Course Description for: Lifting Prints from Difficult and Textured Surfaces

Presented by: Tom Gier and Jason Cole

Crime scene investigators, and crime lab analysts alike, are presented with the task of lifting latent prints off of rather challenging surfaces from time to time. This workshop is presented in a hands-on method to give the technician the training and confidence they need to recover those difficult lifts. There will be a segment dedicated to properly documenting the latent lift cards so the technician and the analyst will have seamless presentations in the courtroom. This is a workshop where attendees are expected to get involved and do each technique demonstrated.

Presenter Bio

Tom Gier began his career in forensics in 2007 as a Chemistry Technician at the Southwest Louisiana Crime Lab after graduating from McNeese State University in Lake Charles, Louisiana. Within months, he was transferred to the Latent Print Department, due to the amount of casework and only one analyst in that section. Tom has been the Latent Print Technical Supervisor and Senior Analyst at the crime lab since 2013. Tom processes evidence for latents, is an AFIS operator, and conducts comparisons – as well as verifications and technical reviews. He has testified in many state and federal court trials as an expert witness. Tom became a Certified Latent Print Examiner (CLPE) in 2013 and his certification remains current. Tom has also taught many classes at conferences, colleges, high schools, in-service to law enforcement agencies, across the country and, lately, internationally in Mexico and Panama.