AN ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF PHOTOGRAPHING CYANOACRYLATE DEVELOPED LATENT PRINTS ON CLEAR PLASTIC MATERIAL

(The following paper appeared as a Technical Report in the "Afterwords" section of the Mar/Apr 1994 issue of the Journal of Forensic Identification)

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Introduction

There are several techniques which can be utilized to photographically document developed latent prints on clear plastic material. Some of these techniques require the utilization of lasers or monochromatic light sources. Although often times superior, these methods may be difficult for the technician who does not have access to such a light source. Comparable results can be obtained after cyanoacrylate ester development, without the use of a forensic light source.

The use of a shadow box and an incandescent light can produce photographically legible latent prints on plastic material after development with cyanoacrylate ester. The shadow box can easily be constructed from an ordinary cardboard box that is lined with black paper. The black paper acts as the shadow area of the box. The latent prints photographed with this method are often equal in quality to those developed using fluorescent dyes and a forensic light.

Procedure Preparation

The box used for this demonstration is open-ended with the dimensions 12" x 8" x 10". A 5" x 2" opening is cut on one of the side panels and black paper is placed within the box, opposite to that opening. The incandescent light is placed at the open end of the box, with the newly cut opening facing upwards.

Procedure

The plastic material which has previously been processed with cyanoacrylate is placed on top of the cut opening. The incandescent light is placed through the open end of the box, to allow the light to illuminate
up through the cut opening. The visible latent prints are viewed through the cut opening, and are photographed accordingly. The use of a camera copy stand is useful to stabilize the box and camera. Occasionally the plastic material will be creased or otherwise wrinkled, making clear photography difficult. By placing the processed plastic in an embroidery hoop and pulling it tightly, many wrinkles can be greatly decreased. Embroidery hoops can be purchased at most craft retailers. The incandescent light can be adjusted to vary the desired lighting and contrast depending on the visibility of the latent prints to be photographed.

Conclusion
This technique can be used to photograph most types of clear plastic materials including polyurethane wrap, plastic sandwich bags, cellophane, and latent prints on clear adhesive tape. Latent prints on the sticky side of tape are especially simple to photograph prior to cyanoacrylate fuming. If required, the tape can be gently placed on clear glass, sticky side down. The glass is then turned upside down to photograph the latent prints in correct position.

Although not a replacement for dye stained latent prints, this technique can provide adequate results when photographing latent prints on clear plastic. The costs are minimal, and the preserved latent prints can easily be used for comparisons to suspect prints or for automated fingerprint systems.

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(Editor -- A modification of the technique above is also a useful technique for fluorescent photography of the latent prints on plastic bags and other transparent or translucent materials. The illumination technique for fluorescent photography is modified to an angled frontal illumination of the evidence instead of rear illumination. The interior of this box or a darkened background will absorb stray and reflective light which can reduce overall contrast.

The "Afterwords" section of JFI is a relatively new addition to the Journal's format. In this section of JFI, the printing of previously published material will appear. This change in policy to the JFI format provides a welcome addition. This article was previously published in the Utah Division of I.A.I. Newsletter, 5(1), 1993.

The article, as it appeared in the JFI, contained two photographs of the box and a photograph depicting a print photographed with this technique.)
Can Two Identical Ridge Patterns Actually Occur—
Either on Different Persons or on the Same Person?

by G. Tyler Mairs
Finger Print Technician, Magistrates Courts, Brooklyn, N.Y.

(Reprint from Finger Print Magazine November, 1945)

In the April, 1942, issue of this Magazine there was published an opinion by the Honorable Tom Beauchamp, Judge of the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, which was handed down on April 19, 1941, in the matter of Newton Grice vs. The State of Texas. This was on an appeal from his conviction the year previous, largely on finger print evidence.

After an exhaustive review of finger print cases in the State of Texas and other jurisdictions, the Judge made the startling and timely proposal, that in the light of present day knowledge and experience, those who hold that there CAN BE two identical finger patterns "should assume the burden of proving their position." His Honor is to be commended for his courage in raising the issue in a judicial decision rather than "off the record." In this suggested shifting of the burden of proof, he recognizes the passing of the former controlling assumption of a possible duplication of ridge patterns, and also registers his disagreement with such an assumption, although on other than biological grounds.

