EXAMINATION OF SIMULTANEOUS IMPRESSIONS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will first examine the pilot study conducted on simultaneous impressions in the wake of the ruling by the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts stating the application of ACE-V to such impressions does not satisfy a Daubert analysis. Topics to be discussed include study design, results, documentation, error rates, conclusions, and future considerations. The focus then shifts to an in-depth look at SWGFAST’s Standard for Simultaneous Impression Examination, which provides a structured means to address these types of impressions. Attendees will also create simultaneous impressions according to provided ground truth (known) conditions on different surfaces. These impressions will then be developed and examined by the attendees to help them better understand the appearance of the impressions in light of the known deposition conditions. Finally, attendees will apply both the presented theory and their practical experience in examining numerous impressions (ground truth unknown) to conduct full written analyses, ideally demonstrating that their conclusions of simultaneity or non-simultaneity are supported by the physical evidence.

Course Objectives:
- To understand the research conducted to date on simultaneous impressions
- To properly document simultaneous impressions via analysis notes
- To understand how to properly examine simultaneous impressions

TARGET AUDIENCE

This advanced course is designed for examiners who want to learn more about the use of simultaneous impressions in the identification process. If your agency currently doesn’t report identifications based on simultaneity then you may wish to attend. Research from both the United States and Europe will be presented along with the SWGFAST position on this important topic.

DAILY SCHEDULE

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SHOULD BE ABLE TO PERFORM

At the completion of this course the student should be better able to determine the simultaneity or non-simultaneity of impressions, with justification, on a variety of surfaces. Students should also have a more complete understanding of the many dynamics involved during the deposition process and how these dynamics affect the appearance of the resulting impressions.
MUST BRING TO CLASS

Students should bring fingerprint magnifiers and ridge counters.

Dress is business casual as the course will be conducted in a professional environment and facility.

RECOMMENDED READING


Standard for Simultaneous Impression Examination, 12/5/08, ver. 1.0, www.swgfast.org


HOST A CLASS

In order to present this class a room with a PowerPoint projector and screen, dry erase board or easel pad with markers, a table and chair for the instructor and adequate space, tables and chairs for 40 attendees is necessary.

Also, a separate room with several tables is needed for practical exercises involving the creation and development fingerprint evidence utilizing magnetic powder and basic lifting supplies. Overhead lighting will be sufficient.

I.A.I. APPROVED TRAINING HOURS

This course provides 24 training hours and is approved for IAI Certification and re-certification.