



ACCREDITED FOR
**TECHNICAL
COMPETENCE**

Biological examination inc.
DNA
Chemical Criminalistics
Fingerprint Examination
Forensic Document
Examination



forensic
FOUNDATIONS™
ISO 9001 & ISO/IEC 17043

2022

Proficiencytesting @ forensicfoundations



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Background and test design

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ISO17025:2017 identifies **risk management** as an integral component of any scientific testing.

Participation in Proficiency Testing and Inter-laboratory Collaborative Trials are an integral component of **risk management** in the practice of Forensic Science.

Risks occur at **all** stages of the forensic process. Some of the risks to be considered with the forensic process have been provided in Appendix A.

Proficiency tests and inter-laboratory collaborative trials are most useful when used by organisations, and individuals, to review their results against ground truth data and to benchmark their processes against other organisations and practitioners. This includes a comparison of methods, reporting, and reporting terminology.

The AS 5388 'Forensic Analysis' and the ISO 21043 'Forensic Sciences' series of Standards describe the forensic examination process from collection to reporting. Forensic Foundations has adopted this framework and Forensic Foundations' Proficiency Tests and Inter-laboratory Collaborative Trials commence with item collection and/or receipt followed by the subsequent examination / analysis steps, culminating in reporting the results, thus reflecting actual forensic casework.

Forensic Foundations is accredited to ISO17043 'Conformity Assessment – General requirements for proficiency testing' in the fields of forensic biology including DNA, chemical criminalistics fingerprint examination and document examination. Inter-laboratory Collaborative Trials are also offered where the test is still in the development phase and/or the test is in a niche area of expertise. These trials also comply with the requirements of ISO17043.

Forensic Foundations' Proficiency Tests encompass the requirements/recommendations of:

- ISO/IEC17025:2017 General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories
- NATA General Accreditation Criteria Proficiency Testing Policy (2018)
- NATA Specific Accreditation Criteria: ISO/IEC 17025 Application Document, Legal (including Forensic Science) – Appendix (2018)
- ANAB ISO/IEC 17025:2017 – Forensic Science Testing and Calibration Laboratories Accreditation Requirements (2019)
- ANAB Accreditation Manual for Forensic Service Providers (2019)
- Standards on the NIST OSAC Registry
- Guidance on the Conduct of Proficiency Tests and Collaborative Exercises Within ENSFI (2014).

Forensic Foundations' Proficiency Tests are specifically designed to address the following:

- Maintaining relevance to forensic science laboratories casework
- Limitation of any potential context information
- Knowledge of the 'ground truth' of the samples
- Cost affordability for the laboratories.

The Final Reports from the Forensic Foundations Proficiency Tests will be publicly available via the Forensic Foundations' website, however individual laboratory results will remain confidential. Participants may use the Final Report as outlined in their own respective laboratory policies.

Pricing structure

The pricing structure has been calculated to be affordable and flexible.

Please contact Forensic Foundations for further information.

Description		Cost (inc. freight)
Proficiency Test	Test samples and associated paperwork is provided. Submitted results are peer reviewed Final report including manufacturer's information provided for each test.	AUD750 Approx. USD550
Training Kit	Test samples, associated paperwork and the manufacturer's information is provided. This test has no external peer review process and can be used for training or developmental purposes.	AUD250 Approx. USD185
Interlaboratory Collaborative Trial	Test samples and associated paperwork is provided. Submitted results are peer reviewed Final report including manufacturer's information provided for each test.	AUD500 Approx. USD370

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2022 Program Summary

Sorted according to discipline. The 2022 program sorted chronologically is located in Appendix B.

Test ID	Examination	Scenario	Last date for orders	Distribution	Results submitted	Final Report distributed
Biological Criminalistics						
2022-Bio1	Biological examination inc. biological material ID and DNA	Sexual assault: A male complainant alleges that he has been anally raped by one offender and forced to perform oral sex on a second offender.	December 2021	January	March	May
2022-Bio2*	Bloodstain pattern analysis	Assault: Two males are admitted to hospital with serious injuries. They both state that a fight has occurred at a particular location, but their stories are not consistent.	January	February	April	June
2022-Bio3	Biological examination inc. biological material ID and DNA	Assault: The complainant was attacked on their way home from work, their jewelry and wallet were taken. The complainant believes that there were two assailants. The complainant grabbed and held onto a scarf belonging to one of the offenders. The complainant is known to have bled.	March	April	June	August
2022-Bio4	Biological examination inc. biological fluid ID and DNA	Sexual Assault: The complainant believes her drinks were spiked at a party and she was sexually assaulted. There was a delay in reporting so there are no medical samples, however her clothing has been collected.	June	July	September	November
2022-Bio5	Kinship (DNA)	Kinship: Two women gave birth to daughters in the 1960s. Both children were put up for adoption. A 25-year-old man is now searching for his biological family. His mother is deceased, but he has traced her birth to the hospital where these two women gave birth.	September	October	December	February 2023
Chemical Criminalistics						
2022-CC1	Fibres examination	The victim was subject to a violent assault and robbery. He was kicked and punched in the upper body by two assailants. He described the assailants as both wearing stocking masks and fabric gloves.	January	February	April	June
2022-CC2	Glass examination	A car window has been broken and goods stolen from the car.	March	April	June	August
2022-CT2	Personal lubricant examination	A serial rapist has attacked 4 women. The women report he used a lubricant, which appeared to come from a tube he brought with him. The tube of lubricant has not been recovered.	May	June	August	October

