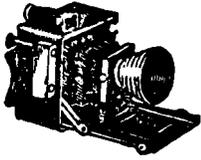




THE PRINT

*The Official Publication of the Southern California Association of Fingerprint Officers
An Association for Scientific Investigation and Identification Since 1937*

July / August 2002 Volume 18 Issue 4



OFFICERS 2002

PRESIDENT
Steve Tillmann
Los Angeles Sheriff's Dept.
(213) 989-5107
tillmann@scafo.org

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
George Durgin
Active Duty - U.S. Army
durgin@scafo.org

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
Ed Palma
San Diego Police Dept.
(619) 531-2573
palma@scafo.org

SECRETARY
Dennis Uyeda
Calif. Dept. Of Justice
(916) 227-3314

SERGEANT AT ARMS
Elain Sena-Brown
Santa Monica Police Dept.
(310) 458-8497
sena-brown@scafo.org

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
Bob Goss
San Bernardino Police Dept.
(909) 388-4904
goss@scafo.org

DIRECTOR
Tony Clark-Stewart
Gleann Mor Identifications
(818) 761-8081
tonyc-s@pacbell.net

DIRECTOR
Susan Garcia
Los Angeles Sheriff's Dept.
(213) 989-2163
garcia@scafo.org

DIRECTOR
Gina Russell-Durgin
Escondido Police Dept.
(760) 839-4770
russell@scafo.org

DIRECTOR
Tom Washington
San Diego Police Dept.
washington@scafo.org

HISTORIAN
William F. Leo
Los Angeles Sheriff's Dept.
(213) 989-2163
leo@scafo.org

TREASURER
James Lawson
NCIS- San Diego
(619) 556-1390
lawson@scafo.org

PARLIAMENTARIAN
Clint Fullen
San Diego Police Dept. (Retired)
(858) 259-2853
fullen@scafo.org

EDITOR
Alan McRoberts
McRoberts Forensic Investigations
(909) 693-9082
mcroberts@scafo.org

WWW.SCAFO.ORG

Fingerprint Specialist Ties Danielle to Westerfield's RV

(This article is reprinted from the June 19, 2002 issue of the San Diego Union Tribune. Thanks to Jon Stimac for printing this article in his electronic fingerprint newsletter FP Stuff.)

By **JEFF DILLON** and **STEVE PEREZ**

Fingerprints lifted from the motor home of murder defendant David Westerfield match those of Danielle van Dam, the 7-year-old neighbor he is accused of kidnapping from her Sabre Springs home, a San Diego police expert testified Wednesday afternoon.

Jeffrey Graham Jr., latent print examiner, testified he made the determination upon comparing the latent prints from a cabinet over a bed in the motorhome with known prints made by re-hydrating the victim's mummified hands and scanning both into a computer.

"These two prints from this handprint were made by Danielle van Dam," he told prosecutor Jeff Dusek.

"How certain are you?"

"Absolutely certain," he said.

Graham testified during the 10th day of Westerfield's trial. The design engineer faces the possibility of the death penalty if he is convicted.

Defense attorneys continued probing today for weaknesses in the San Diego Police Department's evidence-collecting procedures as prosecutors continued to build a foundation for the forensic evidence they say will prove Westerfield kidnaped and killed Danielle van Dam.

When the victim's body was recovered from Dehesa, Graham said he examined the girl's hands in order to evaluate the ridge detail on the hand's prints. The only way to recover a usable known print to compare with that recovered from the motorhome, was to remove the hands and inject them with a chemical treatment of body fluids, he said.

"They were extremely mummified, dried up, wrinkled up, shriveled. All the detail was compressed," he said. "It really makes it a lot harder."

Once the hands were moved, he observed them over more than a week, Graham testified. When one of the fingers would not re-hydrate, he removed skin from sections of the left middle and left ring fingers and applied the fluid to both sides.

The print specialist took photographs of those skin sections after applying silver power to them, and holding them down to a light piece of paper.

A photograph of the evidence was shown to jurors, along with those recovered from Westerfield's motorhome.

Of six latent prints recovered from the motorhome, one of those lifted from a cabinet above its bed provided to be the conclusive print, Graham said.

The fingerprint specialist testified he made the identification on March 7, beginning his analysis with the simple method of placing his own left hand over the latent print.

