

Checkmate

Forensic Handwriting Examiners

Ronald H. Rice - Forensic Handwriting Examiner

124 Long Pond Road - Unit 6
Plymouth, MA 02360
508-746-2266 Fax:508-746-265

1425 Miller Blvd.
Fruitland Park, FL 34731
352-435-7235 Fax:352-435-236

Checkmate Forensic Services. Inc.

Owner & Director of Checkmate Forensic Services, Inc., d.b.a Checkmate Forensic Handwriting Examiners. Previously licensed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (#961031C) as a Private Occupational School training and educating students in Forensic Handwriting Examination and Analysis (Retired from educating & training students and closed school 12/28/10).

The only formerly approved instructor/trainer in Forensic Handwriting Examination/ Analysis (in Massachusetts).

Formerly approved by the United States Government, Department of Veterans Affairs, GI Bill of Rights as an instructor/trainer in Forensic Handwriting Examination Analysis.

American Board of Forensic Examiners/American College of Forensic Examiners - Springfield. MO.

Former National Training Director in Forensic Handwriting Examination and Behavioral Profiling Through Written Communication. Educating and training students employed in law enforcement, corporate security, private investigations, nursing, medical doctors, psychiatrists and professionals throughout the country from 1993-1996 while in attendance at ABFE seminars.

State/Federal Court Qualified/Appointed Handwriting Examiner

In Massachusetts, South Carolina, Florida and Illinois. In Probate and Superior (criminal) Courts, Concord, NH. Superior Court, Nashua, NH. U.S. District Court, Hartford, CT.

Professional Publications

Author of comprehensive Basic, Advanced and Forensic Behavioral Profiling Through Written Communication and Forensic Handwriting Examination Education and Training courses. Forensic Handwriting Examiner who successfully represented Jan Kerouac daughter of famed writer Jack Kerouac (both deceased) - Family & Probate Court, Clearwater, FL., 2009

State & Federal Courts Appointed/Qualified Forensic Handwriting Examiner
Study, Examination & Identification of authors of Questioned Handwriting/Hand Printing
Forensic Behavioral Profile Through Written Communication
Court Appointed Suicide/Homicide FL, SC, IL, FL, Republic of Philippines
Threat assessment potential and identification of authors of anonymous death threats,

ronriceforensichandwriting@verizon.net - ronricehandwriting@hotmail.com

Checkmate

Forensic Handwriting Examiners

Ronald H. Rice - Forensic Handwriting Examiner

RONALD H. RICE

(UPDATED September 2nd, 2011)

VOIR DIRE HEARING/QUALIFICATIONS

AS A

FORENSIC HANDWRITING EXAMINER*

**TOTAL TIMES QUALIFIED AS A FORENSIC HANDWRITING EXAMINER:
AS OF DECEMBER 16, 2010 - SIXTY-SEVEN (67) TIMES**

FEDERAL COURT

5/92

U.S. v. Gauvin
Boston Federal (Criminal) Court
Qualified by: Judge A. David
Mazone 92-100 38 MA

STATE COURT

11/17/10

Bond v. Meager, et al.
Suffolk Superior (Civil) Court
Qualified by: Judge F.
McIntyre
03-4715 G

NOTE:

To the best of this Examiners knowledge - there are NO properly verified DOCUMENT EXAMINERS in Massachusetts. Certain of these examiners who identify themselves as a (PSEUDO) FDE, without proven /documented federal and/or state approved laboratory education/ training evidence are intentionally perpetrating a fraud upon their clients, client attorneys and the court.

State & Federal Courts Appointed/Qualified Forensic Handwriting Examiner
Study, Examination & Identification of authors of Questioned Handwriting/Hand Printing
Forensic Behavioral Profile Through Written Communication
Court Appointed Suicide/Homicide FL, SC, IL, FL, Republic of Philippines
Threat assessment potential and identification of authors of anonymous death threats,
harassment, ransom (kidnapping: stalking, suicide, terrorism and related documents.
licensed by the Massachusetts Department of State Police - No.: P-99

ronriceforensichandwriting@verizon.net - ronricehandwriting@hotmail.com

- 2 -

Authorized to grant CEU's by DOE Legal Department. Course's approved by Veterans Administration for active duty military and former military under the GI Bill.