Test ID	Examination	Scenario	Last date for orders	Distribution	Results submitted	Final Report distributed
2022-CC3	Automotive paint examination	A fatal hit run has occurred. Automotive paint flakes were recovered from the scene.	July	August	October	December
2022-FDE2*	Ink analysis	An investigation has commenced in relation to handwritten entries in a diary located with a shipment of illicit drugs.	August	September	November	January 2023
2022-CC4	Ignitable fluid residue analysis	The complainant's car was found badly burnt in their driveway. Was the fire set deliberately using ignitable fluids (arson) or was it accidental?	September	October	December	February 2023
Document Examination						
2022-FDE1	Document examination	A multi-page contract is in dispute, with one of the parties denying that they would agree to the details outlined in the contract.	February	March	May	July
2022-FDE2*	Handwriting (numerals) comparison / ink analysis	An investigation has commenced in relation to handwritten entries in a diary located with a shipment of illicit drugs.	August	September	November	January 2023
Fingerprint Examination						
2022-FP1	Enhancement, detection, identification	Threatening letters have been received by the complainant. They have been printed on a home printer and therefore not suitable for forensic document examination.	February	March	May	July
2022-FP2	Latent marks / ten print comparisons	A robbery has occurred at an office, cash and other valuables have been taken. The scene has been dusted for prints and a number of items appear to have been moved. These items have been treated with cyanoacrylate to enhance any finger marks.	July	August	October	December
Crime Scene Examination						
2022-Bio2*	Bloodstain pattern analysis	Assault: Two males are admitted to hospital with serious injuries. They both state that a fight has occurred at a particular location, but their stories are not consistent.	January	February	April	June
Digital Forensics						
2022-CT1	Digital Forensics	A private company's server has been hacked, data altered and externally facing pages defaced.	April	May	July	September
Drug Analysis						
2022-CT3	Drug Analysis	What appears to be a clandestine laboratory has been located in the basement of a group of flats. Clandestine laboratory specialists have been called and have recorded the scene and collected a number of items.	June	July	September	November

*	Test may be undertaken by two discipline groups.
CT	Inter-laboratory collaborative trial.

2022 Program in detail

Biological Criminalistics

2022 - Bio1 Biological examination including biological material ID and DNA

Scenario

Sexual assault: A male complainant alleges that he has been anally raped by one offender and forced to perform oral sex on a second offender.

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:

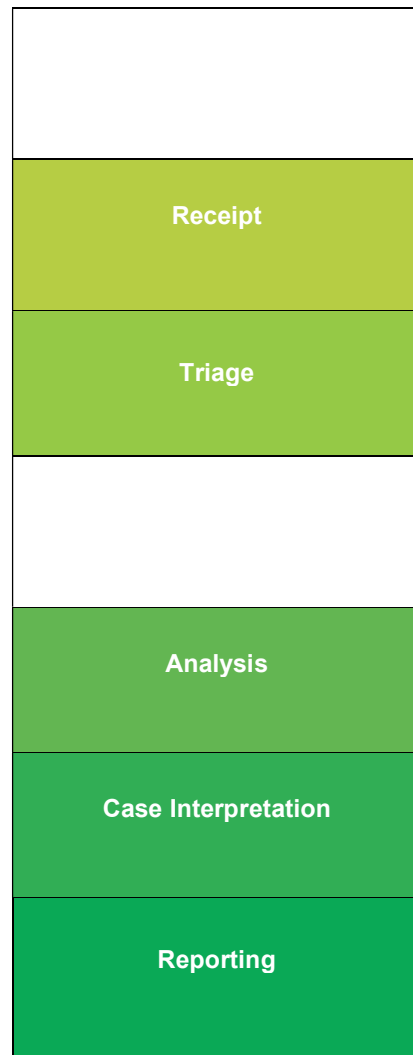
Participants will receive

An anal swab from the complainant.
3 x penile swabs from 3 suspects.
4 x reference samples.

Examination / Analysis required

Identification of biological material on the swabs.
Comparison of DNA profile obtained from swabs with the reference samples.

Last date for orders	December 2021
Distribution	January 2022
Results submitted	March 2022
Manufacture's Information distributed	April 2022
Final Report distributed	May 2022



2022 - Bio2 Bloodstain pattern analysis

Scenario

Assault: Two males are admitted to hospital with serious injuries. They both state that a fight has occurred at a particular location. But their stories are not consistent.

Participants will receive

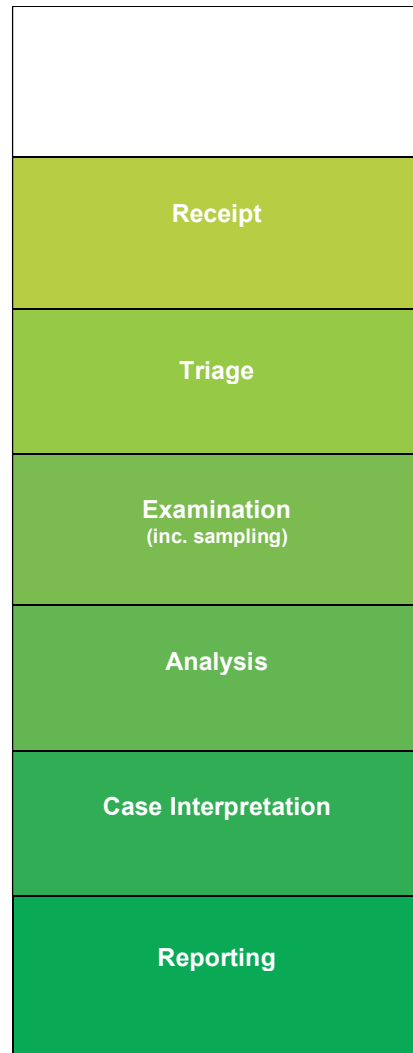
High resolution videos and images of the scene.

Examination / Analysis required

Examination and analysis of the videos and photographs.
Identification of blood deposition patterns.
Reconstruction of possible mechanisms of blood deposition.
Comparison of possible mechanisms with the scenarios provided.

Last date for orders	January 2022
Distribution	February 2022
Results submitted	April 2022
Manufacturer's Information distributed	May 2022
Final Report distributed	June 2022

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:



2022 – Bio3 Biological examination including biological material ID and DNA

Scenario

Assault. The complainant was attacked on their way home from work, their jewelry and wallet were taken. The complainant believes that there were two assailants. The complainant grabbed and held onto a scarf belonging to one of the offenders. The complainant is known to have bled.

