**MICROSCOPIC FIBER ANALYSIS**

**Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

This lab is about observation – what do you see? Use the premade slides to make observations about the fibers.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Source of Fiber** | **Sketch of Fiber** | **Color(s)**  **of Fiber(s)** | **Relative Number of Fibers**  **(single, few, numerous)** | **Relative**  **Thickness of Fibers**  **(thin, thick, or variable)** | **Shape of Fiber**  **(twisted or straight)** |
| **Car of Suspect 1** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Car of Suspect 2** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Car of Suspect 3** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Car of Suspect 4** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Car of Victim** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Fibers Found on Victim’s Body** |  |  |  |  |  |

Analysis:

1. Did any of the suspects’ carpet samples match the carpet sample found on the victim? If so, which one?

2. Using **specific characteristics** from the data table, explain why you thought a particular suspect’s carpet sample is or is not a match with the sample found on the victim.

3. Suppose you found a carpet fiber from a suspect’s car that did match the fiber found on the victim. What arguments could the defense attorney cite to demonstrate that the matching of the car fibers alone does not necessarily prove that his or her client murdered the victim?