

Approved by Director: Dr. Guy Vallaro

Purpose:

To determine, if possible, if erasures or obliterations are present on a document and if they can be deciphered and/or restored.

A. **Responsibility:** Assigned section staff

B. **Procedure:**

1. Materials:

Subject (Questioned) document

Optical Enhancement devices as deemed necessary

Electrostatic Detection Apparatus (ESDA)

Video Spectral Comparator (VSC)

Appropriate Documentation Equipment (Camera/Scanner/Photocopier)

2. Method:

All instruments will be checked or validated prior to each use.

Conduct detailed examinations, using the appropriate techniques and instrumentation, to identify areas on the subject document which have been altered by means of obliteration, erasure processes and/or the application of correction fluids.

Conduct detailed examinations, using the appropriate techniques and instrumentation to decipher and/or restore any areas of subject document which have been altered.

C. **Sources of Error:** Not applicable

D. **References:** See Bibliography/Reference Materials Section.