Premise 50 Years Old

It should be remembered that the assumption of possible pattern duplication accompanied the birth of the use of finger prints as a means of individual identification over 50 years ago. At that time the whole idea and method was new, and not so much was known about the biological factors involved in the formation of the ridge patterns in the embryo as is known today. So, as a precautionary measure, the possibility and probability of a ridge pattern being duplicated simultaneously in different digits of the same person or in different persons was investigated. To be an absolutely certain means of bodily identification, a finger pattern had to be exclusively individual to the body possessing it. Even a remotely possible duplication would be fatal to the exclusiveness necessary for accurate identification.

The laws of chance were called upon to help "prove" that there could be no duplication. But the application of ratios, favorably weighted to prove exclusiveness, only "proved" that there was one chance in many billions of prints. Because this chance, according to the figures, was supposedly so remote, it was interpreted as being the equivalent of "never." But in spite of this interpretation and the astronomical figures involved, there still remained the chance of duplication at some time. The occurrence of the chance duplication is not so remote as it may first appear, for it may occur at any time during the period proscribed by the terminal figures. It does not have to be the first nor the last of the series but may occur at any time within the limits set by the terminal figures. Fifty years ago "today" was "remote" if we regard the millions of people who have since been born. According to some of the figures then cited this present day generation would appear to be somewhere in the middle of the figures, with plenty of time for a duplication to occur, if it can occur. But, no advocate of this reasoning has had the thoughtfulness to tell us when the count began!

Judicial Belief Prevails

The net result of this line of reasoning had to be an admission of a possible duplication which might occur at any time. This admission was at variance with the purpose of the investigation, and also at variance with an intuitive belief that there could be no duplication. Hence, the interpretation "never" placed upon the results of the numerical calculations. The textbook admission of a possible duplication has continued to co-exist, but with diminishing force, along side of the intuitive belief that duplication is impossible. This latter belief has controlled our judicial procedures in spite of the calculated chance of a duplication. The sincere endeavor to solve a biological problem by mathematics has resulted in a confusing and anomalous situation.

Either Nature can produce duplicate patterns or she cannot. That during the past 50 years of critical use and study no duplicate patterns have been discovered is not the exact equivalent of saying that they cannot occur, but it points strongly in that direction. It is hardly conceivable that among the many millions of prints compared, at least one case of exact repetition should not have been discovered, if duplication is possible.
In the light of this half century of critical use is it not more realistic to reason that a duplication cannot occur as that it can occur? That is, I take it, what Judge Beauchamp proposed when he suggested shifting the burden of proof. Biological research in recent years is practically unanimous in its conclusion that there can be no duplication. This being so, why cannot an effort be made to work out a non-mathematical formula or line of reasoning, in layman's language, and using known biological facts, to confirm the faith that is in us?

In an Oklahoma decision the Court in Stacy vs. State, says:

"In conformity to decisions of the courts in many states, we take judicial knowledge that there are no two sets of finger prints exactly alike."

This statement I interpret as meaning that there are no two flesh patterns which are identical. The phrase "exactly alike" seems to be intended as meaning "identical," and the term "finger prints" as the equivalent of the flesh pattern from which contact impressions are made. It is well known that no two imprints from the same digit can be identical any more than two signatures written by the same hand can be identical, but for different reasons. It is common knowledge that Nature never has been known to make any exact duplicates--no two snow-flakes, no two grains of sand, no two leaves, no two of anything are exactly alike, that is, identical down to the most minute detail of form or size or position or combinations of them. Variations are always found in one more of these factors which are distinctive enough and sufficiently extensive to establish the necessary perceptible differences required to distinguish one object from another in the same category of general likenesses. We are dealing with an assembly of anatomical units each of which is a four-way variable in itself.

The school of thought which holds the belief that Nature cannot duplicate exactly, even if she so desired or had sufficient cause to do so, cites her supreme effort as exemplified by the so-called duplicate twins, considered to be the result of the division of a single fertilized egg. With all of the advantages of identical hereditary environment associated with a single egg, the duplication consists of sex only, either males or females. Extensive studies of duplicate twins of both sexes demonstrates that duplication (beyond sex) is not a totality, but is confined to close approximations, some of which are pictorial and some structural. Such features as general build, height, body bulk, color of hair, skin or eyes, mannerisms, etc., in varying combinations are the rule, but no exact duplications of all the pictorial and structural features in one twin are found in the other. In fact, like-correspondences are often found in comparing unrelated persons.