"My right hand doesn't fit, my left hand does," he said. "I use that all the time."

According to Graham's analysis, the victim's hand also moved when it touched the cabinet.

"It didn't just come down then lift right up," he said. "From what I can see, these darker areas on top indicate pressure as well as some tails off the edge of each of these. There are also some flat areas on the opposite side that tell me the movement is from my right to my left."

Using an enlarged photograph of the cabinet and bed area of the motorhome, Graham demonstrated for jurors how he believed the print was applied with the girl's left hand from an angled position when she was on top of the bed.

Other prints lifted from the home were also compared with known prints. Two of those matched up with females identified in court only as Danielle L. and Jennifer L., with the latter identified further as being about the same age as the victim.

Graham testified that of all the latent prints he examined from the motorhome, the one known print he was not able to match was of the defendant, Westerfield.

Feldman challenges credibility

Upon cross-examination, Feldman immediately launched into an attack on Graham's credibility. Feldman noted that, at the preliminary hearing, Graham had testified that he was not aware of any colleges or universities that offered degrees in fingerprint analysis.

Graham conceded that he has since learned a university in West Virginia offers such degrees.

Moments later, Feldman challenged another one of Graham's responses during the preliminary hearing, in answer to the question of whether he had taken external training.

At the time, Graham said he had not.

When asked Wednesday, Graham answered: "Actually, I have. I was corrected on that when I got back to the office."

"Here we go again," Feldman said. "At the preliminary hearing, you stated ..."

At that point, he was interrupted by an objection from Dusek, sustained by Judge William Mudd, that the phrasing of the question was "argumentative."

On redirect examination, a line of questioning by Dusek drew objections from the defense.

"Can (fingerprint samples) be examined by anyone else if they think you don't know what you're doing," said Feldman.

"Certainly, yes."

Once his analysis is complete, another examiner conducts an independent analysis of the identification, Graham said.

When Dusek began asking whether anyone from the defense had examined the evidence, Feldman objected on the grounds of "relevance," an objection overruled by Mudd.

When Feldman requested a sidebar conversation (an on-the-record discussion out of the jury's earshot), Mudd told the attorney he would "give you an opportunity later."

In response to Dusek's question, Graham testified that chain-of-custody notes indicate a fingerprint expert for the defense had examined the prints on two separate occasions.

Pat Wertheim, a fingerprint expert from the Arizona Department of Public Safety, the day's final witness, gave the jury his analysis of the same print samples that Graham examined.

Wertheim brought with him a Powerpoint computer display in which he outlined, in a color screen projection and in painstaking detail, the matches in his view, of the two prints' patterns, fingerprint points and shapes, and flow of the print's individual microscopic ridges.

"We find complete consistency," he said at one point.

(Editor-You can view an internet version of Wertheim's computer presentation at www.clpex.com. The presentation was actually done in Photoshop. For a further discussion on the technique, visit the July 8, 2002 issue of The Weekly Detail at www.clpex.com.)

Police Explorer Aids in Identifying Suspect

Fingerprints on a car also assist in the investigation of the shooting of an officer.

(This article is reprinted from the June 15, 2002 issue of the Temecula edition of The Press-Enterprise.)

BY DERICK DAHLIG

SAN JACINTO-A police Explorer who was in a patrol car at the time an officer was shot in the legs Monday helped identify the man police are searching for.

In addition to the 17-year-old witness, authorities were able to identify the man they say shot San Jacinto police Officer Everett Babcock through witnesses who saw the suspect in a stolen car and through fingerprints on the car and cell phone left in the vehicle, court records show. The Explorer's name is being withheld at the request of the San Jacinto police for safety reasons.

The details were obtained from the arrest warrant for Anthony Jesus Rodriguez, 18, of San Jacinto. If he is arrested, the warrant sets bail at \$1 million.

"The Explorer was very shaken by this incident," San Jacinto police Commander Keith Knotek said. The teenager was given counseling to help him deal with the shooting, Knotek said.

Ontario police reported a maroon 2000 Mitsubishi stolen, the warrant states and Babcock was investigating whether the car the suspect was sitting in was the same vehicle. As Babcock approached the car the suspect got out and there was a confrontation. The suspect then ran.

