



Document #100

***Latent to Latent Examinations
(Latent)
Position Statement***

Latent to latent automated and manual comparisons are conducted by many agencies. There is value to identifying a common donor of multiple latent friction ridge impressions despite the absence of the donor's name or anatomical origin of the friction ridge impression. Latent to latent individualizations may link an unknown serial offender to multiple cases.

Latent to latent examinations are conducted by examiners trained to competency using the same ACE-V method and resulting conclusions used in other friction ridge examinations. Because of the additional potential for low specificity of features, significant distortion, and limited comparable area, latent to latent friction ridge impression examinations are often complex, as defined in the SWGFAST *Standards for Examining Friction Ridge Impressions and Resulting Conclusions* document.

Additional quality assurance measures should occur, such as enhanced verification (e.g., a blind verification or multiple verifiers) as outlined in the SWGFAST *Standards for Examining Friction Ridge Impressions and Resulting Conclusions* document.

Extensive documentation of the relevant features used as a basis for a conclusion shall be conducted insofar as possible to the SWGFAST *Documentation of Analysis, Comparison, Evaluation and Verification* standard, recognizing that some elements (such as name, finger position or matrix/substrate information) may not be possible to document.

Some identifications are effected where portions of the ridge detail in one impression are missing from the other. If latent to latent individualizations have linked multiple latent prints in a case and exemplars are later received, it is at the discretion of the agency whether to compare all of the latent impressions to the received exemplars. It is recommended to individually compare each of those associated latent prints to the received exemplars. It is acceptable to report latent to latent individualizations to an exemplar when only one of the latent impressions has been identified to the exemplar (Figure 1). Agency policy should address latent to latent comparisons.

Document #100 Latent to Latent Examinations – Position Statement Ver. 1.0	Date of First Issue 09/11/12	Current Issue Date 09/11/12 Web Posting Date 11/24/12
Date of Last Review N/A	Date of Next Review 09-2017	Appendix present/Letter No

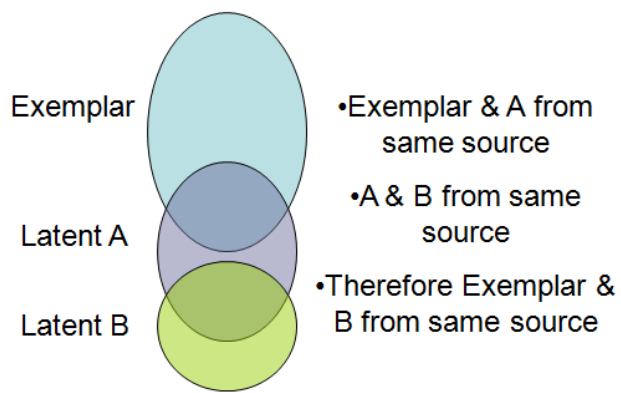


Figure 1

Document #100 Latent to Latent Examinations – Position Statement Ver. 1.0	Date of First Issue 09/11/12	Current Issue Date 09/11/12 Web Posting Date 11/24/12
Date of Last Review N/A	Date of Next Review 09-2017	Appendix present/Letter No

Revision Table

Version	Effective Start	Effective End	Posted	Archived	Change
1.0	09/11/12	N/A	11/24/12	N/A	Original Issue

Document #100 Latent to Latent Examinations – Position Statement Ver. 1.0	Date of First Issue 09/11/12	Current Issue Date 09/11/12 Web Posting Date 11/24/12
Date of Last Review N/A	Date of Next Review 09-2017	Appendix present/Letter No