

Purpose: To detect and enhance latent or patent imprint/impressions using fingerprint powders.

Responsibility: Imprint Examiners

Safety: All proper personal protection equipment will be used as appropriate.

Procedure:

Materials:

1. Contrasting color fingerprint powders
2. Fingerprint powder brush
3. Large transparent adhesive lifters
4. Large white backed adhesive lifters
5. Large black backed adhesive lifters
6. Large transparent gelatin lifters
7. Large white backed gelatin lifters
8. Large black backed gelatin lifters
9. Oblique lighting source

Procedure:

1. Physical examination of item to identify area(s) where suspect imprint/impression(s) are located.
2. Use of oblique lighting of item to identify area(s) where suspect imprint/impression(s) are located.
3. Photograph the imprint/impression(s) using the procedures outlined in SOP-IM-4 Technical Procedure: Photography.
4. If necessary, humidify imprint/impression(s) to be powdered.
5. Apply powder to suspect imprint/impression(s) to develop detail.

6. Remove excess powder surrounding imprint/impression(s).
7. Re-photograph imprint/impression(s) using the procedures outlined in SOP-IM-4 Technical Procedure: Photography.
8. Using appropriate lift product, lift imprint/impression(s).

Results:

Imprint/impression is now visible. A permanent record is made for comparison with suspect standard/exemplar.

Sources of Error: N/A

Quality Assurance: N/A

References: See bibliography.