After the shooting, investigators found a cell phone in the car with several outgoing, incoming and missed calls, documents show. The calls were traced to friends and associates of the suspect, police said.

According to the warrant, fingerprints from the suspect were found inside and outside the car. Prints were also found on the cell phone, court records show.

Police are still looking into leads on Rodriguez's whereabouts. Anyone with information is asked to call police at (909) 654-2702.

West Valley Uses Mobile Id System

(This article is reprinted from the April 2002 issue of Law Enforcement Technology.)

Visionics Corporation and Cogent Systems completed the installation of the IBIS mobile identification system with the Salt Lake City-area law enforcement agency, the West Valley City (Utah) Police Department. IBIS is a patented, on-demand mobile identification system developed by Visionics that interfaces with legacy law enforcement and databases, such as the automated fingerprint identification system (AFIS) developed by Cogent Systems. The system allows field officers to capture forensic quality fingerprints and facial images on a handheld device and submit them remotely through a cellular connection for matching against criminal fugitive records residing at AFIS and mugshot database servers. If there is no match, the fingerprint and photo files are discarded from the system. In this installation, six mobile IBIS units are deployed with field officers in Utah and will be used to verify subjects' identities by matching against watch-lists residing elsewhere. The IBIS server for this deployment is being hosted by the Ontario Police Department in southern California, which deployed IBIS five months ago with spectacular results. In an unprecedented information sharing initiative, West Valley's criminal fingerprint files and other watch list files have already been added to the server at Ontario. The database records residing in California will be wirelessly accessed when officers submit requests from any of the six IBIS units in Salt Lake and will return responses within two to three minutes. The IBIS server in Ontario interfaces with a Cogent AFIS system.



**Upcoming
SCAFO Meeting**

August 17, 2002

Island Palms Hotel & Marina
San Diego
(800) 345-9995
www.islandpalms.com

Speaker: Paul Redden, Polygraph Examiner
Program: ***Polygraph Usage in Law Enforcement***

For more information contact:
Tom Washington (619) 531-2838
Ed Palma (619) 531-2573

Mind Your Manners

Most people stumble on their career path because of their actions, not a lack of skills

(This article is reprinted from the June 17, 2002 issue of the Temecula edition of The Press-Enterprise.)

By SHANNON STARR

Grooming job applicants for an interview keeps Debbie Florer-Odegaard, the branch manager of AppleOne Employment services in Riverside, on top of her business p's and q's.

Odegaard has seen perfectly good candidates ruin their chances at a job interview by forgetting to mind their manners. She has also seen good employees lose jobs and miss opportunities for advancement because of the same thing.

Recently, a candidate shared too much information during a job interview. The report from the prospective employer: It was like having coffee with a girlfriend, not a job interview.

"People kill their own careers with their actions," said Odegaard. "It's not just about skills. Sixty percent of a placement is your personality, it's the way you get a job."

It is also the way to keep a job and the way to move up the company ladder.

Poor table manners at a lunch with a boss or personal phone calls at work might not be reasons to get fired, but when it comes time for a probation or a raise they can have a direct effect on the outcome.

Naomi Poulson, director of the Etiquette School in Dana Point, believes the problem began in the 1960s when manners fell by the wayside.

"Everyone was doing their 'own thing,'" says Poulson. "Parents and schools stopped teaching manners. We are now two generations removed from those days and it shows."

Students ready to graduate college are now coming to her to gain an edge in the competitive job market.

"There are college students coming to me who have never worn a pair of leather shoes," she said. "They don't know how to dress, shake hands or present a business card."

The Etiquette School offers courses such as the Winning Edge, where students "learn to outclass the competition with protocol, intelligence and dining panache."

"There are times during a job interview process where a candidate will be taken out to dinner," Poulson offers as an example. "It's not a celebration; it's an opportunity for the employer to observe the applicant in a social situation."

Not knowing simple social graces is one way for the employer to winnow out those who will not fit into the culture of the corporation.

Attend a class

- The Etiquette School holds classes and will come to a business to conduct seminars for employees. The next class will be at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Dana Point. Twenty-four participants will learn dining and business manners such as how to correctly handle a knife and fork and how to introduce themselves with grace and ease.

The class will be held 5:30-10 p.m. Nov. 20. The cost is \$245 and includes course materials and workbook and a pocket guide. Information: (949) 493-6700.

