

THE EXPERTS
Robson Forensic

MARK SONGER, M.S.F.S.
Forensic Document Examiner

Shoeprint, Crime Scene Investigations, Biometric, Law Enforcement, Classified Materials Expert

Former FBI Special Agent (GS-1811) and FBI Document Analyst (GS-1397) with over 30 years of law enforcement and forensic document examination experience. Qualified in both Federal and State courts as an expert in forensic document examinations. Mark provides investigations, reports, and testimony toward the resolution of matters involving disputed documents or signatures, including wills, business contracts and agreements, power of attorneys, medical records, bank documents, and anonymous writings. Other areas of Mark's expertise include shoeprint/tire tread analysis, crime scene investigations, actions of law enforcement and security officers in the performance of their duties, employment background screening, surveillance systems and operations, proper handling and destruction of classified materials, and the collection, storage, and retention of biometric information.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2013 to present **Robson Forensic, Inc.**
Associate

Provide technical investigations, analysis, reports, and testimony toward the resolution and litigation related to disputed documents or signatures to include: wills, checks, contracts, deeds, account ledgers, medical records, and voter and ballot card registration forms. Investigation and analysis includes: questioned signatures, suspect documents, identity theft, anonymous letters, alterations, obliterations, indented writings, altered medical records, graffiti and electronic documents. Additional analysis and investigations to encompass actions of law enforcement and security personnel, event safety and security, employment background screening, casino and hotel surveillance systems, the handling of classified materials and addressing issues related to the Biometric Information Privacy Act (BIPA).

2000 to present **Songer Institute**
Founder

Created a team of dedicated educational professionals, furthering the fields of Criminal Justice, Forensic Science, Emergency Management, Homeland Security and Strategic Intelligence, by channeling the training and development of students and practitioners through a continuous improvement model of delivery and content.

2002 to 2005 **Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians, CA**
Indian Gaming Commission Chairman

Directed a Commission staff of 112 supervisory employees, who supervised 1,200 employees. Ensured gaming operations were in compliance with both Federal and State laws to include internal audits, internal control standards, approval and review of all tribal gaming ordinances and undertaking enforcement action if necessary as outlined in the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA). Worked closely with the FBI, National Indian Gaming Commission and State Gaming Enforcement Division.

- Responsible for all background investigations leading to a gaming license for both individuals and corporations.
- Directed all investigative units to include inspectors, surveillance and security officer actions and operations.

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- Held administrative gaming license proceedings to determine eligibility of employees and vendors, and took required enforcement actions.
- National Indian Gaming Commissioner (NIGC) certified.

1994 to
2000

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Los Angeles, CA

Special Agent

1996-2000

- Designated handwriting expert for the Los Angeles Evidence Response Team (ERT).
- Instructed numerous law enforcement officers and civilian examiners in handwriting identification as well as the collection of writing samples.
- Received training in Threat Assessment Analysis and Behavioral Profiling.
- Served as Relief Supervisory Agent for squad.
- Assigned to various cases involving Foreign-Counter Intelligence (FCI), and Domestic Terrorism (DT).
- Conducted Single Scope Background Investigation (SSBI) checks for new agents, congressional members and their appointees, and task force members.
- Served on protective detail of VIP's and Members of Congress upon visits to the Los Angeles area by providing pre-visit threat assessments identifying escape routes and secure safe locations in conjunction with local law enforcement. Venues include universities, auditoriums and government facilities.
- Conducted white-collar crime investigations including excessive force, public corruption and other FBI jurisdictional matters. Gathered and analyzed evidence in preparation for U.S. Attorney review.
- Arrested and apprehended fugitives from justice.
- Conducted numerous surveillance and undercover operations in support of ongoing cases.
- Utilized various interview and interrogation techniques as part of an investigation.
- Developed confidential informants to gather intelligence on illegal activities, domestic terrorism and foreign-counter intelligence matters.
- Obtained a classification rating of Top Secret (TS) and Sensitive Compartmented Information (SCI) clearances for cases deemed Special Access Programs.

