



# RON SMITH & ASSOCIATES, INC.



## Practical Answers to Challenging Questions in the Courtroom



**TWO EXPERIENCED  
FINGERPRINT  
EXPERTS**

**Instructor 1: Glenn Langenburg**



**Instructor 2: Carey Hall**

**ONE EXPERIENCED  
CRIMINAL DEFENSE  
ATTORNEY**



**Instructor 3: Brendan Max**

### Course Description

This fingerprint testimony course provides practical answers to challenging questions in today's courtroom environment by delivering the material to you in a novel way. Students will gain practical information for improving their courtroom performance. They will also be better prepared for Frye and Daubert challenges.

This unique course is taught by three instructors. Two of the instructors are experienced fingerprint experts. These instructors take turns answering mock court questions asked by a third instructor, an experienced criminal defense attorney, who will dynamically attack the answers. The instructors will demonstrate the strengths and weaknesses of different responses—both “good” and “bad” answers. Students will be able to ask questions and get feedback on their own personal responses. The instructors will highlight what strategies a defense attorney might take depending on the answer.

The instructors will share court experiences, case law, and other court decisions so that students are aware of precedent cases and emerging legal trends. Lastly, the instructors will share published papers, data, or the reactions of lay people to court room responses. This approach will give the student valuable insight into the reactions and understanding of the most important people in the courtroom: the triers of fact.

Course materials will include summaries of the major class topics, examples of model answers, lists of relevant cases, and reference materials. The course also provides the rare opportunity to gain insight into the strategies and tactics of a criminal defense attorney in a safe learning environment.

### Target Audience

All practicing friction ridge examiners, both latent and tenprint who could be required to give expert witness testimony are greatly encouraged to participate in this thought provoking, completely unique, fact finding mission to provide better answers than what we all have been taught in the past. If your goal is to respectfully but confidently respond to the challenges presented in the modern courtroom, then join your peers and gain a better understanding of more contemporary concepts from these three skilled instructors in a format that has never been used in a classroom.

**Note:** this course is aimed at both latent print and tenprint practitioners and is not appropriate for attorneys to attend. The learning objectives are focused on improving examiners' responses, not a “how to” cross-exam an expert witness. **Students will not be required to participate in mock-testimony exercises as part of their participation in this training.**

### Course Logistics

**When:**

September 15-17, 2025

**Class Times:**

08:00 AM - 05:00 PM

**Where:**

West Covina Police Department  
1444 W. Garvey Ave. S.  
City Counsel Chambers  
West Covina, CA 91790

**Tuition:**

\$750.00

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

### Local Contact

Adam MacDonald

Forensic ID Unit Supervisor

West Covina Police Department

626-939-8838

amacdonald@wcpd.org

# Daily Schedule

	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3
8:00-9:30	Introductions, Course overview, & 1. Legal Issues	4. ACE-V, continued	8. Error Rates
9:30-9:50	Break	Break	Break
9:50-10:30	2. Voir Dire – Qualifications of the Analyst	4. ACE-V, continued	9. Documentation
10:30-10:40	Break	Break	Break
10:40-12:00	2. Voir Dire, continued	5. AFIS	9. Documentation, cont.
12:00-13:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
13:00-14:00	3. Qualifications of the Laboratory	6. Identification Terminology	10. Activity Level Questions
14:00-14:15	Break	Break	Break
14:15-15:15	3. Qualifications of the Laboratory, continued	7. Bias/Blind Verification	11. Additional Issues for Discussion
15:15-15:30	Break	Break	Break
15:30-16:30	4. ACE-V	7. Bias, continued	12. Wrap up, course conclusion

## Course Prerequisites

We wish to be clear that all students must either be practicing latent print or tenprint examiners as a requirement to register for this course. Your years of experience as an examiner is not a factor, simply the need to testify now or in the future.

## Learning Objectives

Students attending this course will:

- Learn about key case law related to latent print evidence
- Learn about cross-examination during voir dire
- Learn about strategies for cross-examination related to accreditation
- Understand the current legal environment, issues, and strategies to challenging latent print evidence in the courtroom including:
  - The strength and limitations of ACE-V
  - AFIS examinations
  - Bias and verification
  - Documentation or the lack thereof
- Understand the current terminology and definitions of “identification”
- Learn about error rate testimony
- Learn about Activity Level testimony – do’s and don’ts
- Have the opportunity to get feedback on their individual specific answers

## Must Bring to Class

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

## 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.*

Fairfield Inn & Suites Los Angeles/West Covina

3211 E. Garvey Ave. North

West Covina, CA 91791

626-678-8988

Please click here for reservations

## Online Class Registration

Visit us at: [www.RonSmithandAssociates.com](http://www.RonSmithandAssociates.com) and register today!

### Comments on Training Site:

**Parking is located on the north side of City Hall. Park on the northside, by the trees. Walk up stairs and walk to the right, past the elevators and through the glass doors to the city council chambers at the end.**