Participants will receive

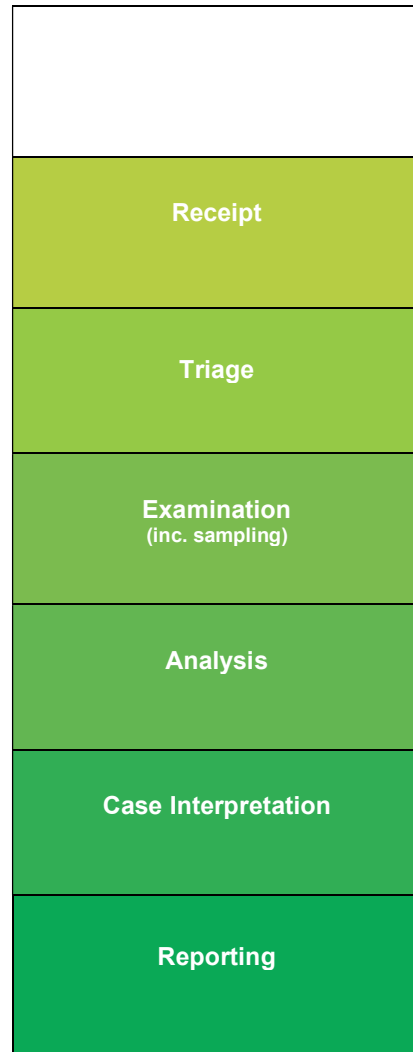
Scarf from offender (touch DNA).
T-shirts from three suspects.
4 x reference samples (complainant and 3 suspects).

Examination / Analysis required

Examination of clothing and location of any biological material.
Identification of biological material.
Comparison of DNA profiles obtained from the clothing with the reference samples.

Last date for orders	March 2022
Distribution	April 2022
Results submitted	June 2022
Manufacturer's Information distributed	July 2022
Final Report distributed	August 2022

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:



2022 – Bio4 Biological examination including biological material ID and DNA

Scenario

Sexual Assault. The complainant believes her drinks were spiked at a party and she was sexually assaulted. There was a delay in reporting so there are no medical samples, however her clothing has been collected.

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:

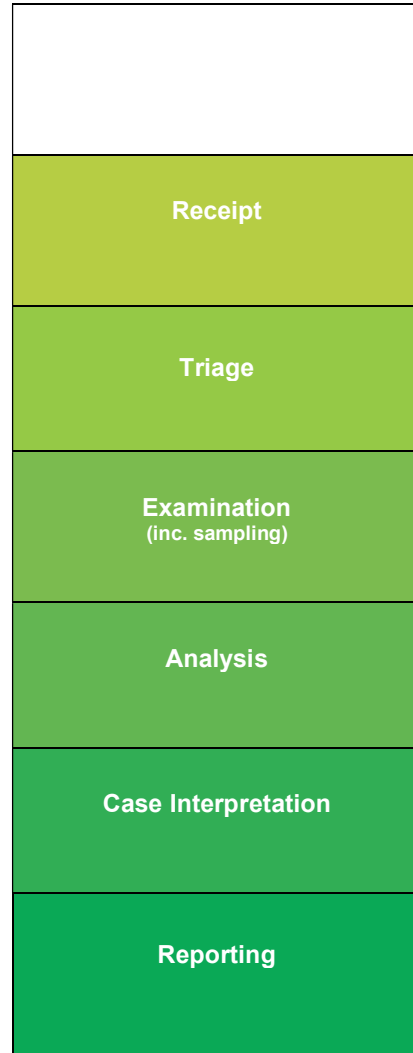
Participants will receive

Underpants and dress from the complainant
4 x reference samples (complainant and 3 suspects).

Examination / Analysis required

Examination of clothing and location of any biological material.
Identification of biological material.
Comparison of DNA profiles obtained from the clothing with the reference samples.

Last date for orders	June 2022
Distribution	July 2022
Results submitted	September 2022
Manufacture's Information	October 2022
Final Report distributed	November 2022



2022 – Bio5 Kinship (DNA)

Scenario

Kinship: Two women gave birth to daughters in the 1960s. The children were both put up for adoption. A 25-year-old man is now searching for his biological family. His mother is deceased, but he has traced her birth to the hospital where these two women gave birth.

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:

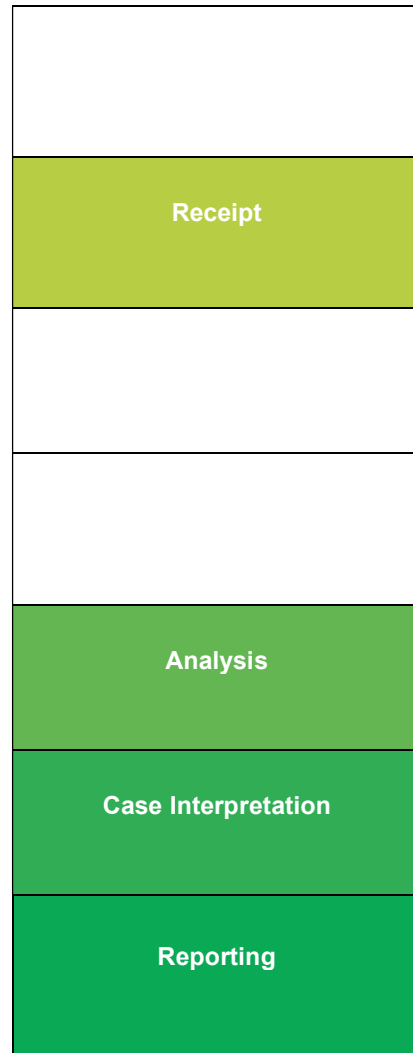
Participants will receive

Buccal swabs from two potential grandmothers and alleged grandson.

Examination / Analysis required

Kinship analysis using DNA profiles.

Last date for orders	September 2022
Distribution	October 2022
Results submitted	December 2022
Manufacture's Information distribution	January 2023
Final Report distributed	February 2023



Chemical Criminalistics

2022 - CC1 Fibres examination

Scenario

The victim was subject to a violent assault and robbery. He was kicked and punched in the upper body by two assailants. He described the assailants as both wearing stocking masks and fabric gloves.