Questioned Documents Unit, FBI Headquarters, Washington D.C.

Document Analyst

1994-1996

- Trained under the direction of renowned handwriting experts who have worked on such cases as the OJ Simpson Case, Oklahoma City Federal Building, the Vince Foster suicide, investigation of the former *President Ferdinand* and *First Lady Imelda Marcos* of the Philippines, the *Joey Buttafuoco/Amy Fisher* affair and the investigation and subsequent conviction of *Chief Justice Sol Wachtler* of the New York State Supreme Court.
- Conducted examinations on cases to include bank robbery notes, death threats to Congressional members and suicide letters.
- Examined paper, typewriters, computer generated documents, faxes, printers, copiers, inks, indented writings, tracings, cut/pastes, simulations and disguised writings.

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1993 to **Howard Rile, Los Angeles, CA**

1994 *Trainee*

Prepared case exhibits and demonstratives, instructed in the use of laboratory equipment, attended QD meetings and networked with other examiners, conducted experiments, read numerous textbooks pertaining to document examinations and prepared reports for review. Training log available upon request.

1989 to **Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation, CA**

1992 *Tribal Police Officer*

- Responsible for providing enforcement of Federal, State and Tribal laws.
- Responded to emergency calls such as traffic accidents, confrontations, altercations and disorderly conduct.
- Maintained law and order within the patrol assigned areas.
- Investigated traffic accidents involving property damage or personal injury, and incidents of burglary or vandalism.
- Administered first aid when required that included the use of oxygen, CPR, and Automated External Defibrillator (AED).

1984 to **United States Marine Corps**

1990 Camp Pendleton, CA

- Field Radio Operator assigned as Tactical Air Control (TACP) team member and Classified Materials Control Custodian (CMCC) for the Battalion.
- Under the direction of the Battalion Commanding Officer and Executive Officer, was responsible for the security of all classified materials and information.
- Received, safeguarded and distributed classified materials in support of Battalion Operations.
- Performed Operational Security (OPSEC) inspections to include vulnerability assessments in which classified materials are kept and stored, ensured security clearances and communication security (COMSEC) training for individuals who have access to classified information, identified security violations and the compromise of classified information.
- Reviewed and updated CMS Operating Procedures and Emergency Protocols to protect, remove, or destroy classified material in case of fire, natural disaster, civil disturbance, terrorist activities, or enemy action.
- Ensured all personnel received instructions on how to properly handle classified materials pursuant to the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) directives.

EXPLOITATION RETAINED

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TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2016 to 2018 **Bethune-Cookman University** (Regionally Accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools)
Adjunct Faculty Member, Criminal Justice Studies
*Instruct the program's undergraduate **Introduction to Forensic Science** course using innovative technology designed and produced to maximize each student's learning experience.*
- 2015 to 2016 **Colorado Technical University** (Regionally Accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools)
Adjunct Faculty Member, Forensic Science Programs
*Instruct courses in **Advanced Criminalistics**, by providing quality instruction to students through well prepared classes and assignments.*
- 1999 to 2001 **National University** (Regionally accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges)
Adjunct Faculty Member, Criminal Justice/Forensic Science Programs
Taught undergraduate and graduate level courses in Criminal Justice and Forensic Sciences to include Document Examinations, Forensic Anatomy and Physiology, Death Investigations, Forensic Anthropology: Identification of Human Remains, White Collar Crimes, Major Case Investigations and Criminal Justice Leadership.

