

LP SOP-25 Oven Function Test

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A. Purpose: To establish a protocol for function testing the oven used in the latent print section.

B. Responsibility:

Latent Print Examiners

C. Procedure:

1. Evidence processed with chemicals or reagents requiring specific heat temperatures for the development of friction ridge evidence may be placed in the oven located in the latent print processing area.
2. Quarterly every year, the latent print unit oven will be checked using a certified thermometer.
3. A laboratory approved thermometer will be placed in the oven. The oven will be set to a temperature between 50 and 100 degrees centigrade. The oven will be allowed to run at the set temperature for at least 60 minutes. If the thermometer reading is within ± 10 degrees of the set temperature, the results will be recorded on the oven function test log and no further action is required. If the difference is not within the acceptable limits, appropriate adjustments will be made and the results will be documented.
4. If the oven has to be adjusted to reflect an accurate temperature setting, the oven shall be turned off, allowed to cool down and rechecked utilizing the same procedures in step 3. If after the adjustment the oven still does not fall within acceptable limits, it shall be taken out of service until repaired or replaced.