Participants will receive

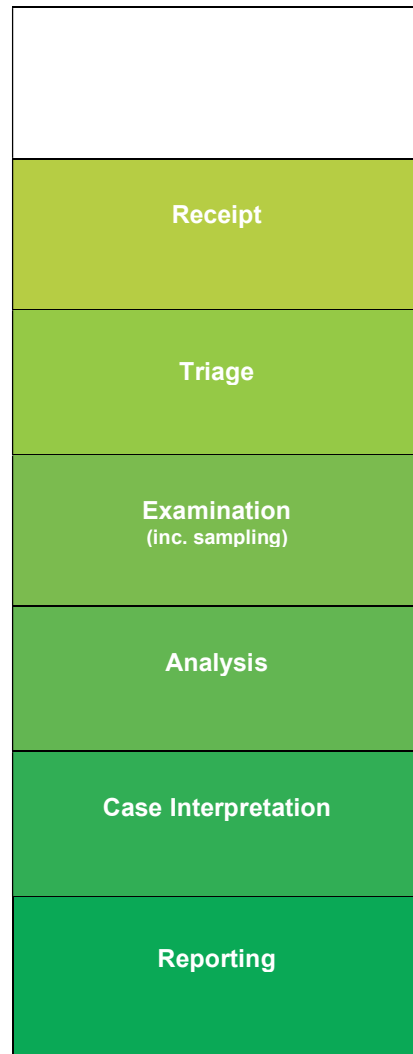
The victim's upper garment.
Fabric gloves seized from two suspects.

Examination / Analysis required

Examination of upper garment for the presence of extraneous fibres.
Comparison of any extraneous fibres with both pairs of gloves.

Last date for orders	January 2022
Distribution	February 2022
Results submitted	April 2022
Manufacture's Information distribution	May 2022
Final Report distributed	June 2022

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:



2022 – CC2 Glass examination

Scenario

A car window has been broken and goods stolen from the car.

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:

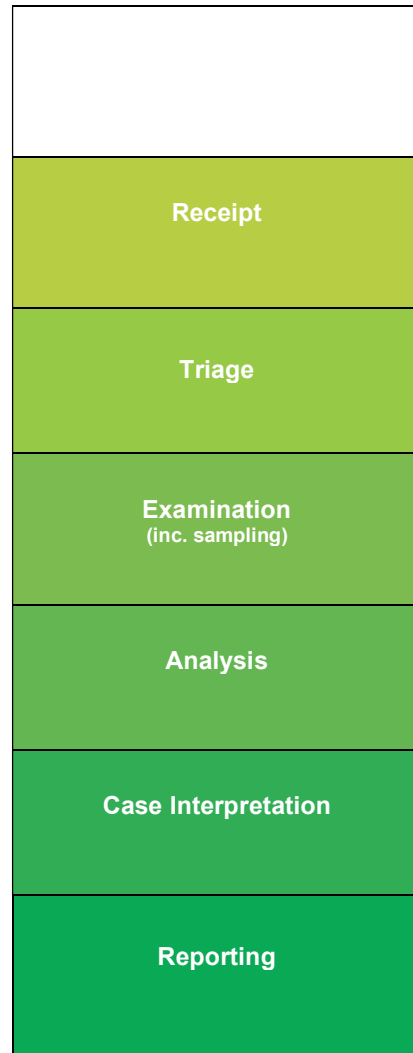
Participants will receive

Samples of the glass from the car
Debris collected from the two suspects' clothing.

Examination / Analysis required

Analysis and comparison of any glass fragments in the debris with the glass sample from the car window.

Last date for orders	March 2022
Distribution	April 2022
Results submitted	June 2022
Manufacture's Information distributed	July 2022
Final Report distributed	August 2022



2022 – CT2 Personal lubricant examination

Interlaboratory Collaborative Trials are offered where the test is still in the development phase and/or the test is in a niche area of expertise.

Scenario

A serial rapist has attacked 4 women. The women report he used a lubricant, which appeared to come from a tube he brought with him. The tube of lubricant has not been recovered.

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:

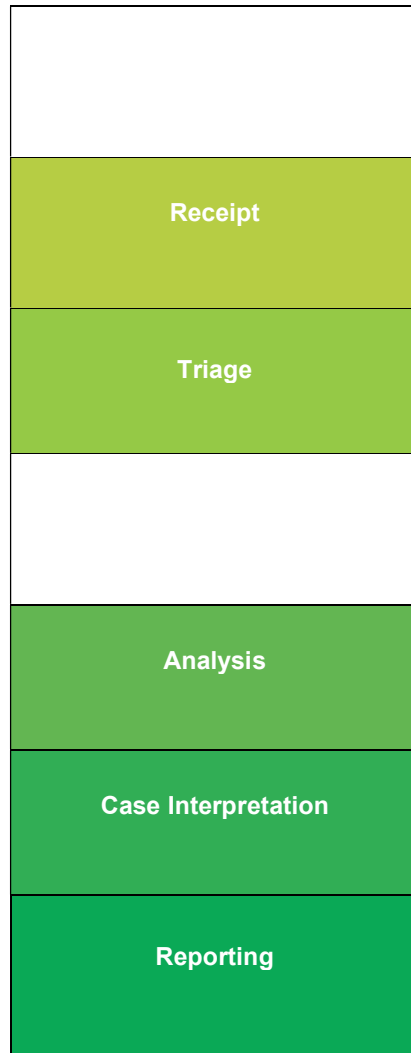
Participants will receive

4 vaginal swabs.

Examination / Analysis required

Analysis and comparison of any personal lubricant detected on the four swabs.

Last date for orders	May 2022
Distribution	June 2022
Results submitted	August 2022
Manufacturer's Information distributed	September 2022
Final Report distributed	October 2022



2022 – CC3 Automotive paint examination

Scenario

A fatal hit run occurred. Automotive paint flakes were recovered from the scene.

