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Summary Report

2016 Spring Latent Comparison Print Proficiency Test #16101

Issued: May 20, 2016

On February 1, 2016, Ron Smith and Associates, Inc. (RS&A) shipped the 2016 Spring Latent Print Comparison Proficiency Test #16101. Participants were required to submit their responses no later than April 4, 2016 in order for them to be included in this summary report.

A total of 46 tests were ordered and shipped, with 41 participants returning their responses. The test was provided in both digital and hard copy format and included ten latent prints and four sets of known finger and palm prints.

The results presented in this report reflect whether or not the participants' submitted results agree or disagree with the assigned values garnered from pre-distribution testing and outlined in *The Manufacturer's Report* (Appendix 1). The primary purpose of a Summary Report is to provide an overall documentation of all the submitted responses. It is RS&A's intention to go a step further by providing more meaningful statistical results through analyzing the submitted responses in relation to the demographics obtained from each of the examiners participating in this proficiency test. All results and statistics for Test #16101 will be outlined through graphs and charts found in the remainder of this report.

Prior to distribution of this test, all of the expected responses were determined to be either "Identification" or "Exclusion"; however, we are aware that some agencies allow for a conclusion of "Inconclusive" in their casework. In designing this Proficiency Test, there was no intention to force a participant to render a conclusion which goes beyond their considered opinion. To satisfy this option, participants were allowed to enter "Inconclusive" as a response. Due to the fact that a participant's "Inconclusive" response does not meet the assigned values, it will appear as an inconsistent response in the summary report and be incorporated as such in the statistical analysis. It will be up to each agency to decide if the participant's "Inconclusive" response qualifies as being acceptable under their policies and procedures.

RS&A strives to maintain the confidentiality of all of its clients and participants. All results are obtained and published using randomly generated test codes. RS&A will not release the identity of any participant without the written consent of the participant and/or the agency involved.

For any additional information, please contact Heather McNeill, Proficiency Testing Coordinator, at testing@ronsmithandassociates.com or call toll free at 1-866-832-6772.

Appendix 1

Test Manufacturer's Information *Issued on April 18, 2016*

Spring 2016 Latent Print Comparison Proficiency Test #16101

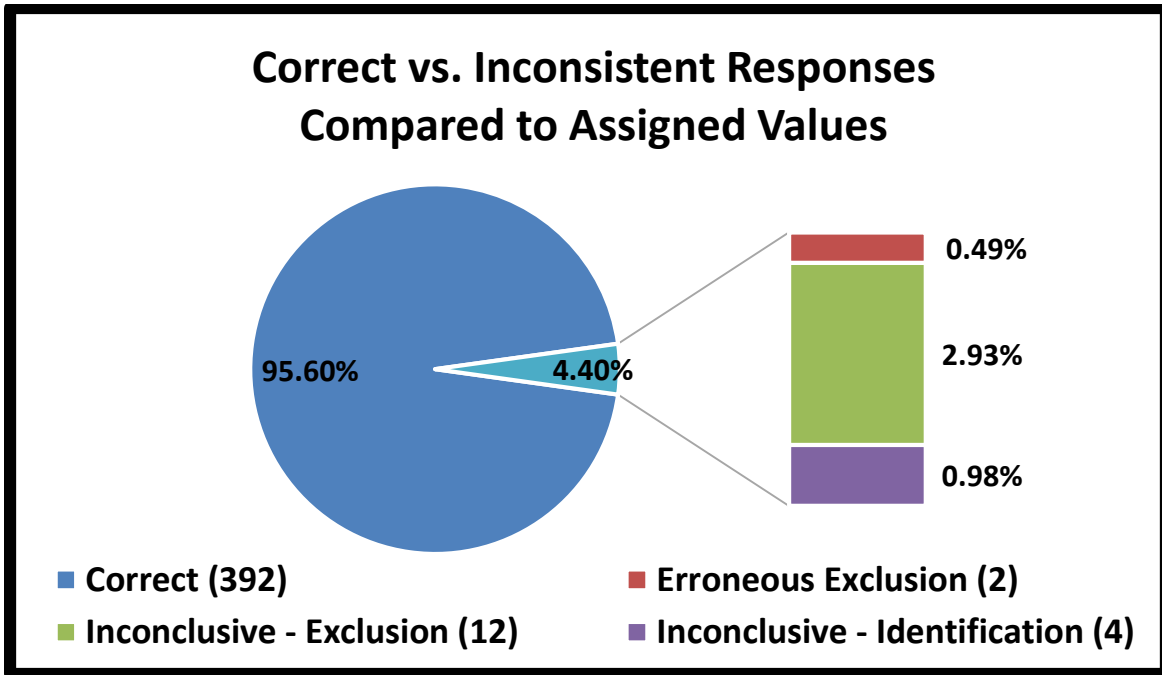
The assigned values are:

