

*O. Vashchuk*  
*Candidate of Law Sciences,*  
*Associate Professor at the Department of Criminalistics,*  
*National University "Odessa Law Academy"*

## **CRIMINALISTIC CHARACTERISTICS AND CLASSIFICATION OF SELF-INCRIMINATION DURING INVESTIGATION OF CRIMES**

The article analyzes the established definition of criminalistic characteristics and classification, exploring through their prism self-incrimination in the investigation of crimes. The features of criminological characteristics and classification of individual self-incrimination in the investigation of crimes are characterized, their specificity and characteristics are determined. Criminalistic classification of self-incrimination is conducted by criteria that promote its complete and timely diagnostics.

The genesis of the term "criminological characteristics" starts with criminalistic evidences, and understanding that it reflects features of a particular type of crime. The nature of the term "self-incrimination" leads us not to legal categories, but to the linguistic ones, opening to the investigator many types, classes, manifestations. Thus, self-incrimination is deliberately false information provided by a person with respect to its involvement (participation) in the crime and its circumstances. Term or even the fact of self-incrimination is found more frequently in criminal proceedings rather than in administrative, civil and commercial cases. The Criminal Procedure Code does not provide the punishment for such self-incrimination for participants of criminal proceedings, the suspect or the accused.

The implementation of the principles of criminal proceedings provides an investigator with the opportunity to take primarily criminal law normativity as a basis for criminalistic classification. Thus, the system of classification of crime consists of two subsystems: criminal legal classification, based on families, types, elements of crimes, as well as objective and subjective attributes contained in criminal law and criminalistic classification of crimes.

Classification of self-incrimination as a separate category in the theory of criminology and criminal proceedings should be conducted by the following criteria:

1. Depending on the structure of self-incrimination in the testimony:
  - simple self-incrimination;
  - complex self-incrimination.
2. Depending on the degree of self-incrimination compared to truthful testimony:
  - full self-incrimination;
  - partial self-incrimination.
3. Depending on the focus of self-incrimination and incrimination of others:
  - self-incrimination;
  - incrimination of another person;
  - both self-incrimination and incrimination of others.
4. Depending on the place of self-incrimination in the investigation:

- during the investigative (search) activity;

- during covert investigative (search) activity.

5. Depending on the steps of investigative (search) activity self-incrimination occurred at:

- during examination;
- during the search;
- during filing for identification;
- during the investigative experiment.

6. Depending on the crime:

- in case of actual crime;
- in case of imaginary crime.

7. Depending on circumstances of self-incrimination:

- regarding crime in general;
- regarding individual circumstances of a crime.

8. Depending on the purpose of self-incrimination:

- to hide the involvement of another person;
- to hide person's own involvement;
- to hide another crime.

9. Depending on the objectives of self-incrimination:

- pursuing selfish ends;
- pursuing unselfish ends;
- pursuing personal, unselfish ends.

10. Depending on the procedural status of person in criminal proceeding, self-incrimination may be:

- self-incrimination of victim;
- self-incrimination of witness;
- self-incrimination of suspect;
- self-incrimination of accused.

Self-incrimination as a separate criminalistic category is knowingly false information provided by a person with respect to its involvement (participation) in the crime and its circumstances. Place and criminalistic classification of self-incrimination in the criminalistic characteristics and methodology of investigation of crimes is defined through its systematization of criminalistically significant reasons that contribute to the formation of criminalistic characteristics and specific methodologies of crime investigation.