SECTION XVI.
LAW

ACTUAL PROBLEMS OF RESEARCH OF SEPARATE CRIMINALISTIC METHODS

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Abstract: The article is devoted to the study of current problems of a separate criminalistic methodologies, its concepts and features, the formation of its conceptual foundations and promising areas of modern research. The analysis of scientific approaches to the studied concepts of "separate criminalistic methodologies", their critical analysis and, highlighting the essential features of this concept, the author's definition of modern understanding of criminalistic methodologies. It's seen that the essential features of a separate criminalistic methodologies should include such: information; systematicity; structure; formality; manufacturability; recommendation; efficiency. It's substantiated that a separate criminalistic methodologies has an informational-cognitive orientation and in fact is an informational-cognitive model. Therefore, criminalistics should develop effective methodic-criminalistic recommendations not only for the subjects of pre-trial investigation, but also for the judicial review of criminal proceedings addressed to a judge (court), prosecutor, defense counsel, which are included in the subject-object sphere of criminalistic methodologies.

Introduction. Relevance and increased interest in the research of such a final section of criminalistics as a criminalistic methodologies of investigation crimes, as rightly noted by V.V. Tishchenko, due to several reasons: a) the theoretical foundations of criminalistic methodologies have not been developed complex and comprehensively for many years, which can be explained by the accumulation, understanding, processing and adaptation of knowledge in philosophy, cybernetics, management theory and information theory, praxeology and other natural sciences and humanities, revision and systematization of the conceptual apparatus of this section of criminalistic science; b) with the change of socio-economic relations, new types of crimes appeared, organized criminal formations became widespread, professional and recidivism increased and strengthened, which necessitated the scientific development of numerous new and significant updates of existing individual (interspecific, species, subspecies) methodologies of investigation; c) such separate methodologies had a different, sometimes insufficiently thought-out structure, which affected their content, perception, theoretical understanding and effectiveness of practical application [4].

Modern realities of Ukraine require criminalistics to improve, develop and implement in practice methodologies of investigation: crimes committed in emergencies; crimes against the foundations of national security of Ukraine in the field of health care; crimes related to the export (shipment) across the customs border of Ukraine of anti-epidemic goods or methodologies of investigating the smuggling of medical masks and other anti-epidemic goods, etc. The widespread use of computer information technology contributes to the further development of algorithmization of the process of detection, investigation and prevention of certain types of criminal offenses.
In view of the above, we can conclude that the methodical-criminalistic support of the investigation, prevention of criminal offenses, trial has always been and is one of the priorities of criminalistics. Methodical-criminalistic recommendations developed by criminalistics are an important tool for investigators, detectives, judges, become a kind of algorithm of action in typical investigative and judicial situations, the use of which is aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of criminal proceedings. Therefore, today, in our opinion, one of the priorities of criminalistic science is to study the theoretical-methodological foundations of criminalistic methodics, the development of which now has many hidden reserves and practical capabilities that can optimize law enforcement to combat crime in modern conditions.

Results and discussions. Traditionally, the system of criminalistic methodics distinguishes general provisions and separate criminalistic methodics of investigation. General provisions are the theoretical-methodological basis of this section of criminalistics, which addresses issues such as concepts, system, tasks, structure of constituent elements, objects, sources, history, principles of criminalistic methodics of investigation, its relationship with other sections of criminalistics; classification of separate methodics and their structure; the concept and structure of criminalistic characteristics; general provisions of interaction, preventive activities during the organization and conduct of the investigation; the concept of the investigative situation, the stages of the investigation and their content.

The study and analysis of criminalistic sources show the ambiguity and different scientific approaches in defining the concept of "separate criminalistic methodics", which often generates discussions among scientists, some misunderstandings in the study of this criminalistic category and ambiguous approaches among practitioners in its application in practice. This situation complicates the process of formation and unification of understanding and application in practice of the studied concept.

