



Latent Print Advanced Testimony Workshop

ABSTRACT: As the scientific reliability of friction ridge evidence continues to be challenged, latent print examiners must be prepared to defend their science in the courtroom. Recent reports from the NAS and NIST have identified perceived weaknesses in the latent print discipline and have generated questions of reliability in the courtroom. As new research becomes available and limitations of the discipline are better understood, latent print testimony has had to evolve. Through presentations and group discussions, participants will discuss how to rely on published research and best practices to support the scientific reliability of friction ridge evidence during testimony.

LOCATION

Spokane County Sheriff's Office Regional Training Center
6011 North Chase Road, Newman Lake, WA 99025

DATE/TIME

December 1 & 2, 2015
8AM to 4PM

REGISTRATION

\$99.00 per person

Please go to <http://www.spokanecounty.org/sheriff/training/> to register for this class.

INSTRUCTORS

Melissa R. Gische, Physical Scientist/Forensic Examiner, FBI Laboratory
Krystal N. Watts, Physical Scientist/Forensic Examiner, FBI Laboratory

Melissa Gische is a Physical Scientist/Forensic Examiner in the Latent Print Operations Unit at the Federal Bureau of Investigation Laboratory in Quantico, VA. She has qualified as an expert witness in the discipline of latent prints and testified in federal and state court. Melissa is Chair of the Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) Friction Ridge Subcommittee. Melissa received a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychobiology from the University of California, Los Angeles and a Master of Forensic Sciences degree in Forensic Science from The George Washington University.

Krystal Watts is a Physical Scientist/Forensic Examiner with the Latent Print Operations Unit at the Federal Bureau of Investigation Laboratory in Quantico, Virginia. She received her Bachelor of Science degrees in Biochemistry/Molecular Biology and Psychology from Washington State University in Pullman, Washington. She received her Master of Arts degree in Forensic Psychology from Marymount University in Arlington, Virginia. Krystal's current duties include casework and agent training.

For more information, contact Jeremy Jeske at scso@spokanesherriff.org or 509-477-3211