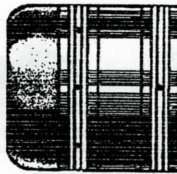


The Patent Print

Official Publication of .
The Utah Division of the I.A.I.
Chartered 1989.
International Association for Identification .



The President's Message

I look forward to seeing, meeting
and working with you in 2001
and beyond! []

Jeff.

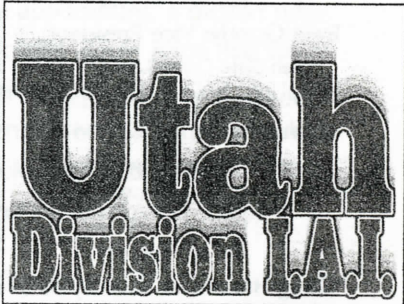
A belated holiday greetings. I hope you and yours have had a festival, happy and safe holidays. We had our annual Fall meeting at West Valley City Police Headquarters in November, 2000. District Attorney's Paul Parker and Jeff Hall provided examination and cross-examination of the expert witnesses regarding a variety of different types of evidence they brought along as props.

James May had intentionally set the training program to be progressive this past year by having the Spring Training meeting provide us with preparation skills in expert qualifications, preparing our curriculum vitae so we as forensic experts are prepared to do battle in court, which is the product of our own doing.

Thanks for your support in my election as your Division President for 2001. I'm a charter member of the Utah Division of

got an exciting event coming up for our 2001 Spring Training. Taking the concept of holding the Spring Training in the Northern part of Utah, a bit further than we've done before. The training will be held in Boise, Idaho in conjunction with our brethren from the Pacific-Northwest Division. This is our first BI-division training conference and more information is elsewhere in this newsletter.

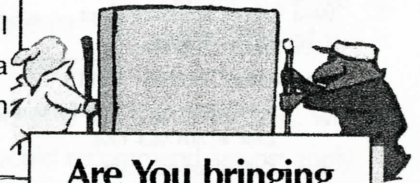
The Pacific-Northwest Division encompasses criminal forensics specialists from Oregon, Washington and Western Idaho. There will be an opportunity to receive specialized training from experts from those regions as well as the FBI. I am hoping to persuade an International Officer to attend this conference. This is a good step for our organization. We need to see our fellow forensic police/crime laboratory friends and comrades-in-arms and get to know them. It is just as important that they get to know who we are and to learn about what we're doing in pursuit of justice. I hope you will take advantage of such a large conference, including your division being so close-by for attendance.



MAKE AN EDUCATED
CHOICE
READ YOUR NEWSPAPER

President:: **Jeff Itami**
Vice President:: **Trent Grandy**
Secretary: **Doug Huntsman**
Treasurer: **Barbara Reed**
P.P. Editor: **LaMar Burns**
Parliamentarian: **Cal Ostler**

Immediate Past President:
James May



**Are You bringing
the correct tools to
your crime scenes?**

The processing of a crime scene is essential. A properly documented and processed scene makes for a excellent case in court.

IAI and accepted our charter at the IAI educational conference in Pensacola, Florida in 1989. I've been a past Editor, Secretary, Division Representative , and Vice-president, so you could say I've worked my way up through the ranks. I appreciate this honor, this job and will do my best to fulfill my duties.

Looking into the near future, we've

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Adhesive Tape Separation with Un-du®

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By: Jon T. Stimac
Oregon State Police
Forensic Services Division, Bend
Utah Division IAI Member

Abstract

Pressure-sensitive adhesive tapes applied to porous surfaces are commonly submitted to forensic identification laboratories for separation from their applied surface followed by latent friction ridge processing techniques. The use of a commercially available adhesive "neutralizer" (containing heptane) was tested to determine if this product could successfully and consistently remove various pressure-sensitive tapes from their applied surface, while also allowing for latent friction ridge development.

INTRODUCTION

For a friction ridge specialist, one of the most challenging surfaces on which to develop latent friction ridge detail is the adhesive surface of the many different industrial and household pressure-sensitive adhesive tapes. There are many types of pressure-sensitive tape available, including, but not limited to - utility, packaging, electrical, surgical, masking, duct and adhesive labels with each having their own unique application, as well as differing adhesive

properties.