It is seen that a certain novella, which has scientific and practical interest, is the definition and scientific approach proposed by B.V. Schur, in which the scientist proposes to consider a separate criminalistic methodics as a set of guidelines and investigative technologies in the form of typical information models aimed at disclosure and investigation of a certain type or group of crimes and their prevention [10]. In our opinion, such a scientific approach and author's understanding of this criminalistic category, in which a separate criminalistic methodics is considered as a set of guidelines and investigative technologies in the form of typical information models aimed at identifying, investigating and preventing certain types and groups of criminal offenses in modern conditions quite promising, which determines the priorities of further criminalistic research. Investigative technologies as varieties of criminalistic technologies reflect a new important aspect in the study and improvement of the development of separate criminalistic methodics of criminal offenses.

Given the above, in our opinion, when forming the concept of "separate criminalistic methodics" it is necessary to take into account the such provisions.

Firstly, a separate criminalistic methodics has an information-cognitive orientation and in fact is an information-cognitive model, which is developed on the basis of studying and generalizing a significant number of criminal investigation practices and reflects the most typical for the whole array of investigated torts and contains scientifically sound and tested methods. The cognitive value of this model is that the subjects of pre-trial investigation and trial (investigator, detective, prosecutor, judge) have the opportunity to use it as a guide to improve the efficiency and optimize the process of detection, investigation, prevention of criminal offenses and their trial. Therefore, the content of a separate criminalistic methodics indicates such a feature as informativeness.
Secondly, a separate criminalistic methodics is characterized by systematization, which takes into account the systemic nature of actions, measures, methods, techniques, tools, methodical-criminalistic recommendations, which should contain typical sets of investigative (search) actions, other measures that (complexes) provide a sequence of their implementation [9]. In this case, such a system acts as a set of tips of a standardized nature, that is to say reflects the typical for investigation and trial. The task of a separate criminalistic methodics is to develop standard systems of actions of the investigator (detective, prosecutor, defense counsel, judge), which help the subjects to choose the most optimal and effective course of action in the pre-trial investigation of certain types of criminal offenses and criminal proceedings. Therefore, in fact, a separate criminalistic methodics is a set of standardized advice in the form of defining a system of methods, tools, techniques, recommendations and technologies proposed as information-cognitive models of standardized nature and set out in descriptive or formalized form for the organization and optimal implementation of detection, investigation, prevention criminal offenses and their trial. In addition, criminalistic methodics has a clear place in the criminalistic system, which is closely related to criminalistic techniques and tactics, from which it draws certain data, techniques, tools, recommendations and technologies for developing methods of detection, investigation, prevention of criminal offenses, trial.

Thirdly, such a separate criminalistic methodics is developed and implemented in practice and should be presented in the form of information-cognitive model of interconnected elements, that is to say it has a certain structure, so it is important to consider the structuring of a separate criminalistic methodics. Like any other model, a separate criminalistic methodics includes a characteristic interdependent location of its structural elements, which together form scientifically sound and proven methodical-criminalistic recommendations aimed at effective detection, investigation and prevention of certain types (groups) criminal offenses and trial. It’s seen that in the structure of a separate criminalistic methodics, along with methods, tools, techniques, recommendations should also be used investigative and judicial technologies as the optimal order of criminal proceedings and the use of criminalistic tools in the investigation of certain categories (types, varieties, groups) of criminal offenses and litigation.

Fourth, a separate criminalistic methodics provides a formalized form of presentation of methodical-criminalistic recommendations, which are offered in the form of appropriate criminalistic programs of investigation and trial or criminalistic algorithms regarding the actions of the investigator, detective, prosecutor, judge in a particular investigative and judicial situation that arises and needs to be addressed. In this case, a separate criminalistic methodics is a kind of means of formalizing scientific knowledge on the development and application of methodical-criminalistic recommendations, which indicates the formalization of certain criminalistic methodics. Typically, such criminalistic methodics can be provided in three forms: descriptive, formalized and mixed. However, the most common is a descriptive form of teaching such methodics, which is mostly found in textbooks, monographs, textbooks, manuals of investigation, and so on. The form and content of the presentation of a separate criminalistic methodics depends on the functions, purpose of methodical developments and recommendations.

