

CURRICULUM VITAE

Thomas W. Vastrick

1. Education and Training

Bachelor of Science in Forensic Science from California State University at Sacramento, 1977.

Two year, full-time, in-residence training program with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service Headquarters Crime Laboratory in Washington, DC from 1977 through 1979.

2. Experience

Full-time Forensic Document Examiner with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service Southern Region Crime Laboratory from 1980 through 1992.

Private consulting services in Forensic Document Examination since 1990.

Examinations involve handwriting, hand printing, alterations, typewriting, indented writing, counterfeiting, ink & paper analyses, burned document restoration, and mechanical impressions.

3. Courtroom Testimony

Have testified as an expert in Forensic Document Examination over 250 times and have been accepted as an expert every time. Have testified in federal, state and local courts along with military hearings, arbitration hearings and administrative law hearings.

Have testified in Federal District Court in:

Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas.

Have testified in the following state courts:

Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas.

4. Certification

Certified through technical testing by the American Board of Forensic Document Examiners (ABFDE) since 1982. The ABFDE is the only certification body that is recognized by all federal government agencies employing Forensic Document Examiners along with many state and municipal law enforcement agencies. The ABFDE is also the only certification board that meets published ASTM standards for required education and training. The ABFDE is accredited by Forensic Specialties Accreditation Board (FSAB).

Served on the ABFDE Board of Directors 1987 to 1995.

Served as Secretary of the ABFDE Board of Directors 1991 to 1995.

5. Professional Affiliations

- American Society of Questioned Document Examiners
 - Newsletter Editor - 1983 through 1992
 - Program Chairman – 1993
 - Journal Editorial Staff – 2000 to present
 - Regular Member
- American Academy of Forensic Sciences
 - Fellow - Questioned Documents Section
- Southeast Association of Forensic Document Examiners
 - Program Chairman – 1997, 1998, 2000, 2011
 - Workshop Facilitator – 1998, 2001
 - Regular Member

- Scientific Working Group – Forensic Document Examination
Main SWGDOC Committee – 1999 to 2001
Legal Issues Sub-committee Chairman – 1999 to 2001
Executive Committee – 1999 to 2001
Working Committee – 2001 to present
- ASTM International
E-30 Forensic Science Committee
E-30.02 Questioned Document Subcommittee

6. Published Research Papers

- ***A NON-DESTRUCTIVE PRELIMINARY TEST FOR THE DETERMINATION OF PAGE INSERTION OF A MULTIPAGED QUESTIONED DOCUMENT*** - published in Identification News, Vol. 31, No. 9, September, 1981.
- ***CHECKWRITER IDENTIFICATION - INDIVIDUALITY*** - published in Journal of Forensic Science, Vol. 27, No. 1, January, 1982.
- ***ILLUSIONS OF TRACING*** - published in Journal of Forensic Science, Vol. 27, No.1, January, 1982.
- ***THE EXAMINATION OF NOTARY SEALS*** - published in Journal of Forensic Science, Vol. 27, No. 4, October 1982.
- ***THE FORENSIC VALUE OF RIGHT-HAND JUSTIFICATION*** - published in Forensic Science International, 1990.
- ***FRAUD AND QUESTIONED DOCUMENT EXAMINATION*** - Published in The White Paper, Vol. 7, No. 2, April-May, 1993.
- ***SOLVE THE CROSS WORD PUZZLE*** - Published in Security Management, December, 1994.
- ***DEPOSING FORENSIC EXPERT WITNESSES: AN EXPERT'S VIEWPOINT*** - Published in The Memphis Bar Association Magazine, December, 1995.
- ***HAS THAT DOCUMENT BEEN ALTERED*** - Published in The Florida Defender, Fall, 1998.
- ***THE UNIQUENESS OF HANDWRITING*** - Published in the inaugural edition of the Journal of American Society of Questioned Document Examiners, Vol. 1 No. 1, 1998.
- ***INDENTED WRITING: THE INVISIBLE EVIDENCE*** - Published in The Florida Defender, Fall, 1999.
- ***SELECTING A QUALIFIED FORENSIC DOCUMENT EXAMINER*** - Published in The Florida Defender, Fall, 2001.
- ***CLUES OF INK*** - Published in FSA Times (The Institute of Internal Auditors), Vol. 2, No. 2, 2003.
- ***ADMISSIBILITY ISSUES IN FORENSIC DOCUMENT EXAMINATION*** - Published in Journal of American Society of Questioned Document Examiners, Vol 7, No. 1, 2004.
- ***IS IT REAL? PROVING (OR DISPROVING) THE AUTHENTICITY OF IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS*** – Published by Tennessee Bar Journal, Vol. 42, No. 7, 2006.