LICENSED/APPROVED HANDWRITING EXPERT/EXAMINER/EDUCATOR/TRAINER:

25 years experience performing civil, criminal, and forensic handwriting examination and threat assessment/analysis of documents involving forgery, harassment, extortion, homicide, sabotage, espionage, terrorism and threats of assassination toward a U.S. Government official, corporate executives and private citizens.

Services performed for the United States Army, West Germany (counterespionage), United States Navy, Portsmouth, New Hampshire and Norfolk, Virginia (multiple homicide and threats of assassination). Major law firms, insurance companies, corporations, police departments and the private sector.

LICENSED/APPROVED HANDWRITING ANALYST EDUCATOR/TRAINER:

25 years experience assessing the personality and potential of patients/clients and suspects pertaining to probability of violence, sexual molestation, truthfulness, potential for deceit and undetected subconscious trait capabilities.

Services performed for the United States Army, United States Navy, psychiatrists, psychologists, attorneys, police officials and the private sector.

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION:

Court qualified and approved for appointment as a Handwriting Examiner and Investigator, Commonwealth of Massachusetts. (Last approved for appointment as defendant Handwriting Examiner in two separate criminal trials: U.S. (criminal) District Court, Boston, MA., 1995.

Infamous Charlestown Code of Silence trial for first degree murder. Jury declared defendant innocent.

Opposing FBI agents and experts. Case dismissed by trial judge.

Court qualified and approved for appointment as a Handwriting Examiner and Handwriting Threat Assessment Expert, Florence, South Carolina, Superior Criminal Court, 1995.

1. Defendant charged with Capital Murder. Handwriting study and examination presented to a Jury contributed to defendant being found not guilty of first degree murder but guilty of reduced charge of involuntary manslaughter.

Requested by Media By-Pass Magazine to perform an extensive forensic profile on alleged Oklahoma bombing suspect Timothy McVeigh. Profile presented to McVeigh's defense attorneys. Profile also published.

- 3 -

Former expert consultant on Handwriting Examination to certain psychiatrists, psychologists, trial attorneys, and police officials in criminal matters involving crimes of violence and threat assessment potential.

ANTIQUÉ & ART AUTHENTICATION

Nationally recognized as a leading handwriting/hand printing expert in signatures and/or hand printing identification of famous artists. Mr. Rice has been retained to study and examine for authentication paintings and/or prints created by:

Norman Rockwell

Winslow Homer

Hans Hoffman

Currently working on authentication of an alleged **Frederic Remington** painting.

Professional Recognition

The Norman Rockwell Museum, Stockbridge, MA., requested permission from Mr. Rice to refer their clients to him for authentication of prints for sale and/or purchase.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

American Society of Law Enforcement Trainers - Membership No.:011329

Massachusetts Licensed Private Detective Association (Charter Member and President)

American Board of Forensic Examiners (still educating and training certain ABFE members in Forensic Handwriting/Document Examination under original contract).

QUALIFIED AS A HANDWRITING EXPERT

Suffolk County Superior Court. Plymouth County Superior Court. Plymouth Probate Court. Barnstable County Superior Court. Barnstable District Court. Barnstable Probate Court. Wareham District Court. New York Stock Exchange Disciplinary Board. United States Army, Republic of West Germany. United States Navy, Norfolk, Virginia. United States District (criminal) Court, Boston, MA., Essex Probate Court. Probate Court, Concord, New Hampshire. Massachusetts Civil Service Commission. Massachusetts Department Of Corrections, Disciplinary Hearing, Gardner House of Correction. Superior (criminal) Court, Florence, South Carolina, 3rd Middlesex District Court, Cambridge, MA. Labor Arbitration Hearing. U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Boston, MA. New Bedford Superior Criminal Court. Small Claims Court, Brockton, MA. Norfolk County Superior Court. Wareham District Court. West Roxbury District Court. U.S. District Court, Nashua, New Hampshire. 3rd Middlesex District Court, Cambridge, MA.(second time) U.S. District Court, Hartford, CT. Barnstable Superior Court, Barnstable, MA. Plymouth Probate Court, Brockton, MA. Massachusetts Civil Service

Commission. Falmouth Small Claims Court. Concord, N.H. Superior (criminal) Court. Quincy District Court. Plymouth Probate Court, Plymouth Probate Court, Middlesex District Court, Middlesex District Court.