Fifth, the basis of the content of a separate criminalistic methodics are complexes of ordered methods, techniques, tools and recommendations of a standardized nature, which are characterized by manufacturability. It’s seen that the methodical-criminalistic recommendations and the formalized form of their presentation acquire signs of manufacturability as an investigation of criminal offenses and judicial review of materials of criminal proceedings. In this sense, a
separate criminalistic methodics is considered as a kind of technology for collecting, evaluating and using evidence in pre-trial investigation and trial of criminal proceedings or as a technology for detecting, investigating and preventing certain types and groups of criminal offenses and trials. Along with other features, methodical-criminalistic recommendations are also characterized by such a feature as manufacturability, which makes it possible to talk about investigative and forensic technologies in some criminalistic methodics.

Sixth, it is important to keep in mind that separate criminalistic methods of criminal investigation are of a recommendatory nature for persons conducting pre-trial investigation and trial, and are aimed at improving the efficiency and optimization of the criminal proceedings. In this regard, V.A. Zhuravel, correctly notes that the formalized form of criminalistic methods involves the presentation of recommendations in the form of appropriate programs of investigation (trial) or algorithmic schemes of action of the investigator (judge) in a typical situation. These are the so-called direct action recommendations addressed to the investigator (judge). It’s this form of presenting advice to professional participants in criminal proceedings acquires the characteristics of the technological regime of investigation, trial of criminal proceedings [2, c. 189-190]. It is seen that the recommendations that form the content of separate criminalistic methods are not mandatory for the subjects of criminal proceedings and in any case, along with the formal, can not exclude a creative approach in their professional activities. Therefore, in our opinion, a promising area for their improvement and streamlining is the registration of such criminalistic methods. It is necessary to take into account some positive experience of maintaining the Register of methods of forensic examinations, which is carried out by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine.

Seven, the development and implementation of separate criminalistic methodics should provide a lasting positive effect in the process of their implementation, which is due to the focus of such methods to improve the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of the investigation of criminal offenses and their trial. Therefore, a separate criminalistic methodics is characterized by such a feature as efficiency, which should be understood as a relative positive effect, the specific effectiveness of the tool, method, technique, recommendations, technology and more. It’s important to take into account the relationship and the ratio of the effect obtained to the costs, the costs that caused and ensured the receipt of such a positive effect in criminal proceedings as a result of the application of a particular criminalistic methodics. The effectiveness of the use of a separate criminalistic methodics can be manifested in the improved quality of the investigation, the effectiveness of investigative (search) actions, etc.; reduced cost resources (procedural, personnel, psychological); identified, prevented and eliminated in the process of investigation and trial (investigative and judicial errors, conflicts, corruption risks, professional deformation, violence, etc.), etc.

Therefore, in view of the above, the essential features of a separate criminalistic methodics, in our opinion, include such: 1) informativeness of a separate criminalistic methodics is an information-cognitive model; 2) systematic actions, measures, methods, techniques, tools, methodical-criminalistic recommendations of a typical nature, which are part of a separate criminalistic methodics; 3) the structure of a separate criminalistic methodics, which involves the inclusion of interdependent location of its structural elements, which together form the methodical-criminalistic recommendations; 4) formalization of a separate criminalistic methodics, which provides a formalized form of presentation of methodical-criminalistic recommendations, which are offered in the form of appropriate criminalistic programs and algorithms; 5) manufacturability of a separate criminalistic methodics, which can
be considered as a technology for collecting, evaluating and using evidence in pre-trial investigation and trial of criminal proceedings; 6) recommendation of a separate criminalistic methodics, the development and implementation of provisions of which are of a recommendatory nature for persons conducting pre-trial investigation and trial; 7) the effectiveness of a separate criminalistic methodics implies the presence of a stable positive effect in the process of its implementation, which is associated with improving the quality of criminal investigation, trial, optimization of the criminal process.