The further and more minutely an examination is carried the greater becomes the number and character of the differences. In other words "likeness" is pictorial as well as structural. The alignment of the structural factors is the foundation for the pictorial presentation of those factors. In finger prints the pictures are in the form of whorls, loops and arches. Nowhere else on the human body are there found so many anatomical structural factors grouped together in such a small area which are available for the purpose of bodily identification as in the ridged skin of our hands and feet.

Nature Always Varies

It is a fundamental principle that the more minute the characters relieved upon, the greater becomes their individualizing power. This is because of four concomitant attributes, namely, the form of the feature, its size, its position actual and relative, and its sequence in any series of anatomical characteristics. All of these four factors must agree simultaneously in any two flesh configurations or patterns as to each of several hundred anatomical units (sweat glands and their respective pores) or there is no duplication. It is also held that duplication is impossible because of the inherent variability of controlling growth factors during fetal development. Even Nature cannot duplicate them as she has no "master mold" into which all human life can be poured.

Each creation represents a master "blue print," but exhibits all of the variables inherent in individual workmanship.

Let us survey this complex and rather confusing (to the layman) situation, and try to identify and tabulate only a few of the more obvious variables that are involved in the formation of these anatomical mosaics, which we know as ridge patterns. With a fairly good picture of these elements we can the better calculate what must happen during the growth of these structural elements in the formative months of fetal life, if identical configurations are to occur. With these observations as a foundation we can then draw our own conclusions as to the possibility of duplications occurring at any time.

**A Finger Print Described**

For the purpose of this study we shall think of a finger print as an anatomical record, made by bodily contact, from and of the ridged skin configuration on the terminal phalange of a digit. We should keep in mind the difference between the mechanically made record and its fleshy matrix of origin. Viewed from the mechanical or printing standpoint there are two kinds of impressions:
(1) the most common, and the one usually meant when we use the term "finger print," is registered by the summits or crests of the ridges, which are broad enough to usually record many sweat pores, but may not if the ink or other recording medium is too abundant; (2) the second kind, more or less rare, is made in terms of the furrows and registers as fine lines which show no pore openings. Imprints from the ridge crests are comparable with those from the face of type as in using a rubber desk stamp. Records from the furrows are comparable with an imprint from an engraved plate or die, "intaglio" as the printers say. Unless otherwise noted ridge prints will be assumed.

**Finger Print Characteristics**

Reasonably clear and extensive impressions from the ridged surfaces are accepted in practice as a substantial substitute for the ridged design itself, just as we accept and use impressions from a rubber desk stamp to convey a specific message. This acceptance becomes so much a matter of routine to the professional identifier that one must be constantly on guard on becoming careless in the interpretation of a print, which is always something less than a perfect reproduction of the ridge details. To this extent it parallels the imprint from a desk stamp. As to each there must be enough recorded to convey the correct message.

Unlike desk stamps whose printing surface is smooth and all in one plane, a finger print is recorded from a relatively soft cylindrical flesh matrix which gives under pressure to conform momentarily with the plane of the printing surface, but returns to normal form immediately when the pressure is removed. Instead of presenting a smooth printing surface the crests of the ridges are microscopically uneven and the deeper parts may not be printed unless the maximum pressure is exerted. The ridged surface approximates 180 degrees of the digital cylinder which extends from the phalange articulation to the apex of the pad (pattern core area).

From the core point the ridged skin curves sharply until it meets the nail at the tip of the digit. This part may be likened to one-half of a cone. So, a finger print registers the pattern on the cylinder portion and about half of its conical terminal. How much of this conical portion is recorded depends upon pressure, the softness or firmness of the flesh, and the skill of the operator.

Because of this topographical variation and the variable printing pressures upon the soft and elastic flesh pad it is impossible to make absolutely identical prints from the same flesh matrix. The operator cannot register in his mind the precise degree of pressure, nor the number of degrees through which the cylindrical digit is rolled. Also the exact degree of softness of the flesh of the finger bulb, which may vary according to the subject's health, cannot be mentally recorded, and so the the pressure cannot be repeated with accuracy. The foregoing has assumed that the same operator takes a series of prints. If another operator prints the subject then his ignorance of the pressure and the degree of rolling previously used, defeat his ability to make identical imprints. Because of certain accepted rules for printing there will be approximations but no exact or identical duplicates.