Latent Print Number	Conclusion	Subject Number	Specific Finger or Palm
L-1	Identification	K-4	Left Thumb
L-2	Identification	K-2	Left Palm
L-3	Identification	K-2	Right Ring
L-4	Identification	K-3	Left Thumb
L-5	Exclusion		
L-6	Identification	K-2	Left Palm
L-7	Exclusion		
L-8	Identification	K-3	Right Index
L-9	Identification	K-4	Left Palm
L-10	Identification	K-4	Left Palm

The test consisted of ten latent prints and four sets of known finger and palm prints in hard copy photograph and/or digital image formats. The assigned values were determined through the ground truth information and verified through unanimous agreement during pre-distribution testing.

Individual reports will be provided to participants on or before April 25, 2016. The final summary report for this test will be posted on the Ron Smith and Associates website at http://www.ronsmithandassociates.com/proficiency/latent_print_comparison.html by May 20, 2016.

Appendix 2



With 41 reporting participants and 10 latent prints in question, a total of 410 individual responses were received. Of these, 392 were consistent with the assigned values (95.60%).

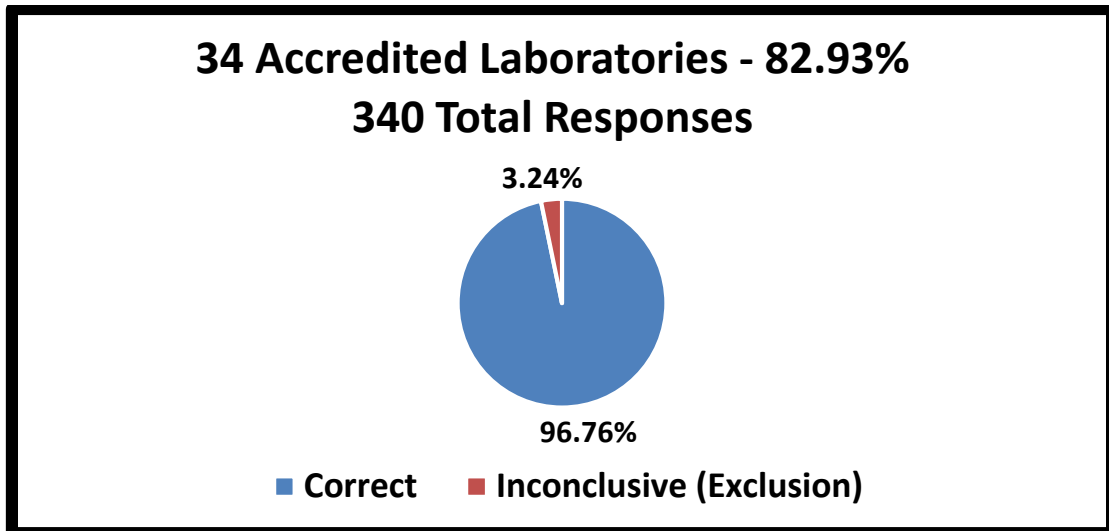
The 18 responses which were not consistent with the assigned values are broken down as follows:

- 2 (0.49%) Erroneous Exclusions
- 12 (2.93%) Inconclusive responses on latent prints with an assigned value of Exclusion
- 4 (0.98%) Inconclusive responses on latent print with an assigned value of Identification