(Ronald H. Rice **IS** a Handwriting Examiner **NOT** a Document Examiner)

- 4 -

Qualified As A Handwriting Expert (continued)

Barnstable Probate Court, Disciplinary Board, Board of Bar Overseers.

TOTAL TIMES COURT QUALIFIED AS A HANDWRITING EXPERT

As of Sept. 22nd, 2011 - Sixty-Eight (68) times.

Note: Majority of civil/criminal complaints are either settled, stipulated too or dismissed as a result of Examiner's opinion. i.e. 2000-2001 - 5 criminal complaints dismissed/not guilty findings. 3 civil complaints settled.

Frequent court appearances/testimony is a suggestion of a witness for hire.

Special Court Qualifications

Court qualified as a Handwriting Expert in Sequential Entries:

February 1998 United States District Court, Nashua N.H.
August 1998 Superior Criminal Court, Barnstable, MA

States Court Qualified/Appointed in Forensic Behavioral Profiler

May 1999 State of Illinois Alleged Suicide Note Determined To Be a Forgery And Death To Be a Homicide.

November 1999 State of Florida Threat Assessment and Forensic Profile on Defendant Charged With First Degree Murder.

National/International News Stories Involving Questioned Documents Studied and Examined For Comparison Purposes

Documents alleged to have been authored by Serial Killer Ted Bundy.
Documents alleged to have been authored by O. J. Simpson.

Document alleged to have been authored by Vincent Foster (President Clinton's friend and counsel) prior to his alleged suicide. Lead Handwriting Examiner at a major press conference in Washington, D.C., on Wednesday, October, 25, 1995. Press conference called by Strategic Investment Publication Company. Featured nation wide on Unsolved Mysteries television show, March 22, 1996.

Threat assessment of explicit harassment documents sent to actress Brooke Shields.

Study and examination of multiple handwritten documents reported to have been authored by alleged Boston Strangler, Albert DeSalvo while in Walpole State Prison, Walpole, MA.

- 5 -

2001 - Consulted for study and examination of an alleged J. Edgar Hoover signature on an official FBI (letterhead) document alleged to have been presented to a member of the U.S. Supreme Court in 1965.

2001 - Consulted by former FBI agents regarding terrorism document following multiple homicide at a xerox corporate office, Hawaii.

April 1997 Television Interviews/Appearances

NBC News-Channel 7 (Boston) televised study and examination of FBI released letter authored by alleged Oklahoma bomber Timothy McVeigh.

MSNBC News (New York) nationwide live televised interview and discussion regarding recent request by Colorado Bureau of Criminal Investigation for handwriting exemplars from Patricia Ramsey regarding JonBenet Ramsey homicide investigation.

Today Show (New York) telephone continuing discussion regarding Patricia and JonBenet Ramsey investigation.

NBC News (Boulder, Colorado), telephone call regarding Patricia and JonBenet Ramsey investigation.

August 1997 Interviews

MSNBC News (New York) live television discussion regarding recently released letter formations from the JonBenet Ramsey ransom note

September 1997 International Recognition

A professional opinion regarding an alleged suicide note purported to have been authored by a Philippine Navy Ensign was presented, in writing, to the Philippine Senate Committee on Justice and Human Rights and the Philippine Committee on National Defense and Security. The Chairman read my professional opinion on the floor and the opinion was entered into the record.

Following this, a Philippine senior, and extensively experienced Document Examiner testified to his similar, independent findings that the alleged suicide note was a forgery.

October 1998 Interviews

MSNBC News (New York) live television discussion regarding JonBenet Ramsey ransom note

October 2001 Interviews

Channel 7 and NECN (Cable) channel 31 live television study and examination of the two Anthrax laced documents mailed to Senator Daschle and NBC TV anchor Tom Brokow.

NOTE: To the best of this Examiners knowledge - there are NO properly verified DOCUMENT EXAMINERS in Massachusetts. Certain of these examiners who identify themselves as a PSEUDO-FDE, without proven/documentated evidence, are intentionally perpetrating a fraud upon the court.