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:

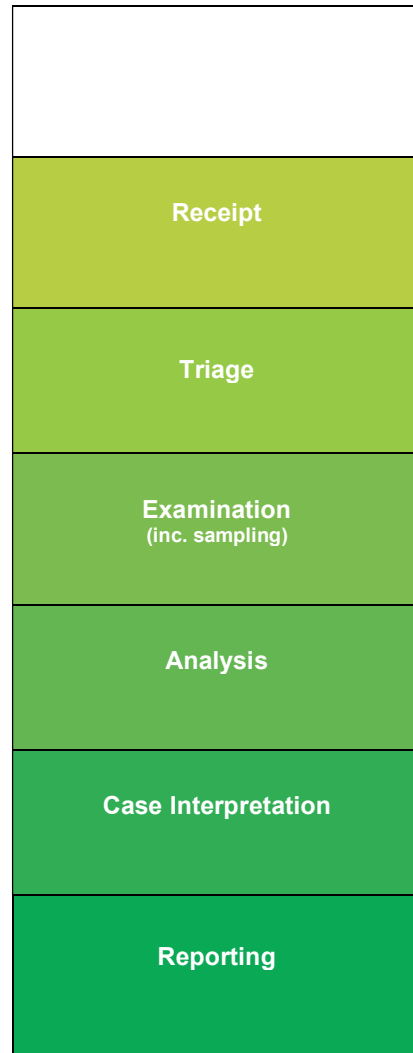
Participants will receive

Paint flakes collected from the scene
Samples of paint collected from a number of suspect vehicles.

Examination / Analysis required

Comparison of the paint flakes with the paint samples collected from the suspect vehicles.

Last date for orders	July 2022
Distribution	August 2022
Results submitted	October 2022
Manufacture's Information distributed	November 2022
Final Report distributed	December 2022



2022 – FDE2 Ink analysis

Scenario

An investigation has commenced in relation to handwritten entries in a diary located with a shipment of illicit drugs.

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:

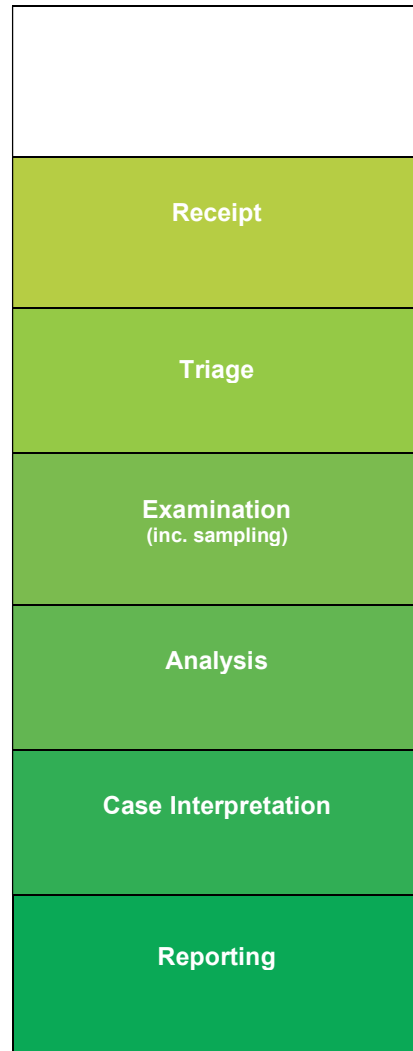
Participants will receive

A 2021/22 diary containing multiple handwritten entries.

Examination / Analysis required

Chemical comparison of the writing ink.

Last date for orders	August 2022
Distribution	September 2022
Results submitted	November 2022
Manufacture's Information distributed	December 2022
Final Report distributed	January 2023



2022 – CC4 Ignitable fluid residue analysis

Scenario

The complainant's car was found badly burnt in their driveway. Was the fire started deliberately using ignitable fluids (arson) or was it accidental?

Participants will receive

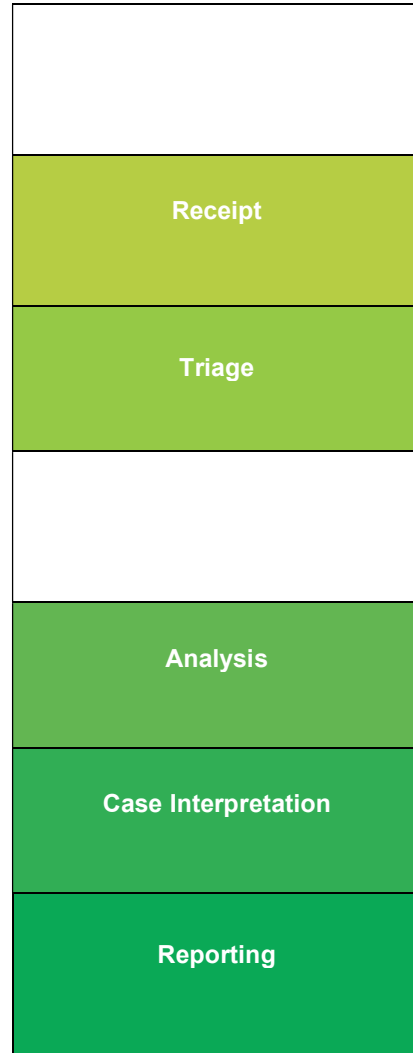
Samples of burnt carpet and upholstery from the car.

Examination / Analysis required

Detection, identification and characterization of any ignitable fluid residue associated with the carpet and upholstery.

Last date for orders	September 2022
Distribution	October 2022
Results submitted	December 2022
Manufacture's Information distributed	January 2023
Final Report distributed	February 2023

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:



Forensic Document Examination

2022 – FDE1 Document examination

Scenario

A multi-page contract is in dispute, with one of the parties denying that they would agree to the details outlined in the contract.