Fundamentally, there are two types of pressure-sensitive adhesives used on the various assortments of tape, rubber-based and acrylic. Rubber-based adhesives were first patented in the United States and the traditional adhesive used for the original Scotch™ brand cellophane tape [1]. These rubber adhesives penetrate porous surfaces and after extended periods of time, become brittle, losing their adhesive quality.

First introduced in Europe, synthetic polymers are the basis for acrylic adhesives.

Unlike rubber-based, these adhesives do not penetrate, or migrate through most porous surfaces. They are also known to maintain their adhesion over long periods of time, actually increasing their adhesion to its applied surface [1].

Most types of masking tape use a natural rubber and resin solvent based adhesive, while packaging tapes

traditionally use synthetic rubber

or acrylic adhesives. Duct tape uses a synthetic rubber adhesive, and most other tapes for the home and office use acrylic adhesives. Typically, the required adhe-

... there are two types of pressure-sensitive adhesives used on the various assortments of tape, rubber-based and acrylic.



sive is tailored to the needed application. With some exceptions, pressure-sensitive tapes that need to have high adhesion and are designed for short duration applications, use a rubber-based adhesive, while low to medium adhesion requiring the need for longevity, use acrylic adhesives [2].

FRICTION RIDGE DEVELOPMENT

For many years crystal violet (gentian violet), a dye that stains components of sebaceous friction ridge deposits producing purple ridge detail, has been a primary method for latent friction ridge development on pressure-sensitive adhesive surfaces. Recently, powder suspension solutions such as Sticky-side Powder™, have been described as a more effective method for latent friction ridge development on many adhesive surfaces [3,4], while others may promote the use of modified physical developer, SPR or even direct cyanoacrylate fuming (followed by dye staining). Despite which technique one uses, a greater initial concern may persist - what is the best method for the separation of these pressure-sensitive adhesive tapes from their applied surfaces so that effective latent processing procedures can be conducted?

The application of heat via a hair blow dryer or microwave oven has been documented [5] to be useful in the separation of adhesives. However, too much heat may cause damage by creating the adhesive to separate from the tape and remain on its attached

surface; thus, damaging the hidden friction ridge detail. High temperatures can even increase some acrylic pressure-sensitive tapes' adhesion to its applied surface [1]. Freezing the adhesive tape through either a traditional freezer or commercial/medical freezing agent has also been a means of adhesive separation; however, separation is hindered by uncontrolled thawing, condensation and frosting, each being a possible detriment to separation of the adhesive. Chemical means of separation via a blend of aliphatic and halogenated hydrocarbons has been documented [6] to be effective, but may be difficult to obtain and utilize for a small laboratory or identification bureau.

A new product being touted as a commercial adhesive remover, effectively removing stickers, tapes and labels from most surfaces, might

be the answer to many of the previously mentioned problems. Un-du® is a retail adhesive remover that temporarily "neutralizes the adhesive," allowing for easy separation from its applied position. Yet

unlike other adhesive removers containing organic solvents that dissolve the adhesive [7], Un-du® is reported to not dissolve the adhesive properties of most pressure-sensitive tape. The adhesive surfaces of the tape attach and preserve sebaceous secretions and epidermal skin cells [8] left by an indi-

viduals contact with the tape and if dissolved by chemicals or damaged by poor separation techniques, any possible latent impressions might easily be destroyed. Since the adhesive is not dissolved by Un-du® and is actually preserved for possible future applications, a friction ridge specialist would hope that latent friction ridge detail likely to have been left on the adhesive surface would then also be preserved for latent processing detection.

TESTING

Manufacturer instructions for using Un-du® recommend squeezing several drops of the product into the attached scraper tool and then allow the solution to find its way underneath the adhesive item.