**Identification Requisites**

Identical impressions are not necessary nor are they called for in making an identification.

Identical impressions are not necessary nor are they called for in making an identification. What is necessary is a record extensive enough and clear enough to convey the true message such a finger print is capable of delivering. The technical question is: "Is the questioned imprint from identically the same body or digit as the known standard?" The primary subject of identification is the human body. The means used for identifying it is a contact record from an available part of that body. The records cannot be identical, but the body must be.

A ridged skin imprint being a body-contact record requires the presence of the body from which it is made at the scene of a crime where chance impressions have been found, or in the place where official records are made. The body may be alertly alive, in a comatose condition, or actually dead, but it must be present in whole or in part.

Other kinds of body-contact records include casts of the jaw such as a dentist makes, or of the foot or the many varieties of moulage casts such as death masks. Portrait photographs are also anatomical records but are not body-contact records. They are made by the action of reflected light on a light-sensitive emulsion, and may vary greatly according to the lens used, the angle of the light, the quality of the light and the chemical treatment of the exposed emulsion. Each kind of record has its place in the identification process.

Because the ridged skin pattern is exclusively individual and bodily contact is necessary to make the record, we are able, through inference, to use a chance imprint found at the scene of a crime as convincing evidence of the bodily presence of the suspect, who perhaps was not seen by anyone near the place of the crime, but was apprehended at a later time and place. A finger print or any other ridged skin record is thus seen to be an evidential fact, or more accurately a series or sequence of related evidential facts of embryonic origin, permanently a part of our body, and not acquired subsequent to birth.
What Are These Evidential Anatomical Facts?

Why are these anatomical facts so convincing when added together in series? In the description of a fingerprint the phrase “anatomical record” was used. What is the nature of this record? What does it register that is so important in identification? Superficially it registers the pictorial design of the ridged skin in terms of the ridge crests. In clearly made records the ridges are seen to be studded with minute white dots aligned along the ridge axis or near to it. These dots upon close examination are seen to register the sweat pores, which are the external or surface openings of the sweat glands situated deep in the skin. For every visible pore there is an invisible gland imbedded in the flesh of the digit, and therefore permanently fixed in its actual position, as well as in its relative position to each and every other of the 100 (more or less) glands in the finger bulb or pad. So, from an evidential standpoint, a fingerprint registers the number of glands imbedded in the skin in terms of their pores or surface terminals. It also registers their precise spatial position and relationship to one another. It also registers the precise and relative positions of the pore terminals on the surface, as well as combinations of them such as forks, eyelets, etc. These are evidential facts or circumstances which took shape and became fixed for life early in the embryo development. The number of glands or “basic units” is determined by counting their pore terminals. The pore with its surrounding ring of epidermis is called a “ridge unit.” A single isolated unit is called an “island.”

Without magnification, each pore in a print appears much like any of the others, a white dot on a dark field. But with adequate magnification they are revealed to be eratically variable as to their form, size, position and sequence. These attributes are supremely critical factors because all four of them must be simultaneously identical (not merely alike) as to each and every anatomical fact or circumstance in an alleged duplicate pattern or configuration. These four factors are applicable not only to the minute pores but also to the pattern as a whole or any part of it, also to any other part of the ridged skin on palm or sole.

The process of making an identification consists of establishing a consecutive series or sequence of related anatomical facts.

Two Obvious Groups

It is obvious to every technician that these anatomical facts may be grouped into two visual categories, (1) the large or macroscopic pattern features needing little or no magnification for their analysis, (2) the minute microscopic features needing magnification for their analysis. To the macroscopic category belong the patterns as a whole, including the deltas and pictorial contours. The microscopic category consists almost wholly of the pores externally situated and the glands which require dissection for their examination.

In general, pattern forms vary within rather definite limits. Galton first defined and named these forms arches, loops and whorls, each form possessing exclusive characteristics separating it from the other two. Each category became a “Class.” The definitive characteristic for the whorl class is the presence of at least two triangular deltas or furrow plots; for the loop class it is the presence of but one delta, and for the arch class it is the absence of any delta, although a vestige may be present.