Participants will receive

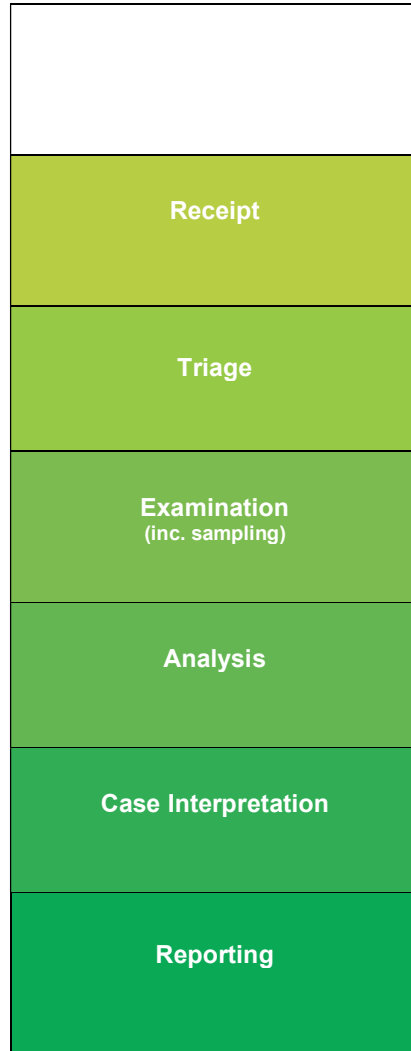
The contract.
A number of specimen signatures.

Examination / Analysis required

Comparison of signatures and the physical examination of the document.

Last date for orders	February 2022
Distribution	March 2022
Results submitted	May 2022
Manufacture's Information distribution	June 2022
Final Report distributed	July 2022

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:



2022 – FDE2 Handwriting (numerals) comparison / ink analysis

Scenario

An investigation has commenced in relation to handwritten entries in a diary located with a shipment of illicit drugs.

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:

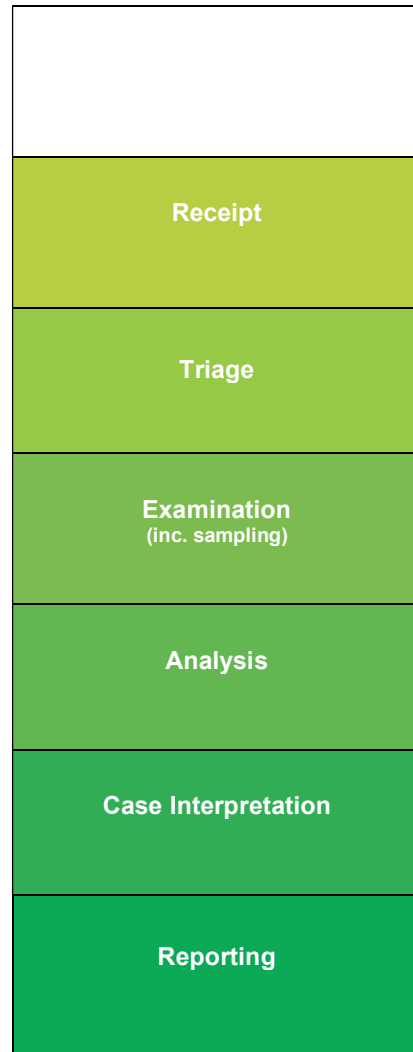
Participants will receive

A 2021/22 diary containing multiple handwritten entries.

Examination / Analysis required

1. Comparison of numerals and symbols, and the physical examination of the document and/or
2. Chemical comparison of the writing ink.

Last date for orders	August 2022
Distribution	September 2022
Results submitted	November 2022
Manufacture's Information distributed	December 2022
Final Report distributed	January 2023



Fingerprint Examination

2022 – FP1 Enhancement, detection and identification

Scenario

Threatening letters have been received by the complainant. They have been printed on a home printer and therefore not suitable for forensic document examination.

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:

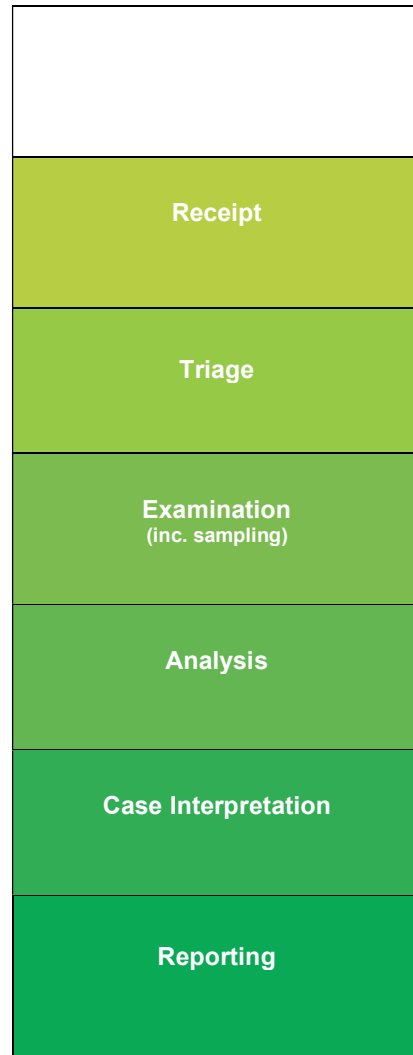
Participants will receive

3 x threatening letters
10 print sets taken from the complainant and a flat mate.
10 print sets taken from 2 suspects.

Examination / Analysis required

Enhancement and detection of latent fingermarks on the letters.
Comparison of latent fingermarks with reference ten print sets.

Last date for orders	February 2022
Distribution	March 2022
Results submitted	May 2022
Manufacture's Information distribution	June 2022
Final Report distributed	July 2022



2022 – FP2 Latent marks / 10 print comparisons

Scenario

A robbery has occurred at an office and cash and other valuables have been taken. The scene has been dusted for prints and a number of items appear to have been moved. These items have been treated with cyanoacrylate to enhance any finger marks.

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:

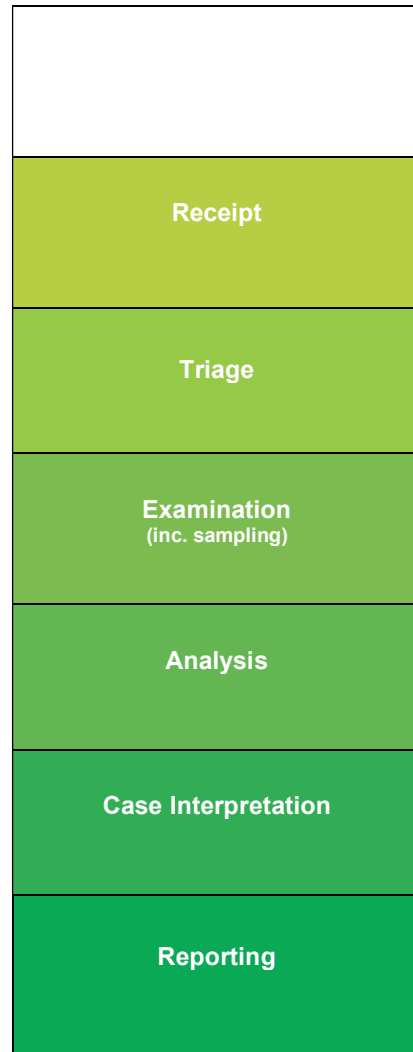
Participants will receive

Photographs of the dusted marks and the enhanced marks.
10 print sets taken from two office employees.
10 print sets taken from 2 suspects.