7. Presentation of Professional Papers

- ***CHECKWRITER IDENTIFICATION*** - ASQDE, Rochester, NY, 1979.
- ***AN UPDATE OF MODEL DIFFERENTIATION OF CHECKWRITERS BY DOMESTIC MANUFACTURERS*** - ASQDE - North Lake Tahoe, NV, 1983.
- ***THE USE OF VIDEOTAPES TO ENHANCE COURTROOM PRESENTATIONS*** - ASQDE, Montreal, Canada, 1985.
- ***PLASTIC PAPER AS A QUESTIONED DOCUMENT*** - ASQDE, Savannah, GA, 1986.
- ***STANDARD REGISTER CHECKWRITERS*** - ASQDE, San Jose, CA, 1990.
- ***COMPARATIVE ANALYSES OF PHOTOGRAPHIC FILMS, PAPERS, CHEMICALS AND TECHNIQUES FOR USE ON DEMONSTRATIVE COURT CHARTS*** - ASQDE, Kissimmee, FL, 1991.
- ***A NEW DOMESTIC CHECKWRITER MANUFACTURER*** - ASQDE, Ottawa, Canada, 1993.
- ***COMPUTERIZED HANDWRITING*** - ASQDE, Long Beach, CA, 1994.

- **THE UNIQUENESS OF HANDWRITING - SURVEY RESULTS** - ASQDE, Chicago, IL, 1995.
- **PRESENTATION SOFTWARE** - ASQDE, Chicago, IL, 1995.
- **A COLLECTION OF FAX FONTS, PART II** (Contributor) - ASQDE, Chicago, IL, 1995.
- **THE THIRD EXAMINER** - ASQDE, Phoenix, AZ, 1997.
- **AN OVERVIEW OF POINT AND SHOOT DIGITAL CAMERAS** – AAFS, San Francisco, CA, 1998.
- **THE EXPERT CRITIC IN A CIVIL MATTER** – SAFDE, Atlanta, GA, 1999.
- **A CRITICAL LOOK AT CRITICS** – MAFS/SWAFS joint meeting, Cape Gerardeau, MO, 1999.
- **THE SKILL LEVEL OF PSEUDO-TREMOR** – ASQDE, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, 2000.
- **HOW KNOWN ARE THOSE KNOWN** – AAFS, Atlanta, GA, 2002.
- **HANDWRITING IDENTIFICATION – BACK TO REALITY** – ASQDE, San Diego, CA, 2002.
- **THE PITFALLS OF BAD SCIENCE** – ASQDE, Memphis, TN, 2004.
- **CASE REVIEW: METHODOLOGY STANDARDIZATION** – ASQDE, Boulder, CO, 2007.

8. Books

- **THE CLASSIFICATION AND IDENTIFICATION OF CHECKWRITERS** - a monograph published by The American Board of Forensic Document Examiners, 1991.
- **FORENSIC DOCUMENT EXAMINATION TECHNIQUES** – published by The Institute of Internal Auditors Research Foundation, 2004, ISBN 0-89413-541-4.
- **FORENSIC SCIENCE AND LAW: INVESTIGATIVE APPLICATIONS IN CRIMINAL, CIVIL AND FAMILY JUSTICE** – published by CRC Press, 2005, ISBN 0-8493-1970-6 (contributing author).
- **SCIENTIFIC EXAMINATION OF QUESTIONED DOCUMENTS – SECOND EDITION** – published by CRC Press, 2006, ISBN 0-8493-2044-5 (contributing author).

9. Teaching Experience

Have conducted lectures and workshops for Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, University of Memphis Law School, University of Central Florida, National Center for Forensic Science, State Technical Institute at Memphis, Institute of Police Technology & Management's Public Safety Institute Division, Institute of Internal Auditors, state bar association conventions, district attorneys general convention, banks, insurance investigators, fraud investigators, private investigators, attorneys, law enforcement personnel and other document examiners concerning handwriting specimens, detecting forgeries and alterations and capabilities of Forensic Document Examiners.

Primary trainer for interns in forensic document examination from University of Central Florida.

Course Administrator for National Center for Forensic Sciences post graduate certificate course

Training officer for government document examiners supplemental training, Instituto de Ciencias Forenses de Puerto Rico.

Have conducted technical workshops concerning handwriting, signatures, legal issues and checkwriters at various regional and national conferences of forensic document examiners.