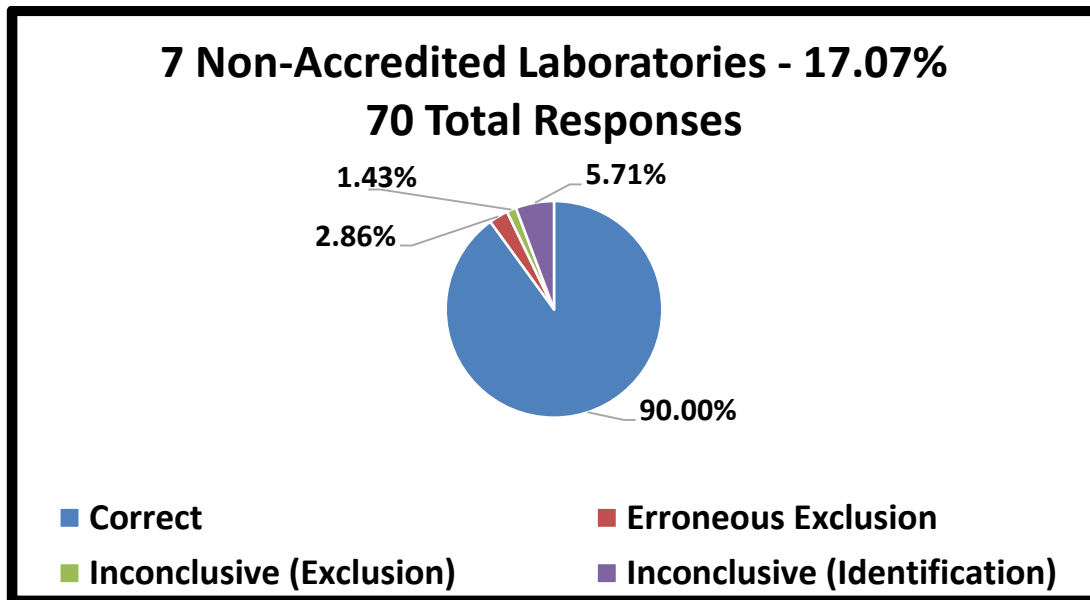
It should be noted that NO Erroneous Identifications were submitted.

Appendix 3

Accredited vs. Non-Accredited Laboratories



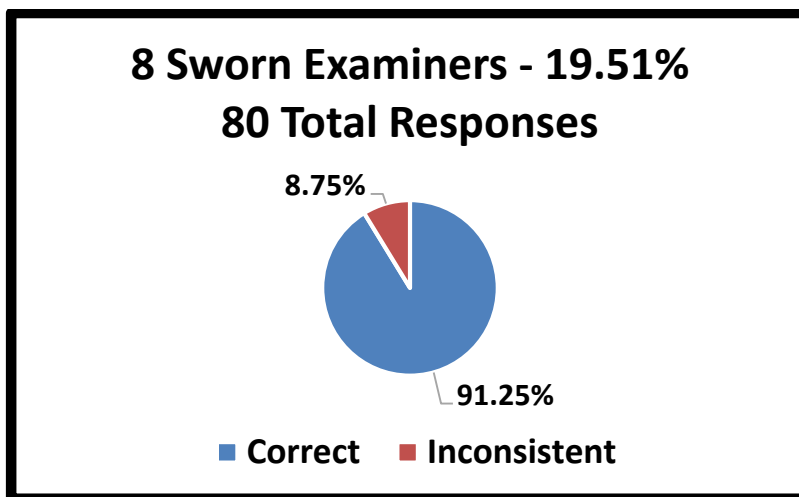
There was a total of 34 participants from accredited laboratories. These participants submitted a total of 340 responses. Of these, 329 responses were consistent with the assigned values (96.76%). The 11 inconsistent responses were all in the category of “Inconclusive” (when the assigned value was “Exclusion”).



