

Latent Research project call for participants – blind and non-blind verifications

We are conducting a research project to compare the effectiveness of blind and non-blind verifications. Participants will be asked to analyze, compare and evaluate ground truth latent print images against known exemplars. This study involves three separate phases containing 25 comparisons each. Participants will be randomly selected for either the blind or non-blind groups. To keep anonymity a user number will be issued in place of the participant's name. Four weeks will be allotted for each phase. However, if additional time is required, time extensions will be provided. We ask you thoroughly document your analysis, comparison and evaluation in the PiAnoS program. For those that are unfamiliar with PiAnoS, an instructional video and practice exercises will be available before conducting the study. If you are willing to participate and commit to each phase, please email Grant Byrum at: latent.study@gmail.com

Definitions of blind and open (non-blind) verification for this study are taken from the proposed OSAC Best Practice Recommendations for the Verification Component in Friction Ridge Examination.

Blind verification: A type of verification in which the subsequent examiner(s) has no knowledge of the original examiner's decisions, conclusions or observed data used to support the conclusion.

Open (non-blind) verification: A type of verification in which the subsequent examiner has access to the original examiner's decisions, conclusions or observed data used to support the conclusion.

Rebecca Heinrich, Nova Grilli, John Black and Grant Byrum

Nova Grilli | Latent Print Supervisor, CLPE
City of Charleston Police Department
Forensic Services | Latent Print Division
180 Lockwood Boulevard | Charleston, SC 29403



City of Charleston