The item's adhesive is then "neutralized" and the scraper tool can be used to remove the item. Once the item has been removed, the solution quickly evaporates from both the adhesive and its applied surface. Whenever

possible for porous surfaces, writer would recommend against applying the solution directly on the adhesive item and avoid the use of the attached scraper tool, but rather, apply the needed amount of solution to the opposite side/surface of where the adhesive

High temperatures can even increase some acrylic pressure-sensitive tapes' adhesion to its applied surface [1]

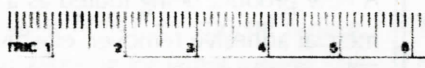


item is located. By allowing the solution to soak through the porous item, onto the adhesive surface of the tape or label, the two items can easily be separated without excessive application (or saturation) of the solution and prohibiting possible damage created by the scraper tool.

For experiments with Un-du®, several duplicate types of pressure-sensitive tape samples from both forms of adhesive (rubber and acrylic) were prepared and handled so that known friction ridge detail would be affixed to their adhesive surfaces. The tapes were then applied to differing porous surfaces and exposed to varying periods of adhesion (from 1-hour to several months). By applying Un-du®, each duplicate tape sample was removed from its assigned surface and then processed for latent friction ridge detail, one duplicate in crystal violet, the other with a powder suspension process.

Consistent development of latent friction ridge detail was achieved with many of the mentioned tapes (utility, masking, packaging and labels); however, just as alluded to in reports [3,4] conducted with crystal violet and/or powder suspension solutions, both the control and test samples used for each of the mentioned experiments responded according to the processing technique recommended for use on certain types of adhesive. For example, crystal violet is the initially recommended process for household utility tape. Utility tape control and test

samples removed with Un-du® and processed in crystal violet, revealed greater ridge detail and minimal background distortion than the same adhesive control and test processed with a powder suspension process. In a broader scope, most acrylic adhesives appear to react favorably to crystal violet, while many rubber-based adhesives show better results with a powder suspension process.



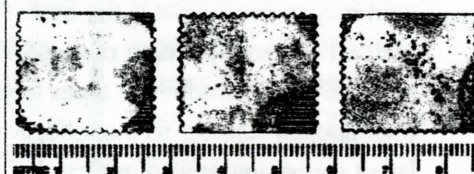
Masking tape separated from porous surface with Un-du®. Friction ridge detail developed via powder suspension.

Age appears to be a factor. As mentioned earlier, both rubber-based and acrylic adhesives have different, but obvious effects with the duration of adhesion time. Both scenarios the drying of the rubber-based adhesive and the increased adhesion created by the acrylic adhesive can be detrimental to possible latent friction ridge development. Within the scope of these experiments, it seems apparent that the separation and processing of these items, with the appropriate technique, should be conducted in an expedient manner.

ADDITIONAL TESTING

In an attempt to duplicate actual case submissions and with the purpose of determining if Un-du® would successfully and consistently remove pressure-sensitive adhesives from their applied surface, an additional 200 envelopes, each providing an acrylic self-adhesive postage stamp and sent via the United State Postal Service were collected for testing. It was also hoped that, once removed from their applied surface, latent friction ridge detail might be developed from their adhesive surface.

All envelopes and their adhered stamps were originally handled and posted by random individuals with no knowledge or intent of applying friction ridge impressions on the adhesive surface of the applied postage stamps. Before being processed for latent friction ridge detail, all envelopes and their stamps were postmarked within a 3-month period.



Friction ridge detail developed on acrylic self-adhesive postage stamps.

The self-adhesive stamps on all 200 envelopes were removed by using Un-du® and then processed with crystal violet. Considering the method of initially applying a self-adhesive postage stamp to an envelope - mini-



mal friction ridge contact with the stamps adhesive - nearly twenty-five percent of these developed stamps yielded friction ridge detail. Granted, analysis of most of these stamps lacked indication of Level 1 detail (pattern characteristics), while others displayed insufficient Level 2 detail, there were still impressions developed from this process that were suitable for individualization.

CONCLUSION

Un-du® worked well when separating most rubber-based and acrylic adhesive tapes from various porous surfaces. Once the pressure-sensitive adhesive tape was removed, very little adhesive residue (especially on items having shorter adhesion periods) remained on the porous surfaces.