Thus, in our opinion, a separate criminalistic methodics is an information-cognitive model that contains a system of methods, tools, techniques, recommendations, investigative and judicial technologies of a standardized nature, set out in a descriptive or formalized form for the organization and optimal implementation of the collection, evaluation and the use of evidence regarding the specifics of the commission of criminal offenses in order to ensure their effective investigation, prevention and trial of criminal proceedings.

In conclusion, it should be noted that today it is important and significant to identify promising areas of research problems of criminalistic methodics. In this regard, V.Yu. Shepitko, analyzing modern problems of criminalistic methodics, emphasizes the importance of such research in combating crime in today's realities, increasing their practical value, practical orientation, as the construction of theoretical and practical construction of criminalistic methodics involves identifying correlations between elements of criminalistic characteristics due to criminalistic characteristics proceedings, establishing the effectiveness of individual investigative (search) actions and their optimal combination and sequence in the form of tactical operations, determining a certain stage of pre-trial investigation is not limited to the beginning (initial stage) of the investigation. The formation of separate criminalistic methodics should be designed for a specific addressee – the investigator (the party to the criminal proceedings). Therefore, from a descriptive approach to separate criminalistic methodics, it is necessary to move to a certain standardization and unification [9].

The modern development of criminalistic methodics requires expanding the boundaries of research and clarifying its subject and modern understanding. Therefore, criminalistics should develop practical methodical-criminalistic recommendations not only for the subjects of pre-trial investigation, but also for the trial of criminal proceedings addressed to a judge (court), prosecutor, defense counsel, which are included in the subject matter of criminalistic methodics. Based on this, it is obvious that the criminalistic methodics, respectively, should consist of two subsystems: a) criminalistic methodics for the investigation of criminal offenses; and b) criminalistic methodics of judicial review of criminal proceedings (cases). Such approaches determine the prospects of scientific development of conceptual foundations of research, formation and improvement of criminalistic methodics.

Conclusions. In view of the above, further research on the problems of criminalistic methodics involves the need for modern criminalistic developments in the following directions: 1) development and improvement of theoretical and methodological principles of criminalistic methodics – its conceptual foundations, general provisions (concept and subject of criminalistic methodics, principles of its formation, functions, system, tasks, structure of constituent elements, objects, history, sources, its connection with other sections of criminalistics, scope of implementation, criminalistic recommendations for the organization and planning of investigation and trial, etc.); 2) scientific development of certain subsystems (levels) of criminalistic methodics (criminalistic methodics of investigation of certain types of criminal offenses; criminalistic methodics of judicial review of certain categories of
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1) Research of criminal proceedings (cases); criminalistic methodics of professional protection; criminalistic methodics of supporting the accusation; 3) further research of some scientific theories (theory of criminalistic characterization of crimes, doctrine of criminalistic situation (criminalistic situation), doctrine of criminalistic classification of crimes, criminalistic doctrine of crime detection, criminalistic doctrine of crime investigation, criminalistic theory of intercourse and investigation and trial, etc.); 4) formation and improvement of certain criminalistic methodics of investigation (regarding categories, types, subtypes of criminal offenses, etc.); 5) development of basic criminalistic methodics for various activities (investigative, judicial, prosecutorial, advocacy), including criminalistic methodics of investigation, criminalistic methodics of trial, criminalistic methodics of professional defense, criminalistic methodics of prosecution, etc.; 6) further development and proposal of separate means of criminalistic methodics − methodical-criminalistic recommendations, techniques, technologies, methods, operations, etc. These issues are aimed at improving and further developing the theoretical and methodological foundations of criminalistic methodics and are among the most important areas of criminalistic doctrine.

References: