

Purpose: To detect and enhance latent or patent imprints using fingerprint powders.

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.

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(s) are located.
2. Use of oblique lighting of item to identify area(s) where suspect imprint(s) are located.
3. Photograph the imprint(s) using the procedures outlined in IM SOP-4 Photography.
4. Apply powder to suspect imprint(s) to develop detail.
5. Remove excess powder surrounding imprint(s).

Approved by Director: Dr. Guy Vallaro

6. Re-photograph imprint(s) using the procedures outlined in IM SOP-4 Photography.
7. Using appropriate lift product, lift imprint(s).
8. The lift(s) should be photographed (see IM SOP-4 Photography).
9. Secure lift(s) in proper container.
10. Mark container with appropriate identification markings, including case number, item number and description.
11. Sub-itemize the lift(s) in JusticeTrax and place a barcode on the evidence container. Lifts will be returned to the submitting agency.

Sources of Error: N/A

Quality Assurance: N/A

References: See bibliography.