Further Subdivisions

More detailed studies by Galton of the whorl class revealed stable variations in the direction and relationships of the typelines or radiants. These relationships he used to separate the two-delta class of patterns into nine subclasses which he graded as “Genera.” Further studies by myself disclose that each genus can be subdivided into species and subspecies. Working backward from Galton’s genera I found stable characteristics which could be used to subdivide these forms into families and orders. So we have a consecutive series of form variations which can be graded under the same divisional names or categories that zoologists and botanists use for grading animals and plants. In their regular sequence these grades are: class, order, family, genus, species and subspecies. The varieties under subspecies are so variable that further subclassing is very difficult if not impracticable.

After determining the pattern subspecies and its size, the next step is usually the consideration of the ridge details such as forks, eyelets, islands, etc., noting their form, size, position and sequence. These characteristics comprise the microscopic group and for demonstration purposes require photographic enlargement. If the situation requires the comparison of the form, size, position and sequence of the pores (ridge units) then adequate magnification plus enlargement becomes necessary.

The process of making an identification consists of establishing a consecutive series or sequence of related anatomical facts, any one of which might be found in any other series or association, but all of which in sequence can conceivably coexist in a single pattern only; in other words spell but one anatomical name.

As an illustration of sequence variation take the alphabetical letter sequence A-M-R-Y. In their alphabetical order they spell no present English word, but each letter character has its exclusive individuality as does a ridge unit or pore. Now, arrange the letters in the sequence MARY, or the series ARMY, or the series MYRA, and
instantly we have a related series of alphabetical circumstances any one of which may be found in other sequences but when taken together as a related series spells but one name. The significance of sequence is intensified when we consider the thousands of words made by varying the number and the sequence of but a few of the 26 letters of our alphabet, or of the ten Arabic numerals.

Unlimited Ridge Formations

Carry over the idea of sequence into the anatomical field of ridge patterns and the result is the same, but with this difference, that the basic units and the ridge units are not limited in number to 26 static forms, but are practically unlimited as to their form, size, position and sequence. Their combinations are also unlimited so that there is no necessity in nature for exact duplication of details. Duplication would require Nature to repeat in microscopic detail a related series of ridge units, each of which is a four-way variable by itself! If this is possible then there must be simultaneous and identical agreement in two separate embryos in two digits of the same fetus of at least the following 13 variables:

1. The Shape (Topography) and-
2. The Size of the fetal finger bulb down to the smallest dimension.
3. The Form or pattern alignment of the hundreds of sub-surface sweat glands must be identical in both areas.
4. The several hundred ridge units on the surface must fuse together so as to create ridges, forks and other ridge characteristics of identically the same number of units.
5. The pattern contours of homologous ridges and their length must be identical in both areas.
6. The Form, and-
7. The Position of homologous ridge unit groups such as forks, eyelets, islands, etc., must be identical.
8. The angle of forking and-
9. The direction of forking must be identical.
10. The Form, and-
11. The Size of homologous pores, and-
12. The Position of the pores, relative to the ridge axis, and-
13. To each other, must be identical.

Pattern Types Vary, Too

In addition to the foregoing microscopic details past studies have shown that the general pattern forms fall naturally into an orderly gradation of pattern types beginning with the parent 2-delta whorl and degenerating through several well defined stages ending with the deltaless arch, as illustrated in the "Finger Print Family Tree." The whorl degenerates into composite forms which are divisible into several subspecies. Then, through the degeneration of one of its deltas the composite becomes a one delta transitional or neuter loop possessing a distinct vestige of the lost delta. This Neuter Loop loses its vestigial delta and becomes a Pure Loop with but one delta. The Pure Loop modifies into a transitional form known as the "Tented Arch" in which the distal radiant, standing erect, becomes the axis or "tent pole." Nature then eliminates this distinguishing feature leaving not even the vestige of a pattern, the whole configuration consisting of transverse ridges, slightly arched in the center or core area, known as the Pure Arch. For duplicate ridge patterns to occur, each of these gradations must be identical with its respective type level. In other words the two patterns must conform to the zoological formula of:

- 1. Class
- 2. Order
- 3. Family
- 4. Genus
- 5. Species
- 6. Subspecies
- 7. Variety
- 8. Size. In addition to these form variations the size of the two patterns must be identical.