- 6 -

Channel 7 television study and examination of the two notes contained in the mailings to Senator Daschle and Tom Brokow.

Massachusetts Law Enforcement Agencies, Services Performed For

Massachusetts Attorney General (Criminal Investigation)
Assistant District Attorney Dorchester District Court
Assistant District Attorney New Bedford District Court

Assistant District Attorney Wareham District Court
Massachusetts Department of Correction
Massachusetts State Police
Sheriff's Department
City/town Police Departments

New Hampshire Law Enforcement Agencies, Services Performed For New

Hampshire Attorney General (Homicide Unit).

Laboratory Equipment

Microscope: Stereo Microscope - 15 and 45 Power. Incident and transmitted light.

Ultra-Violet Light: UVGL-15 longwave/shortwave and CC-10 Chromato-Vue Cabinet.

Light Box: Desk Top Light Box

Magnifiers: Optivisor -2.5 and 10 Power with 5 Power Loupe Adjustable Focus Magnifying Glass with stand - 8 Power Transparent base magnifier Comparator - 6 Power Battery Operated, Hand Held Magnifying Glass - 10 Power Illuminated magnifying lamp.

Recticles: 0.3" X 0.4" grid in 0.025" squares. Two horizontal scales: 4" with 0.0005" divisions & 20mm with 1/10mm divisions. Angle scale 0 degree to 90 degree in 1 degree divisions. Radius scale 1 to 10 mm. Nine circles 1/10mm to 3mm dia. 3 horizontal scales: 20mm 0 center scale (10-0-10)

Both sides calibrated 0 to 1 in 0.05 mm, 1 to 5 mm on 0.1 mm and 5 to 10 mm in 1/64" divisions. 90 degree angle scale in 5 degree divisions from 0.1 to 1.0 mm; ten with 0.0005" to 1/64" dia. Angle scales 20 degrees, 55 degrees, 60 degrees, 118 degrees.

Light Sources:

4" by 5" Portable Light Box and 12 5/16" by 9 3/16" Desk Top Light Box.

Portable Ultra Violet Handheld Light

- 7 -

Measuring Devices:

0-150 mm/6" Electronic Digital Caliper - Calipers (manual) - Dividers Typewriter grids - Handwriting Protractor, 1 degree and .5 degree increments, from 0 degrees at the horizontal to 90 degrees in the vertical. - Typewriter Protractor from 0 degrees to 5 degrees. -

Typewriter Test Plates - PICA - ELITE - and various typewriter/handwriting grids and gauges to determine spacing and size. Canon PC-25 enlargement (120%) and reducing (78% & 67%) copier. Various metal and plastic rulers in inches, cm and mm.

Measuring Plates:

Slope Protractor Glass Plate. Handwriting Letter Slant and Comparison Glass Test Plate. Glass Typewriter Measurement Plate. Type Angle Glass Plate.

- SUPREME COURT DECISIONS CONCERNING HANDWRITING -

In United States v. Mara, 410 U.S. 19, 41 LW 4185 (1973), the Supreme Court held that the Fourth Amendment is not violated by a compelled production of "physical characteristics" that are constantly exposed to the public. The court stated: " Handwriting, like speech, is repeatedly shown to the public and there is no more expectation of privacy in the physical characteristics of a person's script than there is in the tone of his voice."

In United States v. Dionisio, 410 U.S. 1, 41LW 4180 (1973), the Supreme Court held that the physical characteristics of a person's voice or handwriting, or facial characteristics, being constantly exposed to the public view, are not within protection of the Fourth Amendment.

In Gilbert v. California, 388 U.S. 263 (1967), the Supreme Court held that the compelled production of handwriting exemplars, does not violate the Fifth Amendment privilege against self-incrimination. Moreover, the court stated: "A mere handwriting exemplar, in contrast to the content of what is written, like the words or body itself, is an identifying characteristic outside (Fifth Amendment) protection."

In United States v. Sydney W. Rosinsky, FR. P249, F2d No. 2, March 7, 1977, the court held that "handwriting is behavior in public-no intrusion into privacy."