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

Certified Biometrics Security Professional (CBSP)

EDUCATION

Masters in Forensic Science, College of Letters and Sciences, National University, San Diego, CA, 1993

Bachelors in Criminal Justice, Excelsior College, regionally accredited through the University of the State of New York (Courses completed during active military service), 1992

Specialized Training:

- *Law Enforcement:*
 - New Agents Training, FBI Academy, Quantico, VA
 - San Diego Sheriff's Academy, Class 82, (Basic POST), Chula Vista, CA
 - FBI Post Blast Course
 - FBI FCI/DT Training Courses
 - Defensive and Operational Tactics
 - Arrest and Control Procedures
 - Operational Planning

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Operation of Witnesses and Informants
Physical and Electronic Surveillance
Undercover Operations
Development and Dissemination of Intelligence

- *Questioned Documents:*

FBI Handwriting Identification School for FBI Examiners

FBI Typewriter Identification Training

FBI Printing Examination Training- Rochester Institute of Technology – Course for FBI Document Examiners

INS Course on counterfeit documents

During my questioned documents training phase in L.A. and in Washington D.C., I visited the following laboratories:

Naval Criminal Investigative Service – San Diego, CA.

U.S. Postal Crime Laboratory- San Bruno, CA.

United States Secret Service Forensic Laboratory – Wash. D.C.

Los Angeles Sheriff's Crime Laboratory – Los Angeles, CA.

Los Angeles Police Department – Los Angeles, CA.

- *Military Training:*

USMC Communications and Electronics School, 29 Palms, CA

Tactical Air Control Party (TACP)

Jungle Warfare School, Ft. Sherman, Panama

Jungle Land Navigation Course, NTA, Okinawa

Jungle Environmental Survival Training (JEST), Subic Bay, Philippines

USMC Mountain Warfare School, Bridgeport, CA

Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Warfare School, Camp Pendleton, CA

- *Additional Forensic Training:*

Introduction to Investigating Staged Homicides, Trittech Forensics Training, 2021

American Academy of Forensic Sciences 73rd Annual Scientific Virtual Meeting,
February 15-19, 2021

International Association for Identification Educational Conference, San Antonio, Texas,
July 29-August 4, 2018

Courtroom Testimony A Practical Approach Workshop

Using Gel Lifts for Footwear, Latent Print, and Indented Writing Evidence Workshop

Improving Your Image Workshop

Public Status Reports & Open Discussions, Organization of Scientific Area Committees
(OSAC), New Orleans, LA, February 2017

Seak Certificate of Completion, "How to Be an Effective Expert Witness", Nashville, TN,
2015

Footwear Impression, Certificate Phase II, Sirchie Education and Training, Youngsville, NC,
October 2015

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Footwear Impression, Certificate Phase I, Sirchie Education and Training, Youngsville, NC,
July 2015

NADE Annual Conference, March 2015

Applied Polarized Light Microscopy, McCrone Research Institute, August 2014

AAFS Annual Meeting (Past Member), Little Rock, AR, 1997

ASQDE Annual Meeting (Guest), Long Beach, CA, 1994

SWADFE Meeting (Guest), 1993

FBI Evidence Response Team /Rapid Deployment Team - in-house training

MEMBERSHIPS

The Chartered Society of Forensic Science

International Association for Identification (IAI)

Collaborative Testing Services (CTS) – ANAB Accredited – participate in annual proficiency
testing in Questioned Documents

American Society for Industrial Security (ASIS)

International Biometrics and Identity Association-Member

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Founder of the Songer Institute in partnership with Sorenson Forensics and iLawVentures.

Created several notable academic programs with several institutions to include

La Sierra University and Marymount California University. Established the first forensic science
studies curriculum (CHED approved) for the Republic of the Philippines.

DOD- Certificate of Recognition, 2006

DOJ-FBI Certificate of Commendation, 2000

DOJ-FBI Certificate of Achievement, 1999

DOJ-FBI Performance Award, 1999

PUBLICATIONS

Songer, M., Forensic Document Examinations, OTLA Business Law Edition, 2017

Songer, Mark, Document Analysis: A Summary of Possibilities, American Bar Association Tort Trial
and Insurance Section, January 2017

Practical Applications in Forensic Science: Crime Ink Publishing, Coronado, CA (2nd
Edition, 2015)