The results of the envelope test affirmed the ability of Un-du® to successfully and consistently remove an acrylic adhesive stamp from a porous surface, while subsequently allowing for the development of latent friction ridge detail. Through the use of either crystal violet or powder suspension solutions, many of the applied friction ridge experiments also resulted with friction ridge detail suitable for individualization.

Testing was not conducted to detect which separation technique (heat, freezing, Un-du®) yields an increased amount of quality friction ridge detail once processed with a preferred technique. Testing was only conducted to detect if Un-du® might be another ef-

fective means of adhesive separation from an applied surface.

With varying success, a limited amount of separation testing was conducted between pressure-sensitive tape and non-porous surfaces.

From the results obtained during the mentioned testing, Un-du®'s use as an additional method of adhesive tape separation, including applications within the trace evidence discipline (separation of hair/fiber from adhesives), should be explored with additional experimentation conducted.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Very special thanks to Technician Glen Spencer and Interns Robin Joyner and Bre Seems for their assistance and additional testing of this method.

SAFETY

Inhalation of this product's vapor may cause irritation, therefore its application should be conducted with adequate ventilation (fume/exhaust hood) [9]. Appropriate safety equipment (gloves, lab coat and eye protection) should be worn. This product is extremely flammable, avoid heat, open flame or other source of ignition [9].

DISCLAIMER

The use of product and vendor names is done in the interest of providing information only. No commercial endorsement by the Oregon State Police Forensic Services Division or the writer should be constructed or implied.

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Technical Leader-Latent Prints
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Forensic Services Division
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Bend, Oregon 97701
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jon.stimac@state.or.us

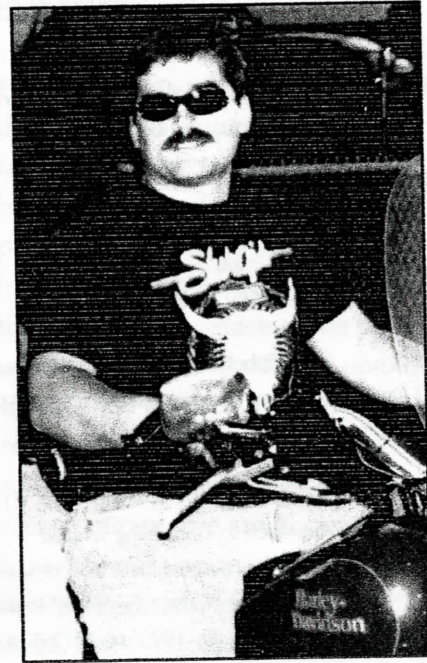
REFERENCE:

- 1 Lawrence, K., "Pressure-Sensitive Adhesive United States Stamps," Salm Reports, Report No. 5, May 1999.
- 2 Germain, D., 3MTM Corporation SPD Technical Service, personal communication, September 1999.
- 3 Burns, D. S., "Sticky-Side Powder: The Japanese Solution," Journal of Forensic Identification, 44(2), 1994, pp 133-138.
- 4 Gray, M. L., "Sticky-Side Powder Versus Crystal Violet," Journal of Forensic Identification, 46(3), 1996, pp 268-272.
- 5 Campbell, B., "Separation of Adhesive Tapes," Journal of Forensic Identification, 41(2), 1991, pp 102-106.
- 6 Choudhry, M.Y. & Whritenour, R.D., "A New Approach to Unraveling Tangled Adhesive Tape for Potential Detection of Latent Prints and Recovery of Trace Evidence," Journal of Forensic Science, 35, 1990, pp 1373-1383.
- 7 Lee, H.C. & Gaensslen, R.E., Editors, Advances in Fingerprint Technology, CRC Press, 1994, p 154.
- 8 Federal Bureau of Investigation, The Science of Fingerprints, U.S. Department of Justice, 1984, p 183.
- 9 Un-du® Adhesive Remover, Material Safety Data Sheet, Doumar Products, Inc., 1998.