Examination / Analysis required

Comparison of latent fingerprints with reference ten print sets from the suspects.

Last date for orders	July 2022
Distribution	August 2022
Results submitted	October 2022
Manufacturer's Information distributed	November 2022
Final Report distributed	December 2022



Crime Scene Investigation

2022 – Bio2 Bloodstain pattern analysis

Scenario

Assault: Two males are admitted to hospital with serious injuries. They both state that a fight has occurred at a particular location. But their stories are not consistent.

Participants will receive

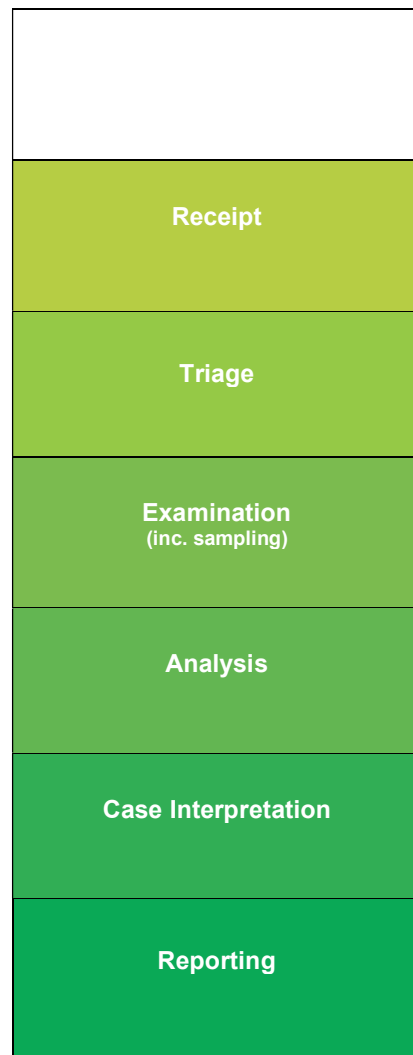
High resolution videos and images of the scene.

Examination / Analysis required

Examination and analysis of the videos and photographs.
Identification of blood deposition patterns.
Reconstruction of possible mechanisms of blood deposition.
Comparison of possible mechanisms with the scenarios provided.

Last date for orders	January 2022
Distribution	February 2022
Results submitted	April 2022
Manufacture's Information distributed	May 2022
Final Report distributed	June 2022

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:



Digital Forensics

Interlaboratory Collaborative Trials are offered where the test is still in the development phase and/or the test is in a niche area of expertise.

2022 – CT1 Digital forensics

Scenario

A private company's server has been hacked, data altered and externally facing pages defaced.

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:

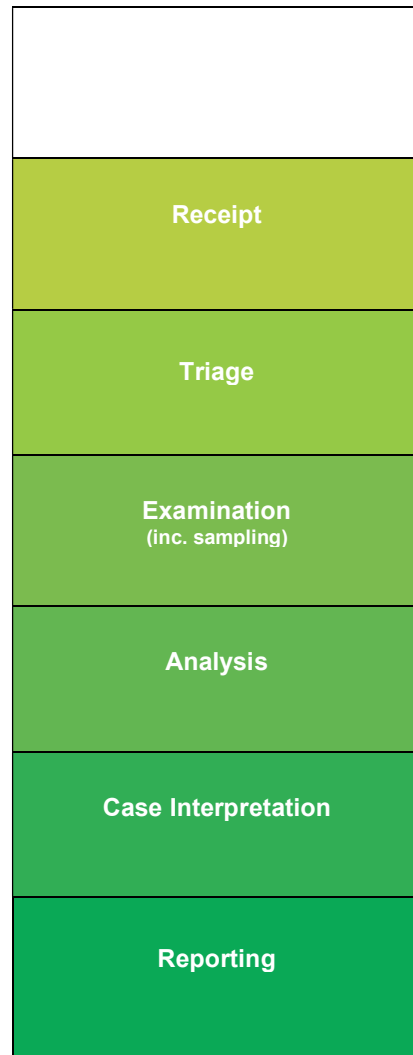
Participants will receive

A forensic image of the company's server.

Examination / Analysis required

Validation and examination of data to identify artefacts and to establish chronology.

Last date for orders	April 2022
Distribution	May 2022
Results submitted	July 2022
Manufacture's Information	August 2022
Final Report distributed	September 2022



Drug Analysis

Interlaboratory Collaborative Trials are offered where the test is still in the development phase and/or the test is in a niche area of expertise.

2022 – CT3 Clandestine laboratory investigation

Scenario

What appears to be a clandestine laboratory has been located in the basement of a group of flats. Clandestine laboratory specialists have been called and have recorded the scene and collected a number of items.