So, adding together these interdependent and individually variable attributes we find that there are 21 of them, each one associated with each of the other 20 variables. It is necessary that each variable be identical with a homologous variable in two separate areas!

Bringing all of these threads together at a focal point and applying the "Rule of Reason," is the duplication of such a required series of genetic variables conceivable? To repeat, Nature has no master mold into which all human life can be pored and from which she can turn out exact duplicates. Obviously, she does not work from a master blue print, and therefore the results exhibit all of the variabilities inherent in individual workmanship. Nature's supreme effort to duplicate through the splitting of a single fertilized egg results only in the duplication of sex. Even the bilateralism of our external body is usually far from exact when critically examined. It seems to have as its limits many very close pictorial and structural correspondences which constantly fall short of being identical. By-and-large the pictorial and structural ensemble is close enough for artistic and practical purposes.

Because of the mental and mechanical variables involved in the recording process, identical finger impressions are impossible; and because of a multitude of genetic growth variables in the fetus identical ridge patterns are impossible. It is therefore quite apparent that Judge Beauchamp's proposal to shift the burden of proof is realistic and in line with the most recent scientific conclusions. The premise: "No Duplication of a Ridge Pattern is Possible," rests on sound biological evidences.

(Editor -- Some interesting and informative observations, relating to the basics, which have stood fast for nearly fifty years since this article first appeared.)
(The following paper is the Anaheim Police Department's Training Bulletin regarding the topic which was presented at April 9, 1994 SCAFO meeting)

Speaker JIM CONLEY
Anaheim Police Department

STALKERS

Stalkers can be men or women, rich or poor. Over 80% of all stalkers suffer from some form of psychiatric problem (i.e., schizophrenia, manic depression, or erotomania).

There are three main categories of stalkers:

1. Simple Obsessional - Suspect, usually male, knows the victim as an ex-spouse, ex-lover, or former boss and begins a campaign of harassment.
2. Love Obsessional - Suspect is a stranger to the victim, but is obsessed with the victim and mounts a campaign of harassment to make the victim aware of the stalker's existence.
3. Erotomania - Suspect, usually female, falsely believes the victim, usually someone famous or rich, is in love with them.

Of the three types of stalkers, the Simple Obsessional are the most dangerous, because they are the most likely to carry out their threats.

VICTIMS

Stalker victims can be either men or women, but women are frequently the victims. Most victims are private citizens and not public figures, but all victims share the feeling that they have lost control of their lives due to the harassment of the stalker.

Occasionally, you will encounter a victim who falsely reports being stalked. The False Victim Syndrome results from the conscious desire to be placed in the role of a victim, but this syndrome is rare.

INTERVENTION IS THE KEY TO A LONG TERM SOLUTION

Stalkers are clever and manipulative, so reason and negotiation have not been effective ways of dealing with them. Intervention has been shown to produce the best results.

The first step to a positive intervention begins with a thorough investigation and complete documentation of your findings. Be certain to document the repetitiveness of the unwanted contacts, threats, and harassment which are elements in most stalking-related crimes.

Victim assistance is an important element in intervention. The officers need to explain to the victim that the stalking is not their fault and that a solution to the problem may take a long time to work out. The officer should point out that the victim can help in the process by participating in counseling, joining support groups, and by modifying some of his or her behaviors.

Victims should:

1. Learn to say "NO" with no conditions and no efforts to spare the feelings of the unwanted suitor.
2. Never negotiate with stalkers, as stalkers crave that kind of attention.
3. Change their phone numbers or get a second line letting the stalker think he is still getting through.
4. Get an answer phone to screen calls and record threats or harassment.
5. Keep a log of phone calls, contacts, and sightings, and copies of all notes and letters.
6. Get a post office box if mail is involved or if the victim moves.
7. Change their social locations, avoiding locations where they know they are likely to meet the stalker.
8. And in extreme situations, the victim should consider changing jobs, residence, and identity.

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SUSPECT INTERVENTION
Officers should make arrests whenever appropriate.
Common stalker offenses include:
166.4 - Violation of a Court Order
273.6 - Violation of a Court Order
(Domestic Violence)
422 - Terrorist Threats
519 - Extortion
523 - Threatening letters to extort property
594 - Malicious Mischief
601a - Trespass after a threat (felony)
602 - Any trespass
646.9 - Stalking (felony - when in violation of
restraining order)
653m - Annoying and threatening phone calls and
any other violation that occurs.

