



Quality Division Use Only

Scientific Area Committee (SAC):	Physics/Pattern Interpretation	Subcommittee:	Friction Ridge
Standard/Guidelines Title	ANSI/ASTM E3235-21 Standard Practice for Latent Print Evidence Imaging Resolution		
Date added to OSAC Registry	6/7/2022		

Can the Standard/Guidelines be followed in totality? No

Please explain if the Standard/Guidelines and the applicable clauses that cannot be followed in their totality:

The Latent Prints section will not follow clauses 7.3.2.2 - 7.3.2.22 for the following reasons: Resolution and scale are not critical measurements in the field of latent print comparisons and do not have a measurement of uncertainty. An examiner can get a hit in AFIS and make an identification based on approximate sizes. For example, if there is no scale, the examiner can do a calibration of the print to an approximate size and get an AFIS hit. Similarly, if an individual leaves a print as a teen and the record print is from adulthood, the examiner can still get an AFIS hit. Resolution does not need to be exact for comparisons to be conducted. If a resolution is far from what is needed it will be noted by the trained examiner. The examiner, due to their training and experience, can visually determine less than ideal resolution of a latent print. The examiner would then seek a better scan or photograph of the image, if possible. A PowerPoint created by the Latent Print Technical Lead entitled "Resolution Checks" contains more information. Camera checks were performed by the HFSC Latent Print Section from approximately 2015-2019 with no issues found. The performance check records are maintained by HFSC. In 2019, the decision was made in conjunction with the Quality Division to remove this requirement as it was deemed to not add value. The software that comes with the scanners is proprietary and the section is unable to modify software or equipment.

The Latent Prints section will not follow clause 7.4.1 for the following reason: Cameras will be performance checked prior to being used for casework in accordance with the performance check procedure previously utilized and documented in September 2023, which is consistent with the procedure used by the HFSC Crime Scene Unit.

The Latent Prints section will not follow clauses 8.2.1 - 8.4 for the following reasons: Resolution and scale are not critical measurements in the field of latent print comparisons and do not have a measurement of uncertainty. Ridge detail grows with an individual through life. An examiner can get a hit in AFIS and make an identification based on approximate sizes. For example, if there is no scale, the examiner can do a calibration of the print to an approximate size and get an AFIS hit. Similarly, if an individual leaves a print as a teen and the record print is from adulthood, the examiner can still get an AFIS hit. Resolution does not need to be exact for comparisons to be conducted. If a resolution is far from what is needed it will be noted by the trained examiner. The examiner, due to their training and experience, can visually determine less than ideal resolution of a latent print. The examiner would then seek a better scan or photograph of the image, if possible. A PowerPoint created by the Latent Print Technical Lead entitled "Resolution Checks" contains more information. Scanner checks were performed by the HFSC Latent Print Section from approximately 2015-2019 with no issues found. The performance check records are maintained by HFSC. At this time the decision was made in conjunction with the Quality Division to remove this requirement as it was deemed to



not value added. The software that comes with the scanners is proprietary and the section is unable to modify software or equipment.

The Latent Prints sections will not follow clauses 6.1.2.3, 6.3, 6.8, 6.12, 6.20, 7.3.2.1 and 8.1.3 as they are not applicable.

Compliance plan to achieve conformance to Standard/Guidelines:

At this time, the Latent Print section does not intend to implement clauses 7.3.2.2 - 7.3.2.22, 7.4.1, 8.2.1 - 8.4. as the laboratory does not agree with the provisions for the reasons listed in the above field. The section will reevaluate the provisions in future revisions of the standard.

Declaration of Compliance to OSAC Registry Standard/Guidelines:

As of date November 18, 2024, the Latent Print Section is compliant with all other recommendations listed in E3235-21 Standard Practice for Latent Print Evidence Imaging Resolution.

Technical Leader: Jeniffer Molina
Jeniffer Molina (Dec 11, 2024 14:19 CST)

Section Manager: Isaca Ben

Division Director: Amy Castillo
Amy Castillo (Dec 12, 2024 09:09 CST)

Quality Director: Jackie Moral

Date: Dec 11, 2024

Date: Dec 12, 2024

Date: Dec 12, 2024

Date: Dec 19, 2024











E3235-21 OSAC Registry Compliance Form Latent Prints

Final Audit Report

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