Un-du®; Doumar Products, Inc., 12784 Perimeter Dr., Ste. B-100, Dallas, TX 75228 USA (www.un-du.com)



The Editor's Corner



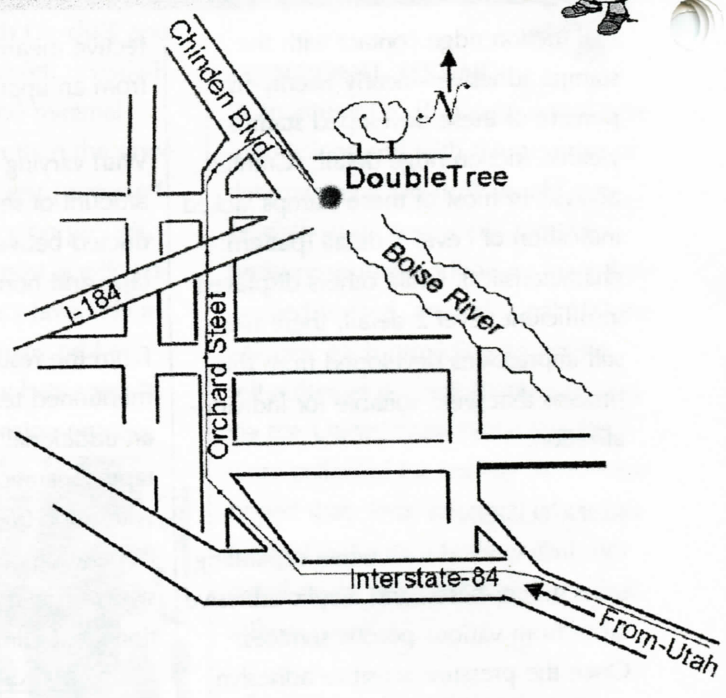
Anyone want a ride to Boise?

Appreciation:

I just thought I would take a few lines and let you know how much I appreciate all of your support during my year as President. Please continue to give the support to the division and keep them new members coming. During my year as President we had "30" new members come on board.

Lets try to double that over the next year. Again thanks for your support and feel free to contact me at any time.

James May: 2000 President
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Pager #:801-480-5845



Above is a map coming into Boise, Idaho from the Utah end. The written directions can be found on page 8.

I have not received any case reviews from our readers therefore we have some blank spaces in the newsletter. I just edit and publish the paper I shouldn't have to write it also. Please support our organization.

LaMar {}

* * *



The annual dues for your membership in the Utah IAI are due NOW. So please send the application (page 11) ASAP. Barbara Reed will be waiting patiently.





IAI Pacific Northwest Division

Training Conference May 16-18, 2001

DOUBLE TREE HOTEL RIVERSIDE
2900 CHINDEN BLVD..
BOISE. IDAHO 83714

SINGLE OCC. \$82.00 TRIPLE OCC. \$102.00
DOUBLE OCC. \$92.00 QUAD. OCC. \$112.00

Plus 11% State/Local lodging tax)

*Upgrades to a pool, courtyard or river view room may be requested - \$10 per person.

For reservations call direct (208) 343-1871
Be sure to mention PNWD-IAI

Deadline for conference rates is April 25, 2001.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST & UTAH DIVISIONS INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION for IDENTIFICATION

2001 Training Seminar & Conference
May 16-18, 2001
Boise, Idaho

FULL REGISTRATION: (Includes lectures, one lunch & banquet.

	MEMBER	NONMEMBER
Postmarked on/before April 15, 2001:	\$100.00	\$125.00
Postmarked after April 15, 2001:	\$110.00	\$135.00

PARTIAL REGISTRATION:(Please indicate which portions of the conference will be attend and the number of persons attending)

	MEM.	NON-MEM
Wed. Lecture (half day)	\$25.00	\$32.00
Thu. Lecture (lunch incl)	\$70.00	\$80.00
Thu. Lunch only	\$20.00	\$20.00
Thu. Banquet/Entertain Only)	\$35.00	\$40.00
Fri. Lecture (half day)	\$25.00	\$32.50
Postmarked after April 15 add	\$5.00	\$5.00
Total (payable in U.S. funds)	\$ _____	\$ _____

LUNCH: please mark here if vegetarian meal required _____

BANQUET choice: _____ Beef Entree
_____ Chicken Entree _____ Vegetarian Entree

*IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED APPROVAL to attend the conference but will not have the funds prior to the preregistration deadline, you may send in this form along with a note of explanation. (this will assist in obtaining the required meal count).