- 8

QUALIFYING AS A HANDWRITING EXPERT -

Massachusetts: Potter & Troy, A Practical Guide to Introducing Evidence, MCLE, Inc. (1987) p. 79 ..a witness may qualify as an expert by demonstrating specialized knowledge, skill, experience, training, or education, or a combination of those factors.

Proof of Handwriting by Opinion of Expert (Mottla) "One who has made a special study of handwriting may give his opinion as to the genuineness of a disputed writing, by comparing it with the undisputed writing of the person alleged to have written the one disputed (Reed v Mattapan Deposit & Trust Co. 198 Mass 306, 84 NE 469.)" "The competency of an expert to testify in respect to the identity of handwriting with an established standard depends very much upon the discretion of the presiding judge, and an exception to his decision will rarely be sustained." (Com. v Nefus, 135 Mass 533, 534.)

"One experienced in the comparison and examination of signatures for the purpose of detecting forgery may give his opinion as to the genuineness of a disputed writing (Marcy v Barnes, 82 Mass (16 Gray) 161.) and from mere observation of the writing, he may testify as to whether it is free, natural, and genuine, or artificial and imitated (Moody v Rowell, 34 Mass (17 Pick) 490).

He may also testify as to the identity of an illegible character (Stone v Hubbard, 61 Mass (7 Cush) 595), that certain writing was not made with a pen (Com. v Webster, 59 Mass (5 Cush) 295), but not whether the writing was made with another instrument (Com. b Webster, supra).

He may also state whether certain words were written before or after a paper was folded (Bacon v Williams, 79 Mass (13 Gray) 525), whether the whole instrument was written at the same time (Com v Williams, 105 Mass 62), as to the formation of the letters, the angles, and where the pen was taken off (Bacon b Williams, 79 Mass (13 Gray) 525), but not whether certain words from their huddled appearance were interpolated, as that is common knowledge (Jewett v Draper, 88 Mass (6 Allen) 434).

A paper not admitted as a standard of comparison cannot be used to test the accuracy of an expert, by asking him if the paper was written by the one whose writing is in dispute, for this would introduce collateral issues (Bacon v Williams, 79 Mass (13 Gray) 525).

It is within the discretion of the court to exclude the question in cross-examination to a witness not an expert which calls for the identification of a letter marked for examination, but not yet admitted in evidence (Noyes v Noyes, 224 Mass 125, 112 NE 850)."

Black's Law Dictionary** states thus: "Expert testimony. Opinion evidence of some person who possesses special skill or knowledge in some science, profession or business, which is not common to the average man and which is possessed by the expert by reason of his special study or experience."

- 9 -

Further, Black's Law Dictionary states: "Handwriting, considered under the law of evidence, includes not only the ordinary writing of one able to write, but also writing done in a disguised hand, or in cipher, and a mark made by one able or unable to write."

According to Black's Law Dictionary, "Handwriting is the chirography of a person; the cast or form of writing peculiar to a person, including the size, shape, and style of letters, tricks of penmanship, and whatever gives individuality to his writing, distinguishing it from that of other persons."

No where in the above definitions does the law mention that ink, paper, machinery, etc., are considerations in the simple, concrete discussion of handwriting.

No where in the above information does one get the impression that a person involved in handwriting deals with other than the writing itself--its size, shape, style, etc."

Black's Law Dictionary: Fifth Edition (St. Paul, MN:
West Publishing Co., 1979
Journal Of The National Association Of Document Examiners
Volume 13, No. 2 May 1992

Ronald H. Rice professional opinion is based on the handwriting/hand printing presented for study and comparison, and years of practical experience examining thousands of documents. His professional opinion regarding typewriter character size, shape, style, etc., is based on United States Army Criminal Investigation Department Field Manual FM 19-20 Chapter 25 Questioned Documents And Related Offenses - Section 25-14 Examination of Typewritten Documents; Section 25-15 Typewritten Exemplars and Section 25-16 Typewritten Standards.

Federal Rules of Evidence Rule 702. Testimony by Experts states, "If scientific, technical, or other specialized knowledge will assist the trier of fact to understand the evidence or to determine a fact in issue, a witness qualified as an expert by knowledge, skill, experience, training or education, may testify thereto in the form of an opinion or otherwise".