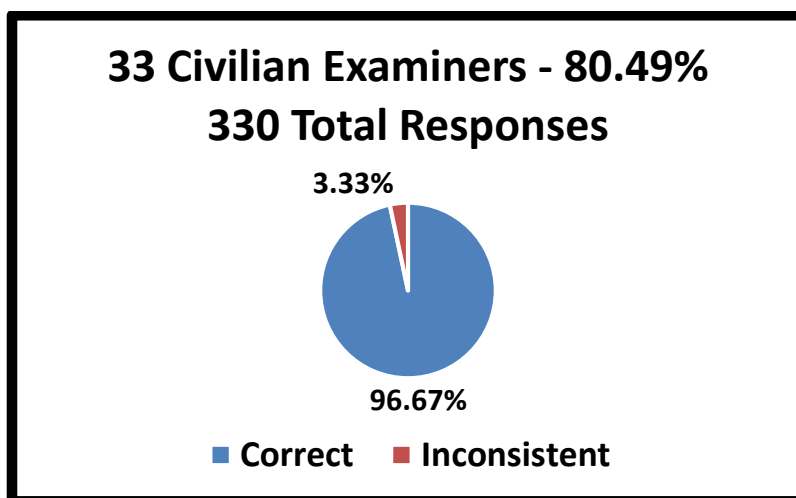
There was a total of 7 participants from non-accredited laboratories. These participants submitted a total of 70 responses. Of these, 63 responses were consistent with the assigned values (90%). The 7 inconsistent responses included: 2 Erroneous Exclusions, 4 in the category of “Inconclusive” (when the assigned value was “Identification”), and 1 in the category of “Inconclusive” (when the assigned value was “Exclusion”).

Appendix 4

Sworn vs. Civilian Latent Print Examiners



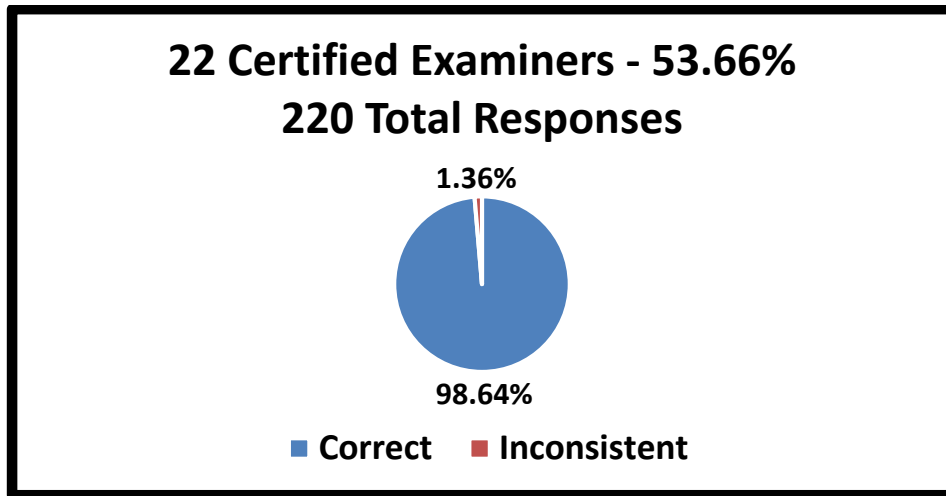
There was a total of 8 participants who reported they were employed in sworn law enforcement positions. These participants submitted a total of 80 responses. Of these, 73 responses were consistent with the assigned values (91.25%). The 7 inconsistent responses were all in the category of “Inconclusive” (when the assigned value was “Exclusion”).



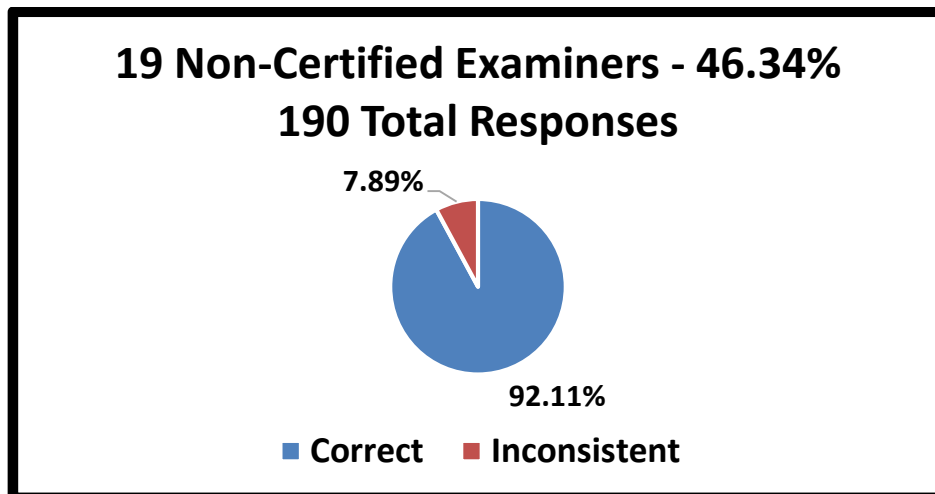
There was a total of 33 participants who reported they were employed in a civilian capacity. These participants submitted a total of 330 responses. Of these, 319 responses were consistent with the assigned value (96.67%). The 11 inconsistent responses included: 2 Erroneous Exclusions, 4 in the category of “Inconclusive” (when the assigned value was “Identification”) and 5 in the category of “Inconclusive” (when the assigned value was “Exclusion”).