- UCR Extension will offer the class "Business Etiquette Dining" in November. The cost is \$39. Information: (909) 787-4105.

Read a book

- Emily Post's "The Etiquette Advantage in Business," 1999, Harper Collins, \$35, covers subjects from the job search to business gifts.
- Letitia Baldrige's "New Complete Guide to Executive Manners," 1997, Scribner, \$35, "How to handle everything from introductions to sexual harassment..."

Etiquette Advice from the Experts

On-the-job dos and don'ts by Naomi Poulson, etiquette school director

- When greeting someone, go around your desk.
- Everyone should stand during introductions.
- Don't hand out business cards like free passes. Give them once a rapport has been established.
- Don't overlook the importance of small talk but no personal information should never be shared: at the office. The whole office should not know you are getting a divorce.
- Cell phones should not be used in the office or restaurants.

Interview dos and don'ts by Debbie Florer-Odegaard, AppleOne manager

- Use a firm but comfortable handshake.
- Maintain respectful eye contact.
- Turn off your cell phone during an interview.
- Send thank-you notes after an interview.

Appearance Can Kill Your Chance Of Getting Hired

(This article is reprinted from the June 17, 2002 issue of the Temecula edition of the Press-Enterprise.)

BY CAROL KLEIMAN

Do looks actually matter to potential employers?

Yes.

Even though everyone likes to think we're above all that and appearances don't count, they do—especially in a job interview.

According to a recent survey of 457 employers who recruit new college graduates, an overwhelming 92 percent revealed that “a candidate's overall appearance influences their opinion about the candidate.”

In other words, how you look is a factor in whether or not you get the job you want.

The annual study was done by the National Association of Colleges and Employers as part of its Job Outlook 2002. The association, based in Bethlehem, Pa., specializes in information about the college market.

“Appearance” extends beyond typical worries, such as whether or not to dress casually for an interview with a company that allows casual dress. (My suggestion is not to dress casually; you can do that after you're hired.)

Perhaps potential employers long for the old days when the issues about appearance were less complicated. Today, those who conduct the interviews are faced with new challenges. And they have to take them at face value.

Here's what the survey found:

- 82 percent reported being negatively influenced when a candidate wears “nontraditional” attire to the job interview, which means Britney Spears wouldn't be able to get a job.
- 73 percent are turned off by “unusual” hair color. The color purple, in particular, was mentioned.
- 72 percent can't tolerate body piercing. Nose rings and lip studs are too decorative for a business office, say the folks who do the hiring
- 69 percent object to “obvious” tattoos. Even if the tattoo only says “Mom.”
- 64 percent don't like “unusual” hairstyles. They will spike the applications of interviewees with pointed hair, for instance.

That's the bad news for those who don't usually have

a “traditional” appearance. A modicum of flexibility, however, is shown in the fact that 83 percent of the hiring officers report if you have a beard they won't automatically exclude you; 90 percent said mustaches would not be a negative factor in their decisions.

(Editor-You may be wondering why “etiquette” articles are in “The Print”. During the last year, I have received a couple of notes from members expressing concern about the “very casual” dress standard at our meetings. Although our business dinners are definitely not black tie affairs, they are business meetings, and our attire should reflect that. I thought that these two articles (“Appearance Can Kill Your Chance of Getting Hired” and “Mind Your Manners”) might serve as a wake-up call to some of us who need a gentle reminder that we are professionals and should reflect that in our appearance and conduct. But my other, more important, reason for publishing these articles is because we have many students joining our association. In reality, students are attending a job interview every time attend a SCAFO meeting. We, those already in the field, are likely to be the persons to whom these students turn when they need references, etc. We may also be the people sitting on their future interview boards. Remember-first impressions really do matter.)

Courtroom Testimony Techniques “Success Instead of Survival”

September 16 - 17, 2002

**Location: Downey City Hall
1111 Brookshire Avenue
Downey, California**

Instructor

**Ron Smith, Associate Director (Retired)
Mississippi Crime Laboratory
Meridian, Mississippi**

Local Hosts

**Ted Hiler
Downey Police Department
(562) 904-2313**

**Nadine Chastang
Los Angeles Sheriff's Department
(562) 465-7863**

Seminar Tuition \$200.00

**Contact Course Coordinator
Marie P**