The following aspects of the forensic process will be examined:

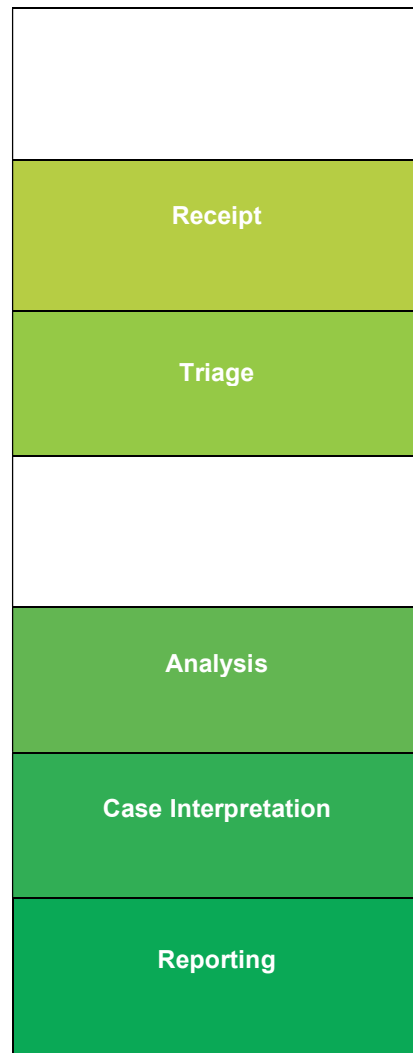
Participants will receive

GC-MS data produced following the analysis of a number of unknown compounds located in the alleged clandestine laboratory.

Examination / Analysis required

Examination of GC-MS data and an identification of potential products and method(s) of production being used.

Last date for orders	June 2022
Distribution	July 2022
Results submitted	September 2022
Manufacture's Information	October 2022
Final Report distributed	November 2022



Appendix A

Phase	Internal context (Risk to organization)	External context (Risk to clients inc. justice system and community)		
Scene / laboratory examination (inc. presumptive testing and collection)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ transcription errors ○ issues relating to sealing of items ○ incorrect descriptions ○ sample mix up ○ misidentification • Examination / analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ samples not identified or incorrectly identified ○ samples not collected for testing ○ inappropriate examination / analytical method used • Interpretation / reporting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ invalid or unsupported assumptions ○ contextual bias ○ incomplete process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absence of results where samples have not been collected and/or analyzed • False identification of substance / false inclusions or conclusions • False exclusion • Results deemed inadmissible • Incorrect weight given to evidence • Miscarriages of justice 		
Receipt in organization or individual work unit				
Triage				
Analysis				
Case Interpretation				
Reporting				

Appendix B

2022 Program shown chronologically

Test ID	Examination	Scenario	Last date for orders	Distribution	Results submitted	Final Report distributed
2022-Bio1	Biological examination inc. biological material ID and DNA	Sexual assault: A male complainant alleges that he has been anally raped by one offender and forced to perform oral sex on a second offender.	December 2021	January	March	May
2022-Bio2*	Bloodstain pattern analysis*	Assault: Two males are admitted to hospital with serious injuries. They both state that a fight has occurred at a particular location. But their stories are not consistent.	January	February	April	June
2022-CC1	Fibres examination	The victim was subject to a violent assault and robbery. He was kicked and punched in the upper body by two assailants. He described the assailants as both wearing stocking masks and fabric gloves.	January	February	April	June
2022-FP1	Enhancement, detection, identification	Threatening letters have been received by the complainant. They have been printed on a home printer and therefore not suitable for forensic document examination.	February	March	May	July
2022-FDE1	Document examination	A multi-page contract is in dispute, with one of the parties denying that they would agree to the details outlined in the contract.	February	March	May	July
2022-Bio3	Biological examination inc. biological material ID and DNA	Assault. The complainant was attacked on their way home from work, their jewelry and wallet were taken. The complainant believes that there were two assailants The complainant grabbed and held onto a scarf belonging to one of the offenders. The complainant is known to have bled.	March	April	June	August
2022-CC2	Glass examination	A car window has been broken and goods stolen from the car.	March	April	June	August
2022-CT1	Digital Forensics	A private company's server has been hacked, data altered and externally facing pages defaced.	April	May	July	September

Test ID	Examination	Scenario	Last date for orders	Distribution	Results submitted	Final Report distributed
2022-CT2	Personal lubricant examination	A serial rapist has attacked 4 women. The women report he used a lubricant, which appeared to come from a tube he brought with him. The tube of lubricant has not been recovered.	May	June	August	October
2022-CT3	Drug Analysis	What appears to be a clandestine laboratory has been located in the basement of a group of flats. Clandestine laboratory specialists have been called and have recorded the scene and collected a number of items.	June	July	September	November
2022-Bio4	Biological examination inc. biological fluid ID and DNA	Sexual Assault. The complainant believes her drinks were spiked at a party and she was sexually assaulted. There was a delay in reporting so there are no medical samples, however her clothing has been collected.	June	July	September	November
2022-CC3	Automotive paint examination	A fatal hit run occurred. Automotive paint flakes were recovered from the scene.	July	August	October	December
2022-FP2	Latent marks /ten print comparisons	A robbery has occurred at an office and cash and other valuables have been taken. The scene has been dusted for prints and a number of items appear to have been moved. These items have been treated with cyanoacrylate to enhance any finger marks.	July	August	October	December
2022-FDE2*	Handwriting (numerals) comparison / ink analysis	An investigation has commenced in relation to handwritten entries in a diary located with a shipment of illicit drugs.	August	September	November	January 2023
2033-CC4	Ignitable fluid residue analysis	The complainant's car was found badly burnt in their driveway. Was the fire set deliberately using ignitable fluids (arson) or was it accidental?	September	October	December	February 2023
2022-Bio5	Kinship (DNA)	Kinship: Two women gave birth to daughters in the 1960s. Both children were put up for adoption. A 25-year-old man is now searching for his biological family. His mother is deceased, but he has traced her birth to the hospital where these two women gave birth.	September	October	December	February 2023

Appendix C



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Forensic Foundations' Proficiency Tests are required to be fit-for-purpose. To assist us to provide the relevant fit-for-purpose tests, please use the following form to suggest further tests for development.

Recommendation for Proficiency Test development

Contact	Name	
	Email	
	Phone	
Discipline/ subdiscipline		
Specific issues(s) to be addressed*. Note: The tests can be designed to be multidisciplinary.		
Suggested technical advisor (if known)		
Suggested manufacturer (if known)		

* All Proficiency Tests will include the end-to-end process (receipt & continuity, triage, description, examination, analysis, data generation, interpretation, reporting) but one aspect may be of particular interest/focus.

This form can be emailed to admin@forensicfoundations.com.au or you can discuss your suggestions on either +61 3 9018 8919 or +61 429 966 012.