

Purpose:

To identify or eliminate, if possible, a particular ["Known"] writing instrument as having produced the writing and/or impressions appearing on a particular document.

To establish or eliminate, if possible, that a particular ["Known"] writing instrument produced the writing and/or impressions appearing on two or more documents.

To establish or eliminate, if possible, that a particular ["Unknown"] writing instrument produced the writing and/or impressions appearing on two or more documents.

A. Responsibility: Assigned section staff

B. Procedure:

1. Materials:

Subject document(s) containing writing and/or impressions.

Subject writing instrument(s).

Writing/impression standards from the subject writing device.

Video Spectral Comparator (VSC-2000).

Appropriate Documentation Equipment (Camera/Scanner/Photocopier).

2. Method

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

Examine writing instrument to identify any machine, printing, manufacturing and/or transitory defects which might be present.

Examination of writing and impressions obtained from subject writing instrument to determine if any of the defects observed in the instrument are carried over as characteristic defects.

Examine writing and impressions using VSC-2000 to identify or eliminate similar ink components

"Side by Side" inter-comparison examination between writing/impressions obtained by using the subject writing instrument and writing/impression samples appearing on subject (Questioned) document(s) to determine if they were produced by the same instrument.

C. Sources of Error: Not applicable

D. References: See Bibliography/Reference Materials Section.