When looking for other methods for prosecution, do
not overlook U.S. Code Title 18 sections 875, 876,
and 877. These sections deal with threats by U.S.
mail and interstate threats by phone. Take an A.O.D.
report for the post office or the F.B.I. and forward a
copy to the Major Assault Detail.

When an arrest is made, the suspect should be
incarcerated to increase the effect of the arrest and an
increase in bail should be requested for victim safety.
NOTE: If the suspect is booked for WIC 5150, he is
prohibited from possessing a firearm for five years per
WIC 8103(f)(1).

Encourage the victim to get a temporary restraining
order, which is necessary to get a felony conviction
for stalking under 646.9 PC or misdemeanor
convictions under 166.4 and 273.6 when domestic
violence is involved.

It is important that we take aggressive action against
stalking early, so regardless of the type of crime you
are investigating, if you suspect that stalking is
involved, send a copy of your report to the Major
Assault Detail.

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FINGERPRINTING MAY HELP OFFICIALS GET A GRIP ON STOPPING WELFARE FRAUD

(The following is a story which appeared in the San Gabriel Tribune on January 20, 1994. Thank you Dale Falicon/LASD for this contribution.)

By ARlENE LEVINSON
Associated Press

Syracuse, N.Y.--After two hours shuffling through Onondaga County welfare offices in the slow train of worried men, harried women and their cranky kids, Sandy Vogel reached the last stop. It was her turn to get fingerprinted.

"Cool," said Vogel, a 37-year-old unemployed bartender. After some uncertainty, she pressed her index fingers onto tiny glass plates and saw her unique swirls fill the operator's computer screen.

Taking fingerprints to deter welfare cheats is the latest response to a public that is tired of shelling out for the poor and suspects many recipients are crooks.

Advocates say fingerprinting saves money. Mindful of privacy concerns, they promise not to share prints with others, such as police or tax collectors.

Skeptics say fingerprinting slaps a criminal stigma on desperate people. They question claims of savings and say privacy protections may change.

What's more, fingerprinting does not prevent the more likely fraud of illegal work under the table. Nor does it address welfare's cause.

"To us it represents a bunch of terror taking place against the victims of poverty," charged Marian Kramer, president of the National Welfare Rights Union, based in Highland Park, Mich. "Because of an economic situation that has excluded us from being able to provide food, shelter and clothing for our family, they tell us: 'You are a criminal.'"

The advocates dismiss the objections.

Said Douglas Besharov, resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, a Washington think tank: "If this does save money, does it nevertheless violate people's right to privacy? Speaking as someone who drives a car and has his photograph on record, I wouldn't be that insulted if someone wanted my thumbprint.

"If there's that much fraud, let's catch it."

(Thanks to Bill Corson for these two Tax timely thoughts.)

"Worth Repeating"

"There is one difference between a tax collector and a taxidermist -- the taxidermist leaves the hide."

"If Patrick Henry thought that taxation without representation was bad, he should see how bad it is with representation."

(Thanks to Bill Corson for these two Tax timely thoughts.)

Said Douglas Besharov, resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, a Washington think tank: "If this does save money, does it nevertheless violate people's right to privacy? Speaking as someone who drives a car and has his photograph on record, I wouldn't be that insulted if someone wanted my thumbprint.

"If there's that much fraud, let's catch it."

(Thanks to Bill Corson for these two Tax timely thoughts.)

The Los Angeles County Department of Social Services went to live scan and an AFIS system a couple of years ago. How many non-traditional or non-law enforcement applications for our science are in use and what do we know of them?)
Letter from the President

Greetings, I look forward to the April meeting since it will be Past-Presidents’ Night. This is a night that the membership can appreciate and honor the accomplishments these individuals made to our organization. It’s always interesting to hear the stories from past meetings and the history of our Association.

I was recently informed that Past-President Joseph Head Member #321 has passed away. Joe died of complications of a stroke on January 31st at the age of 83. Joe started his career in 1933 with the Beverly Hills Police Department and soon became the Superintendent of Records. Within this position, he pioneered and organized what is now the Identification Bureau and in 1948 became the 12th President of SCAFO. With a very successful career of 32 years, he retired in 1965 and started another career with TRW in the computer sector. He retired TRW after 11 years. My sincere condolences to his lovely wife of 55 years, Mary-Alice. His presence is felt in the Lab, especially in all the memorable photos taken during his long career. Joe, we will miss you dearly.

