukraine, 2009).

The investigator asks the identifying person if he or she recognises anyone among those presented for identification. The formulated question is entered into the records. The situation can then develop in two ways. In the first case, the person informs the investigator that he or
she does not recognise anyone in the identity parade.

Usually, a negative answer is preceded by a delay during which the identifying person hesitates, repeatedly examines the persons presented to him or her for identification and holds his or her gaze on them. In this case, the investigator should urge the identifying person not to rush into the identification, to look carefully at the persons in the identity parade. It is also advisable to find out whether the lighting conditions are satisfactory, whether it is necessary for the persons presented for identification to stand up, turn around. It is forbidden to ask them to say certain phrases, as such actions are carried out during a special type of identification – by voice and speech.

In cases when the identifying person states that he or she does not recognise anyone in the identity parade, this investigative action should not be interrupted or terminated, but rather it should be continued after he or she is reassured and offered to look more closely at the persons in the identity parade. If the identifying person does not recognise anyone, the investigator makes a note of this fact in the records and this investigative action is completed (Chaplynskyi, 2007, p. 33).

Otherwise, when such a person identifies someone, the investigator must find out by what features (signs) he or she recognises them. Answers of the identifying person are recorded. There may be a situation that a statistician is listed as an identified person (this is possible because statisticians are similar in general terms to the person being identified). In this case, the investigative (search) action is carried out in the same sequence as if the person being identified had been identified. Upon completion of the investigative (search) action, the identified extra should be questioned about the circumstances of the crime.

The investigator asks the identified person to stand up and state his or her surname, name and patronymic. This proposal and the person’s response are also documented in the records. After that, the investigator reads the records aloud (or, if desired, the participant reads the records personally), and it is signed by all participants and persons present. In addition, there should be a note on the presence or absence of statements, comments or additions (Priakhin, 2011).

An identification outside the visual observation of the person being identified is still insufficiently developed in the legal literature and legislation. The main reason for conducting an identification in this form is the statement of the identifying person.

The study of criminological practice does not reveal any cases of identification outside of visual observation in the investigation of thefts of other people’s property committed by juveniles.

However, we should not rule out the possibility of conducting this type of identification. A voice identification differs from the identification based on external features. The identifying person and the attesting witnesses selected for a voice identification are placed in one room, and the identifying person, the investigator and the attesting witnesses are placed in another, adjacent room. The door between the rooms is opened, but the identifying person and the identified person must not see each other. A person assisting the investigator, an operational officer, or another investigator conducts a conversation with the suspect and other participants in this action according to a previously developed programme. In this case, the sound conditions in both rooms should be the same and correspond to the sound conditions under which the speech was perceived. When the identifying person states that he or she can hear the voice of the person being identified, he or she is asked to go to the adjacent room and repeat his or her statement in the presence of the person being identified, indicating which words and voice features he or she recognises (Belkin, Zujkov, 1968, p. 424). If, in addition to the identification by voice and speech, an identification by anatomical features of appearance is to be made, the identifying person shall not enter the room where the person being identified is located.

It may be necessary to present the suspect’s voice and speech for identification using a phonogram. Identification using a phonogram is carried out in cases as follows:

– The identifying person states during interrogation that he or she can identify the suspects by their appearance and voice, but it is impossible to present these persons for identification because they are hiding from the investigation and court, are on a long-term business trip, have died or are physically eliminated, are wanted or their whereabouts are unknown; however, there are audio recordings of their voices;

– The person to be identified by voice refuses to participate in this investigative action, but there is a phonogram with a recording of his or her voice;

– The person suspected of committing a crime refuses to admit that it was his or her voice that was recorded on the tape;

– To prevent negative impact on witnesses and victims, to ensure the safety of persons involved in criminal proceedings, etc. (Chaplynskyi, 2007, p. 56).
According to Articles 223, 228, 231, 231 of the CPC of Ukraine, the records of identification outside of visual observation of the person being identified are documented and signed by all participants in this investigative (search) action. It is advisable to indicate in the records the pseudonyms of the identifying person, attesting witnesses, and, if necessary, statisticians, to ensure their safety in case there is a real threat to their life, health, home or property. It is advisable that each participant in the identification an identification read content of the records independently, without visual observation of the person. Another option is for the investigator or one of the officers being present to read the records aloud. In our opinion, this is a tactical technique provided for in Article 85 of the CPC of Ukraine. The need to use it arises in some cases when there is a threat of destruction of a procedural document or damage to it by the accused (suspect) (Priakhin, 2011).

