

**LP SOP-17 Validation Procedures for Reagents &  
Chemicals**

*Approved by Director: Dr. Guy Vallaro*

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Page 1 of 2

**Purpose:**

To establish a validation procedure for chemicals/reagents being introduced to the latent print unit as a new method of enhancing/developing friction ridge detail. This SOP is to act as the validation plan, if modifications are required the plan will be approved by the Section Supervisor/Lead.

**Responsibility:**

Latent Print Examiners

**Procedure:**

**1. Chemicals/Reagents**

Any new chemical/reagent being introduced to the latent print unit as a new method of developing or enhancing friction ridge detail will first be validated prior to actual use on case work.

Validation shall include the following appropriate tests unless the new method is material specific in which case only that particular material will be tested:

- a. Reaction to Porous Materials
  1. Copy Paper
  2. News Paper
  3. Brown Paper Bag
  4. Craft or Wrapping Paper
  5. Plain Envelope
  6. Manila Envelope
  7. Cardboard
  8. Wood
- b. Reaction to Non-Porous Materials
  1. Glass
  2. Plastic
  3. Glossy Materials (photo etc)
  4. Back Side of Tape

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Page 2 of 2

5. Metal
  6. Painted Material
  - c. Reaction to Adhesives
    1. Scotch Tape
    2. Duct Tape
    3. Masking Tape
    4. Electrical Tape
  - d. DNA Sensitivity
    1. Swabs will be taken before and after processing to determine the effects to DNA.
- 1.1 The validation will be conducted in the following manner.
- a. Twenty samples will be taken of each material tested.
  - b. A known print will be placed on each piece of material.
  - c. Five samples of each material containing the known print will be subjected to the following conditions:
    1. Freezer
    2. Heat
    3. Normal Indoor Temperature
    4. Water
  - c. Four new samples of each material containing the known print will be tested every day for five days. The results will be recorded. Evaluation of the results will determine the suitability for use in the latent print section.
2. The validation will be reviewed and signed off by Section Supervisor/Lead and the Deputy Director.