SCAFO will have a table available at the C.S.D.I.A.I. seminar in Yosemite. Please encourage non-members to stop by and pick-up literature regarding our Association. In addition, if you would like to volunteer to help with the table, please contact Diana Castro. She will welcome any help possible.

We are compiling information for the 1994 Membership Handbook. If you have any changes with addresses, phone numbers, etc., please contact the Secretary/Treasurer - Bill Leo.

Our next meeting will be hosted by Jim Lawson in Irvine. I hope to see all of you there.

Warm Regards,

Clark Fogg

"Every man owes a part of his time and money to the business or industry in which he is engaged. No man has a moral right to withhold his support from an organization that is striving to improve conditions within his sphere."

- President Theodore Roosevelt - 1908

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April Meeting Minutes

Date: April 9, 1994
Location: Royal Cut
Host: Mary Nolte

Amounts Received
48 Dinners @ $25.00 $1200.00
Door Prizes 49.00
Fines

Amounts Dispersed
Dinners $1103.63
Door Prizes 49.00
Fines

Totals $1256.25 $1152.63

Net Gain $103.62
Attendance Drawing Not Won

The meeting was called to order at 2010 hours by President Clark Fogg. Flag salute was led by Past President Don Fandry. Past Presidents in attendance were: Don Fandry, Dick Bradley, Joe Mann, Steve Evans, Tim Golt, Lynette Atwood and Mary Nolte.

Program:
The Crime of Stalking
Jim Conley
Anaheim Police Department

Old Business:
Swear in of new member
Mike Yandell -- San Bernardino P.D.
by Past President Don Fandry

Second Reading: (motion to accept)
Mariah O'Donnell -- Forensic Student (for Assoc. Mem.)
Teresa Hendrick -- L.A.S.D.
Motion by Bill Leo -- L.A.S.D.
2nd by Lynette Atwood -- Long Beach P.D.

New Business:
First Reading:
Suzanne Spilman -- L.A. Co. Auditor/Controller Office
recommended by Don Fandry
Sylvia Hill -- L.A.P.D.
recommended by Bill Leo

Announcements:
The condition of Jack Fives has remained unchanged, however he has been transferred to Wadsworth -- Veterans Administration Hospital.

Attendance Drawing:
Not won by Abe Catabay, Kurt Kuhn or John Torres
$40.00 next month.

The meeting was adjourned at 2120 hours.
An Alternative Method
Of Photographing
Cyanoacrylate
Developed Latent
Prints

Can Two Identical
Ridge Patterns
Actually Occur—
Either on Different
Persons or on the Same
Person?

April Meeting
Presentation
"Stalking"

Fingerprinting May
Help Officials Get A
Grip on Stopping
Welfare Fraud

President's Letter
April Meeting Minutes

--- Upcoming Events/Schools/Seminars ---

April 18 - 21, 1994
C.S.D.I.A.I. 78th Annual Training Seminar
Tenaya Lodge at Yosemite, CA

April 25 - May 6, 1994
Field Evidence Technician Course
C.S.U.L.B. -- Criminal Justice Center

May 7, 1994
S.C.A.F.O. Meeting
Host Jim Lawson -- NCIS-San Diego

June 6, 1994
S.C.A.F.O. Meeting
Host Lynette Atwood -- Long Beach P.D.

June 13 - 24, 1994
Field Evidence Technician Course
C.S.U.L.B. -- Criminal Justice Center

July
No S.C.A.F.O. Meeting

July 24 - 30, 1994
I.A.I. 79th Annual Training Seminar
Phoenix, AZ

August 6, 1994
S.C.A.F.O. Meeting
Host Clark Fogg -- Beverly Hills P.D.

Sept 10, 1994
4th Annual S.C.A.F.O. Training Seminar
(location to be announced)

October 19 - 22, 1994
Personal Identification Course
Pasadena, CA

C.A.C. & Forensic Science Society

July 1995
I.A.I. 80th Annual Training Seminar
Costa Mesa, CA

Southern California Association of Fingerprint Officers
An Association for Scientific Investigation and Identification Since 1937