Appendix 5

I.A.I Certified Latent Print Examiners vs. Non-Certified

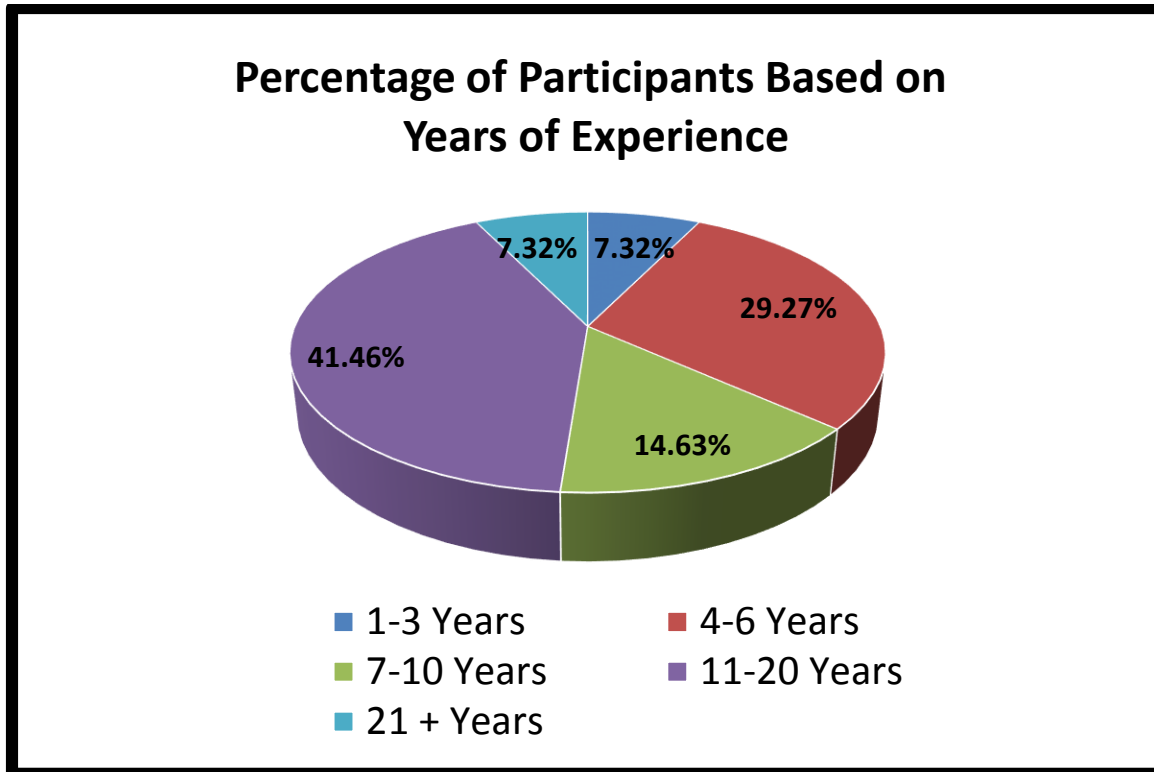


There was a total of 22 participants who reported they were Certified as Latent Print Examiners by the International Association for Identification. These participants submitted a total of 220 responses. Of these, 217 responses were consistent with the assigned value (98.64%). The 3 inconsistent responses included: 1 in the category of “Inconclusive” (when the assigned value was “Identification”) and 2 in the category of “Inconclusive” (when the assigned value was “Exclusion”).



