

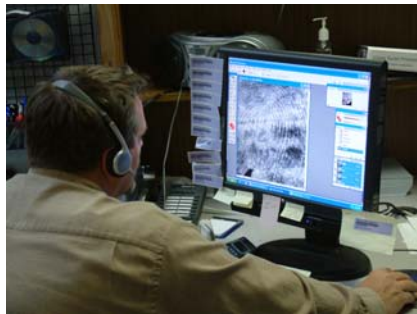
WSP CRIME LABORATORY DIVISION NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the WSP Crime Laboratory Division Newsletter for February 2007. With these letters, we hope to be able to share information about the crime lab division, spotlight significant and interesting cases, and answer any questions you may have.

Spotlight for February



Alternate Light Source



Enhancing a latent print



Photographing a latent print

LATENT PRINTS LABORATORY

The Latent Prints Laboratory is eager to inform our user agencies of our improved services.

To meet the needs of our users, we have expanded our laboratory space, hired more staff, and fully equipped two crime scene vans. Our backlog is constantly being reduced and we continue our work to improve turnaround time and case completion.

We are pleased to get the word out now that the Latent Print Laboratory is positioned to provide the services you need in a timely manner: processing evidence; latent print evaluation and comparisons; consultation and testimony; crime scene processing or guidance. We can also customize latent print processing training to fit your needs from very basic to complex, including training in preserving latent impressions in various ways, even to include digital photography.

The Latent Prints Lab has also developed and is offering a 2 day training program for “Crime Scene Processing for Latent Prints.” Please contact the Latent Prints laboratory for more information. The training announcement is available at the following link:

http://www.wsp.wa.gov/crime/cld_training/Crime_Scene_Processing_for_Latent_Prints.pdf

If you have any questions, the Latent Prints Laboratory can be reached at (360) 705-5988, or mail at PO Box 42608, Olympia, WA 98504-2608.

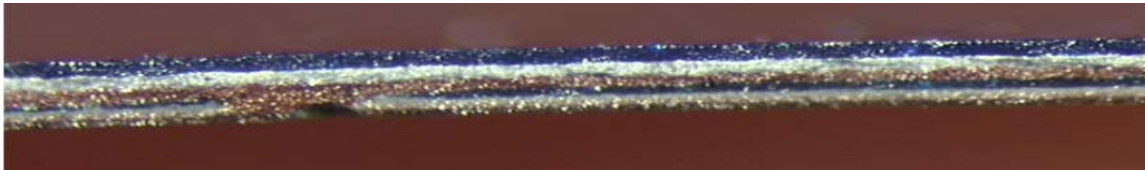
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CASE STUDY



Case Study 1: In October 2004, Mark Mathot, a teacher in Asotin County, was found dead and partially buried at his remote home. His brother, Matthew Mathot, was suspected of being involved in his death. The WSP CSRT from Spokane responded to the Asotin County Sheriff's Office request for assistance. Over two days, the team excavated the body and collected several items of evidence from the property. The suspect was later apprehended in the Portland, OR area in possession of the victim's truck and credit cards. Glenn Davis examined several items for the presence of DNA. Of the submitted items, the suspect's clothing would prove fruitful; a pocket of the suspect's pants contained an Oregon voter's registration card in Mark Mathot's name (who was a resident of Washington at the time of his death). The suspect's shoes were examined and found to have blood on them. When typed, the DNA typing profile from the blood on the suspect's shoes matched the reference sample from his deceased brother. Additionally, William Schneck found the shoes to match bloody footwear impressions observed in Mark Mathot's home. Stan McGee examined the bullet recovered from the body and gave them a list of possible weapons from which it could have come.

This case went to trial August 10. Forensic Scientists Glenn Davis, Stan McGee, and William Schneck testified to the findings of their analyses. On August 17, the jury found Matthew Mathot guilty of first degree felony murder, first degree robbery, and two second degree charges of theft and identity theft. He is scheduled to be sentenced on September 6 and is facing a maximum sentence for all charges combined of nearly 50 years in prison. The time served will run concurrently.



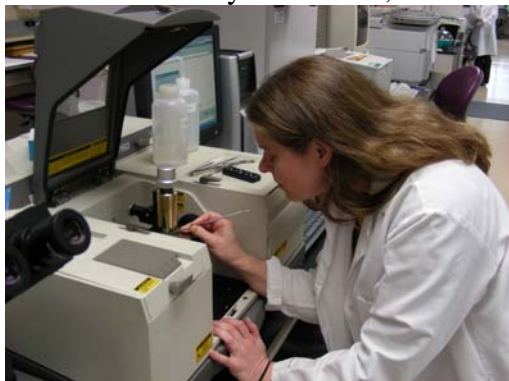
Multilayered Automotive Paint Chip (Repaint)

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

1. **How much do we charge for our services?** We do **not** charge for our services. Our budget is funded through the Washington State Patrol and our services are available to any city, county, or state law enforcement agency involved in a criminal investigation. We receive most of our funding from the State Legislature in its biennial budget cycle.
2. **How should DNA reference samples be collected from victims and suspects?** To collect a sample, oral swabs are preferred. Four oral swabs (minimum) are sufficient to provide for any testing, re-testing, and quality control that would be necessary. Make sure that the subjects do not have anything in their mouths (food, tobacco products, etc.) for at least 15 minutes. Use sterile swabs and rub the swabs on the inside of the cheeks. The swabs can be dried, packaged together in paper as the same item, then frozen. Liquid blood samples in lavender topped tubes are acceptable, but not necessary. Please do not use the WSP Convicted Offender oral swab collection kit.
3. **How can I contact my local lab?**
We operate 7 laboratories across the state:
Marysville: (360) 651-6503
Seattle: (206) 262-6020
Tacoma: (253) 536-4280
Latent Prints: (360) 705-5988
Vancouver: (360) 993-3800
Kennewick: (509) 734-7022
Spokane: (509) 625-5401

If you have questions about forensic science or our crime lab division, please feel free to contact any of the labs, and someone should be able to help you.



Sampling on an Infrared Spectrometer



Microscopic examination of a plaster cast