In the course of investigating property thefts committed by juveniles, other types of identification may be conducted. The information we have provided shows that a successful identification is not possible without careful preparation.

The complexity of the organisation and tactics, the uniqueness of the procedural action and the importance of its results for criminal proceedings do not allow entrusting it to employees of other units. This is confirmed by the results of our research. For example, the forensic practice review does not reveal a single case of an identification conducted by officers of operational units.

This investigative (search) action can both help establish the circumstances of criminal proceedings and create conditions that will not allow to prove the involvement of the relevant persons in the crime.

5. Conclusions

Therefore, we can emphasise that the effectiveness of an identification is largely dependent on the preparation for it. These include preliminary interrogation of the identifying person, during which the possibility of identification is determined. The identification should be carried out as soon as possible after the investigation is commenced. In the case of an identification of a juvenile, statisticians should not be students from the same educational institution as the person being identified.

If necessary, identifications may be made from photographs, by voice, etc. This may be due to both security reasons and to avoid the possibility of disruption of the investigative (search) action by the person being identified. We have considered only the most important and complex aspects of an identification. Compliance with them will ensure the correctness of the procedure and the expected results, which will have a positive impact on the entire investigation process.

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ТАКТИКА ПРЕД'ЯВЛЕННЯ ДЛЯ ВПІЗНАННЯ ПІД ЧАС РОЗСЛІДУВАННЯ КРАДІЖОК МАЙНА ГРОМАДЯН, ВЧИНЕНИХ НЕПОВНОЛІТНИМИ

Анотація. Мета. Метою статті є висвітлення тактики пред’явлення для впізнання під час розслідування крадіжок майна громадян, вчинених неповнолітніми. Результати. У статті визначено особливості тактики проведення окремих слідчих (розшукових) дій подальшого етапу розслідування, зокрема пред’явлення для впізнання та слідчого експерименту. Своєрідність подальшого етапу розслідування, як справедливо відзначається в криміналістичній літературі, полягає в тому, що до його початку слідчі має достатні докази про причетність конкретної особи до вчинення кримінального правопорушення. На підставі аналізу кримінальних проваджень встановлено, що здебільшого для впізнання пред’являлися: а) предмети і документи – 64 %; б) підозрювані неповнолітні в натурі – 54 %; в) підозрювані за фотографічними зображеннями – 21 %. Встановлено, що основними тактичними помилками, які допускаються слідчими під час проведення впізнання, є: відсутність належної організації впізнання – 57 %; поверхневе проведення попереднього допиту – 38 %; невикористання технічних засобів фіксації процесуальної дії – 19 %; проведення впізнання на подальших етапах розслідування – 82 %; ігнорування тактичних рекомендацій із проведення слідчої (розшукової) дії – 17 %. Також у статті наголошено, що результативність пред’явлення для впізнання значною мірою обумовлена підготовкою до проведення. До них варто віднести попередній допит особи, яка впізнає, під час якого з’ясовують можливості впізнання. Висновки. Пред’явлення має бути проведено якомога швидше з моменту початку розслідування. Статистиці вважають, що найбільш ефективним способом впізнання неповнолітніх людей є проведення пред’явлення, при якому предмети, документи, або неповнолітні особи, які підозрюються в злочинні, можуть бути побачені із різних точок, щоб зміцнити впізнання. Ключові слова: крадіжка, неповнолітній, організація, тактика, пред’явлення для впізнання, розслідування.