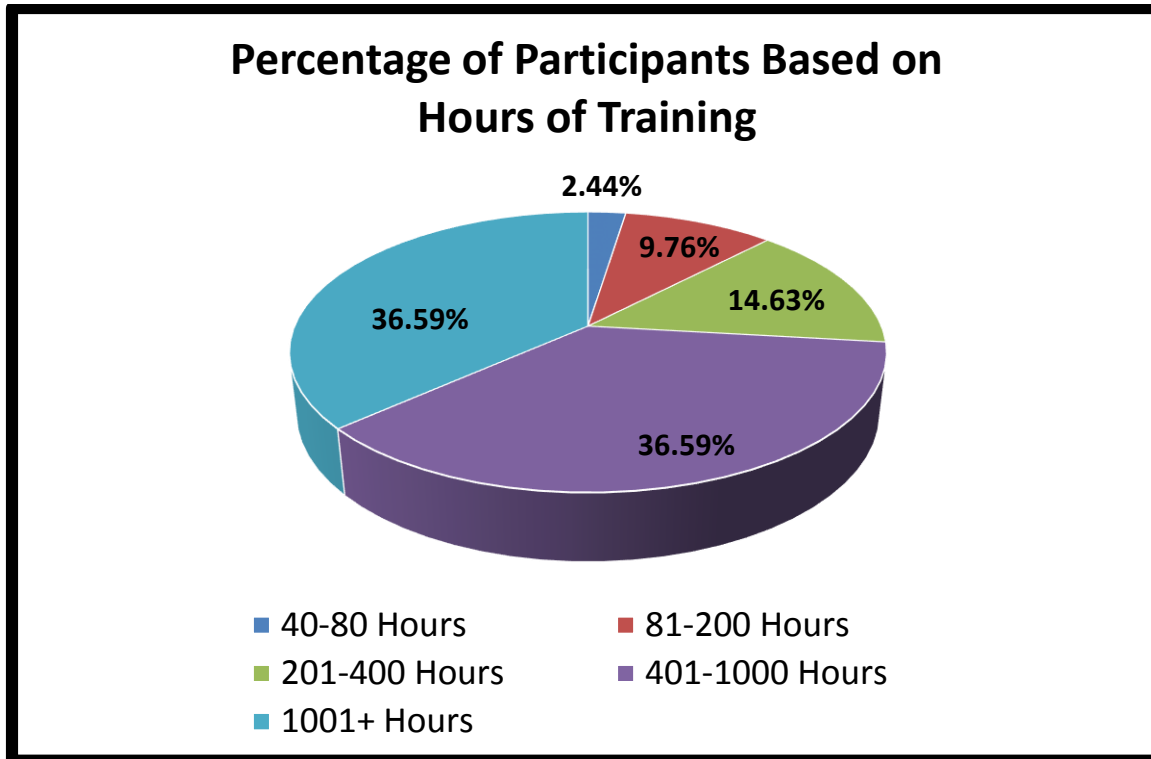
There was a total of 19 participants who reported that they were not Certified as Latent Print Examiners by the International Association for Identification. These participants submitted a total of 190 responses. Of these, 175 responses were consistent with the assigned values (92.11%). The 15 inconsistent responses included: 2 Erroneous Exclusions, 3 in the category of “Inconclusive” (when the assigned value was “Identification”) and 10 in the category of “Inconclusive” (when the assigned value was “Exclusion”).

Appendix 6



Years and # of Participant Responses	Percentage Correct	Percentage of Erroneous Exclusions	Percentage of Inconclusive (Exclusion)	Percentage of Inconclusive (Identification)
1-3 Years 3 Participants 30 Responses	100 %	0 %	0 %	0%
4-6 Years 12 Participants 120 Responses	91.67 %	1.67 %	4.17 %	2.50 %
7-10 Years 6 Participants 60 Responses	98.33 %	0 %	1.67 %	0 %
11-20 Years 17 Participants 170 Responses	96.47 %	0 %	3.53 %	0 %
21 + Years 3 Participants 30 Responses	96.67 %	0 %	0 %	3.33 %

Appendix 7



Hours and # of Participant Responses	Percentage Correct	Percentage of Erroneous Exclusions	Percentage of Inconclusive (Exclusion)	Percentage of Inconclusive (Identification)
40-80 Hours 1 Participant 10 Responses	60.0 %	20.0 %	0 %	20.0 %
81-200 Hours 4 Participants 40 Responses	97.50 %	0 %	2.50 %	0 %
201-400 Hours 6 Participants 60 Responses	98.33 %	0 %	0 %	1.67 %
401-1000 Hours 15 Participants 150 Responses	98.0 %	0 %	1.33 %	.67 %
1001+ Hours 15 Participants 150 Responses	94.0 %	0 %	6.0 %	0 %

