

## IM SOP-6 Casting Impressions

*Approved by Director: Dr. Guy Vallaro*

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**Purpose:** To obtain a three dimensional record of an impression.

**Responsibility:** Forensic Science Examiners assigned to the Imprint Unit are responsible to follow the guidance of this procedure.

**Safety:** All proper personal protection equipment will be used as appropriate. MSDS on file.

### **Procedure:**

#### Materials:

1. Dental stone casting material
2. Water
3. Plastic zip lock bag/mixing container
4. Scale/ruler
5. Frame material (optional)
6. Fixatives (optional)
  - Hairspray
  - Spray (clear) shellac or lacquer
7. Highlighting materials (optional)
  - Primer spray paint
  - Snow print wax

#### Procedures:

1. Photograph all impressions prior to casting (see IM SOP-4 Photography).
2. Prepare impression for casting.

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- If necessary, use appropriate fixatives.
  - If necessary, use appropriate highlighting materials.
  - If appropriate place framing material around impression.
3. Mix dental stone material and water to desired consistency.
  4. Pour prepared dental stone mix into and over impression.
  5. Before cast hardens, scratch appropriate identifying information on the backside of cast (i.e. initials, date, case number, direction, etc.) or write identifying information on the backside of cast with permanent marker after hardening.
  6. After cast hardens, remove from casting location. The cast may be photographed (see IM SOP-4 Photography).
  7. After 48 hours the cast may be cleaned and re-photographed (see IM SOP-4 Photography).
  8. Secure cast in proper container.
  9. Mark container with appropriate identification markings, including case number, item number and description.
  10. Sub-itemize the cast in JusticeTrax and place a barcode on the evidence container. Casts will be returned to the submitting agency.

### Results:

Three-dimensional reproduction of impression.

**Sources of Error:** N/A

**Quality Assurance:** N/A

**References:** See Bibliography.