Make checks payable to PNWD/IAI and mail completed registration to:

Betty McCarthy, Treasurer
Yakima Police Department
200 South 3rd Street
Yakima, WA 98901
(509) 576-6527
Fax: (509) 575-6007
e-mail:
bmccarth@ci.yakima.wa.us

THANK YOU!



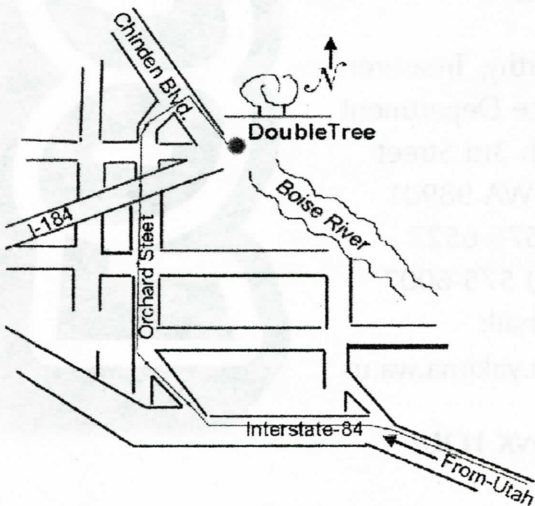


IAI Pacific Northwest Division

CONTINUATION....

It is always well advised to send in your application as soon as possible. Looking at the format of the application, one application per person attending. Make sure that your Name, agency you work for and what Division association you belong to is accompanied with the application. There will be a 10 page information packet sent to you upon your registration. Again I need to emphasize for you to send your registration in early.

James May had the opportunity to attend a meeting several months ago which was held at the DoubleTree Hotel in Boise, Idaho. His directions to get there are important and should be read carefully so you do not get lost. First there are two DoubleTree Hotels. The one you need is the Riverside Hotel, at 2900 Chinden Blvd. You are traveling North on Interstate-84 and take the second exit into Boise, which puts you on Orchard Street. Continue on



Orchard until you meet up with Chinden, make a right turn on Chinden. Get directly in the far left turn lane which will put you directly in the parking lot of the Hotel after the left turn. []

PNW & UTAH IAI BOISE 2001

Conference Date, Time, and Structure: May 16-18, 2001

Wednesday, May 16: To allow for travel time, the conference/lecture/workshops begin at 1:00 p.m. Events conclude at approximately 6:00 p.m. Presidents reception at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 17: Conference/lecture/workshops begin at 8:00 a.m. Events conclude at approximately 6:00 p.m. Formal Banquet at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, May 18: Conference/lecture/workshops begin at 8:00 a.m. To allow for travel time, the conference concludes at 12:00n.

Tentative Presenters.

Pat Werthiem, Dave Grieve, Steve Meagher, Bob Moran, Kevin Patrick, Jeff Itami, Idaho State Crime Lab, Bill Haglund.

Registration Fee.

Full conference registration includes lectures, one lunch and Banquet, for both Utah and PNW IAI Division members.

ADDITIONAL CONFERENCE & REGISTRATION INFORMATION WILL BE FORTHCOMING.



Training Expertise and the Crime Scene Officer

By: Deputy Jeff Itami, Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office, Detective Division, Crime Lab Unit.

The changing nature of the requirements to obtain or retain acceptance as an expert witness in courts is occurring almost daily. There are a number of groups working nationally and internationally to force the issue in regard to the minimum education and experience necessary to be an expert in crime scene investigations skills and tasks.

This new emphasis on the expertise of officers who perform these skills and tasks at crime scene investigations means that police agencies will be more closely scrutinized as to the exact type of training their personnel receive. That is, specific standardized classes on techniques of application in skill areas such as: police photography, chemical processing, evidence handling, courtroom preparation and presentation, will become *de rigueur* in order to be certifiable as an expert police witness.