Appendix 8

Participant Responses listed by Test Code

	L-1	L-2	L-3	L-4	L-5	L-6	L-7	L-8	L-9	L-10
Test Code	ID	ID	ID	ID		ID		ID	ID	ID
	K-4	K-2	K-2	K-3	EXC	K-2	EXC	K-3	K-4	K-4
	LT	LPP	RR	LT		LPP		RI	LPP	LPP
1099S16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
1600S16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
1781M16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
1810S16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
1844R16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
2060N16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
2382P16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
2427M16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
2869B16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
2874H16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
2935V16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP

Appendix 8 (Continued)

Participant Responses listed by Test Code

	L-1	L-2	L-3	L-4	L-5	L-6	L-7	L-8	L-9	L-10
Test Code	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
323J16101	ID K-4 LT	INC	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
3391J16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
3548T16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	INC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
366C16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
3986X16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
4206Q16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	INC	ID K-2 LPP	INC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
428V16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
4456S16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	INC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
4473J16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
4626J16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
4685C16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP

Appendix 8 (Continued)

Participant Responses listed by Test Code

	L-1	L-2	L-3	L-4	L-5	L-6	L-7	L-8	L-9	L-10
Test Code	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
4730Q16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
5336T16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	INC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
537Q16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	INC	ID K-2 LPP	INC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
5709N16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
578G16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
5842F16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
6085G16101	INC	EXC	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	EXC	INC	ID K-4 LPP
6383B16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	INC	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
6494D16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
7849H16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
7909I16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP

Appendix 8 (Continued)

Participant Responses listed by Test Code

	L-1	L-2	L-3	L-4	L-5	L-6	L-7	L-8	L-9	L-10
Test Code	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
8021G16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	INC	ID K-2 LPP	INC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
8076O16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	INC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
843O16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	INC	ID K-2 LPP	INC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
8446Q16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
8590O16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
876Z16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
8927Y16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP
9560H16101	ID K-4 LT	ID K-2 LPP	ID K-2 RR	ID K-3 LT	EXC	ID K-2 LPP	EXC	ID K-3 RI	ID K-4 LPP	ID K-4 LPP

Participant's Additional Comments

Test ID	Comments
2869B16101	Latent 1 was a flattened image (no layers) all other latent images had several layers including text, logo, images, etc. Would have preferred to receive all as flat images as if they were Original images that I had received in a case.
323J16101	Our office does not exclude on a normal basis. We use not identified and now we have started using inconclusive. I plan to use these proficiency tests to move staff into being more comfortable making exclusions and writing policy on when exclusion should be used.
4456S16101	L-5 – Detail in disagreement, insufficient quantity to exclude.
4473J16101	It might be helpful to have the finger number included with the finger name when entering in results (i.e. "Left Thumb (#6)" or "Right Ring (#4)"). This could prevent mistakes for those individuals who typically identify fingerprints by the number finger rather than anatomical location.
578G16101	These results were the conclusions obtained by our staff of Latent Print Examiners (13) and other technical staff. Each took the test independently. All (16) came to the same conclusions. The demographics on questions 3,6, 7 and 8 were determined by what answer best fit the staff overall and not by one particular staff member.
843O16101	For Inconclusive, greater detail in exemplars would need to be obtained for specific areas for complete analysis.
8927Y16101	L-5 & L-7 Exclusion to K-1, K-2, K-3 & K-4.

Manufacturer's Additional Observations

Based upon a review of the submitted responses, the following observations were noted:

1. Regardless of experience, training, certification, accreditation or employment status, no erroneous identifications were submitted.
2. Only 2 erroneous exclusions were submitted and these were both submitted by non-certified civilian latent print examiner(s) who had received less than 80 hours of formal training and who work in a non-accredited laboratory.
3. Of the 18 total inconsistent submissions, 12 of these involved "inconclusive" decisions in which "Exclusion" was the assigned value. The use of a formal "Exclusion" decision remains somewhat new to a majority of latent print examiners in the field and is not a required conclusion in a significant number of laboratories.