
Technical Procedure for SAFIS/AFIT Searches and Property Crimes

1.0 Purpose - This procedure outlines the guidelines set forth for SAFIS/AFIT searches by the Latent Evidence Section.

2.0 Scope - This procedure applies to all cases where latent finger and palmprints are requested to be searched through the SAFIS/AFIT.

3.0 Definitions –

- **Property Crime** – Property crimes are defined as acts and attempted acts where no personal injury is involved. Examples include: any breaking, entering, and/or larceny including that of a motor vehicle, damage or injury to personal property, burglary, vandalism (not including places of worship and hate crimes), arson, and violations of the controlled substances act.
- **Non- Property Crime** – Non property crimes are defined as acts and attempted acts where personal injury is involved, crimes against places of worship, and hate crimes. Examples include: possession of a firearm by a felon, assault of any type, rape, homicide, kidnap, robbery, vandalism (of a place of worship), animal cruelty, police shootings, and shootings of any kind.

4.0 Equipment, Materials, and Reagents

4.1 Equipment and Materials

- SAFIS/AFIT printers
- SAFIS/AFIT computer station

4.2 Reagents – N/A

5.0 Procedure

5.1 AFIT searches are completed upon submission request regardless of the type of crime listed.

5.2 Non-Property crimes regardless of the listing of a suspect and/or submission of victim elimination prints.

5.2.1 Evaluate latent prints and, if of value, search through SAFIS.

5.2.2 If no identification is effected retain prints in the Unsolved Latent Print File (ULF).

5.2.3 Report results utilizing the appropriate result statement listed in the Technical Procedure for **Friction Ridge Analysis and Comparison**.

5.3 Property Crimes with no suspect and no elimination prints submitted or available

5.3.1 Evaluate latent prints and, if of value, search through SAFIS.

5.3.2 If no identification is effected do not retain prints in the Unsolved Latent Print File (ULF).

5.3.3 Add the following statement to the Results Statement Worksheet and Report :

“The (number) identifiable latent finger/palm print(s) was/were entered into and searched by the AFIS with no identification being effected.”

“Due to no elimination prints being submitted for comparison purposes, the (number) identifiable latent finger/palm print(s) was/were not retained in the AFIS database for continual search. Elimination prints must be submitted before any subsequent searches will be conducted.”

5.4 Property Crimes with a suspect, with or without elimination prints submitted, and no SAFIS request.

5.4.1 Evaluate latent prints.

5.4.2 Compare to subject(s).

5.4.3 The Forensic Scientist, based on his or her training and experience, may search any identifiable latent fingerprint and/or palmprint in SAFIS regardless of whether or not elimination prints have been submitted or a SAFIS search has been requested by the submitting agency on the Request for Examination.

5.4.4 Search latent print(s) in SAFIS.

5.4.5 Add the following statement to the Results Statement Worksheet and Report :

“The (number) identifiable latent finger/palm print(s) was/were entered into and searched by the AFIS with no identification being effected.”

“Due to no elimination prints being submitted for comparison purposes, the (number) identifiable latent finger/palm print(s) was/were not retained in the AFIS database for continual search. Elimination prints must be submitted before any subsequent searches will be conducted.”

5.5 Property Crimes involving a business

5.5.1 The requirement of elimination prints from businesses shall be evaluated on a case by case basis, with consideration being given to the number of employees and the logistics of obtaining these prints. Contact the Forensic Scientist Manager or designee with any questions related to this process.

5.6 Standards and Controls – N/A

5.7 Calibration – SAFIS/AFIT is maintained by the SBI’s Criminal Information and Identification Section (CIIS).

5.8 Sampling – N/A

5.9 Calculations – N/A

5.10 Uncertainty of Measurement – N/A

6.0 Limitations – N/A

7.0 Safety – N/A

8.0 References – N/A

9.0 Records – N/A

10.0 Attachments – N/A

Revision History		
Effective Date	Version Number	Reason
09/17/2012	1	Original Document
10/31/2013	2	Added issuing authority to header
07/01/2016	3	2.1, 5.2 - Added language to include SAFIS searches when there are no elimination prints and/or no SAFIS request on RFPE, to include wording about reverse searches.
04/07/2017	4	1.0 and Header Update – Removed Digital reference.
03/07/2018	5	Header – Updated Issuing Authority 3.0 – Added definitions of Property and Non-Property crimes. 5.0 – Added parameters for search for non-property crime cases. 1.0 – Expanded purpose to include non-property crime cases. 2.0 – Revised scope to reflect purpose statement.
02/01/2019	6	5.3.3 & 5.4.5-removed statement about searching SBI files for victim elimination prints.