The emphasis on the expertise of officers who perform these skills and tasks at crime scene investigations means that police agencies will be more closely scrutinized as to the exact type of training their personnel receive.

There are two components to this trend. The first has to do with the individual officers who will be required to possess certification as to particular skills, knowledge and experience. The second will be concerned with the police crime laboratory which will be required to be accredited in order to have submitted evidence accepted.



What does this mean to you as a crime scene officer? First of all, it means that your training will have to be not only documented by your agency, but you will have to prepare for, take and pass certification tests to be accepted in what you do. It lends a more serious light to the business of taking classes and forgetting most of what you took. Currently, the International Association for Identification has a number of different certification programs. Each one provides you with the essential certification in a skill area such as Latent Print Comparison, Footwear and Tire Impressions, Crime Scene Analyst, etc.. However, you are thereafter required to qualify for re-certification every so many years in order to maintain your certification. That means providing proof you are continually taking training in your area of specialty.

This also means the cost of applying in either a part of the operation budget of your agency or you have to bear the expense in order to do your job.

Accreditation for your police laboratory means that you will have to take proficiency tests with a minimum passing score in order for your lab to be approved by the accrediting agency. There is currently an organization which is conducting testing of police crime laboratories. It is not yet mandatory, but you can rest assured that it will soon be.

State crime laboratories are now required to be accredited by ASCLAD-LAB which is a branch of the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors - Laboratory Accreditation Board. The Utah State Crime Laboratory is tested by this organization.



Police agency commanders are under greater pressure to require their crime scene personnel to possess one or more certifications and soon their crime laboratories will have to be accredited. All of which means that specific training in crime scene investigation will have to meet national or international standards. Repetitive skill and knowledge testing will become a part of your professional life. This is the fallout from the close scrutiny given expert police witnesses in the O.J. Simpson trial.

Where it will end is not yet in sight. It is just beginning for those of us who are doing this work and will intensify before it abates. You can expect to be required to provide proof of expertise in the form of a *curriculum vitae* which is a document listing your education and experience prior to being able to testify in court. Part of the information contained in the *curriculum vitae* will be the types and number of professional organizations with which you are affiliated. The luxury of deciding to not join professional societies will soon not be available.

Just as police work in general has become more closely scrutinized in the amount and quality of training, education and experiences provided officers, so, too will the same scrutiny be applied even more rigorously to those officers who practice scientific skills. For years, police officers

have stressed the word professional for their work, now, it seems that the requirements of a profession are becoming required as well. To be a professional, you must have special education, training and work

experience which is not normally possible for a lay person to obtain or possess. For the crime scene officer(s), the requirements for specialized knowledge, skills and accreditation will separate them from the normal operational police officer.

Is this good for all of us?

Yes and No. The thing we have desired will soon be mandated and only approved classes will be accepted. Officers who have On-The-Job training and expertise will have to take classes to formalize the skills, knowledge and experience they possess. It will mean studying for tests again which will become a regular part of the operational life of the crime scene officer. It may perhaps even drive the incorporation of more college educated civilian crime scene technicians and eliminate the police officer altogether. It will become impossible to have an officer in smaller agencies do some field work in evidence collection without having had the specific court approved and certified training.

The time to take action in a positive manner is right now. Waiting will only make the requirements to achieve certification or accreditation that much more expensive and difficult to achieve once they are mandated by the courts. Like it or not, all of the bureaucratic requirements for acceptance as an expert in courtroom testimony as regards crime scene work will increase. Police officers and agencies must take proactive measures to be at the forefront in preparation. **This is definitely a case of be prepared or be doomed as a police agency crime scene officer.** [] (reprint)

This is definitely a case of be prepared or be doomed as a police agency crime scene officer.





The Bulletin Board

Pacific Northwest & Utah Divisions I.A.I Educational Conference & Seminar

May 16-18, 2001

----- Various Instructors
Double Tree Hotel Riverside
Boise, Idaho

**Send us your training classes
and we will be glad to publish the dates
on the Bulletin Board**



The International Association for Identification

Utah Division of I.A.I.

Chartered 1989



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