



# RON SMITH & ASSOCIATES, INC.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE SCIENCE OF FRICTION RIDGE EXAMINATION



### Course Description

The knowledge of how to evaluate, compare and identify friction skin is accomplished through many hours of training and experience that involves independent study and one on one mentoring by an expert. This course is designed to start that process through a series of lectures, practical exercises and drills that are specifically designed to increase the student's knowledge and foster confidence in the usefulness of the science and their ability to use it. Many different facets of friction skin examination will be explored and the challenges associated with the science will be discussed in detail. Each participant will understand the principles underlying the science and as a result, they should have a practical, functional knowledge of how to examine friction skin upon completion of the course. The course starts by teaching the "language" of friction skin examination and pattern recognition. Then the student will learn how to use all three "levels of detail" and apply ACE-V methodology as the basis for the examination process.

### Target Audience

This course has been designed with many different groups in mind and is suited for law enforcement personnel and students who are new to forensics as well as law enforcement personnel and students who are already familiar with forensic identification matters including experienced Tenprint and Latent Print examiners who are already conducting examinations or are being trained to do so. Because of the scope of material covered, this course is beneficial for all but the seasoned examiners and it can serve as an excellent introduction into the science for those of other disciplines, particularly crime scene personnel. Law enforcement personnel will be able to return to work and immediately use this training to continue their development as examiners. Students would be able to apply for jobs that require such training as a requirement. Other professionals involved in both the academic and judicial systems would also benefit as they would receive a broad overview of the science without having to put it to practical use.

### Course Objectives

- Understand and be able to use current terminology for the fingerprint science (the language of the science).
- Fully classify fingerprint cards using the NCIC and IAFIS codes and understand the Henry classification system as it is used today.
- Accurately determine the proper pattern type of a fingerprint, especially for use with an AFIS.
- Begin to properly determine the "Value" or suitability of a fingerprint for comparison.
- Understand all three levels of detail and begin to accurately compare friction skin using them.
- Properly use ACE - V. methodology to make decisions during the examination process with real friction skin of various types, tips, joints, ect
- Understand the significance of recording "good" fingerprints at the time of booking or capture.



**Class instructor:**  
**John Black, CLPE,**  
**CFWE, CSCSA**



### Course Logistics

**When:**

April 4 - 8, 2022

**Class Times:**

08:00 a.m. to 05:00 p.m.

**Where:**

Rick Rhyne Public Safety Center  
302 S. McNeill Street  
Level 0 - Training Room  
Carthage NC 28327

**Tuition:**

**\$600.00 | 5 Days | 40 Training Hours**

***This course approved for  
I.A.I. Certification & Re-certification***

### Local Contact

Lieutenant Bradley Whitaker  
Moore County Sheriff's Office  
Carthage NC 28327  
(910) 947-7616  
bwhitaker@moorecountync.gov

# Daily Schedule

	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4	DAY 5
HOUR 1	- Registration - Course Overview - Introductions	Understandin Loop Patterns "Ridge Flows"	Understanding Arch Pattern "Ridge Flows"	Unique and Persistent	Physiology of Friction Skin
HOUR 2	History behind the use of fingerprints for identification purposes. "The Pioneers"	Ulnar - Radial Right Slant Left Slant	Plain Arches vs. Tented Arches	Three Level's of Detail Used in Examinations	Understanding ACE-V Methodology
HOUR 3	Areas Containing Friction Skin	Sufficient Recurve and the Core	Arch Pattern Recognition Exercises	"Searching Smart First" Concepts	Significance of the Analysis Phase
HOUR 4	Review of Fingerprint Classification Systems	Delta Formations	Understanding Whorl Pattern "Ridge Flows"	Level One Searching Exercise	Conclusions: Comparison & Evaluation Phases
LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
HOUR 5	Overview of all 3 Major Fingerprint Families and an Introduction to all 8 Pattern Types with Definitions	Intervening Ridges	Whorl Pattern Interpretations & Tracing Values	Understanding and Using Level Two Detail	Search and Comparison Exercises
HOUR 6		Counting Ridges	Whorl Pattern Recognition Exercises	Level Two Exercises	The Impact of AFIS Systems & "AFIS Quality"
HOUR 7	Pattern Types and the FBI IAFIS Code	Loop Pattern Recognition Exercises	-NCIC Codes - NCIC Exercises	Exposure to Level Three Details	Final Comparison Exercise
HOUR 8	IAFIS Review & Classification Exercise		Effects of Disease, Scarring, & Mutilations	Comaparison Exercises	Review of Final Exercises & Awarding of Certificates

## Must Bring to Class

Each student must bring a fingerprint magnifier, ridge counters are encouraged but optional and a notebook. Dress is business casual as the course will be conducted in a professional environment and facility.

## Online Class Registration

Visit us at: [www.RonSmithandAssociates.com](http://www.RonSmithandAssociates.com) to reserve your seat.

## Helpful Lodging Information

*Although we cannot endorse any particular hotel property, we have confirmed that the following lodging is within a reasonable commuting distance to the training site.*

SpringHill Suites Pinehurst Southern Pines  
10024 US Hwy 15-501  
Pinehurst NC 28374  
(910) 695-0234

[CLICK FOR RESERVATIONS](#)