



## Summary

Ron Morris is a certified document examiner and the President and Founder of Ronald. N. Morris and Associates, Inc. RNM&AI is a forensic document-consulting firm specializes in handwriting and hand printing identification and other document examinations, such as interlineations and alteration, fabrication techniques, page insertions, nondestructive ink differentiation using the Foster+Freeman® VSC4c video spectral comparator, and indentation analysis using a Foster+Freeman® ESDA system, etc.

## Education / Training

- Bachelor of Science Degree – George Mason University, Fairfax, VA
- Mr. Morris completed a formal training program in accordance with American Standards Testing and Materials (ASTM), standard E2388 and the Scientific Working Group for Documents (SWGDOC) “Standard for the Minimum Training Requirements for Forensic Document Examiners (Ver. 2013-1).” The training program was approximately three years in recognized questioned document laboratories and under the direct and daily supervision of senior qualified document examiners. It included a combination of structured study assignments using leading text and technical papers in the field of document examination, learning and applying examination techniques, and the use of technical aids and equipment to perform the examination and comparison studies necessary in different types of document examinations and comparisons in actual casework and research. Some of the areas covered in the training program are:
  - Learning and properly applying the principles of handwriting and hand printing identification
  - Interlineations and alteration determination
  - Document fabrication techniques
  - Mechanical impressions, i.e., typewriters, embossers, cutter blades, etc.
  - Photographic techniques applicable to document examination
  - Printing processes
  - Other theoretical and applied principles and techniques directly related to the examination of documents.

After successful completion of the basic training program, he continued working with senior examiners on a daily basis. He maintains his proficiency by attending and participating in professional and technical conferences and workshops conducted by professional organizations, such as the American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS), the Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Scientists (MAAFS), etc., and exchanging information and working with other recognized forensic document examiners.

- He has attended seminar and training sessions in forensic document examination at the Federal Bureau of Investigation training division at Quantico, VA. Additionally, he attended seminar courses, including laboratory training, in paper properties and measurements, paper physics, and the basic and advance course in fiber analysis at The Institute of Paper Chemistry, Appleton, WI.
- He has attended and served as guest lecturer at questioned document technical seminars at Georgetown University, Washington, DC.
- He served as an instructor at the U.S. Treasury Department Agents Basic Training School in Washington, DC, and the United States Secret Service, Office of Training, questioned document course for special agents and investigators held in Washington, DC, and the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Brunswick, GA.

- He has also served as an instructor at the questioned document course for state and local police investigators, and investigative aids at both the USSS, Office of Training, in Washington, DC, and at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC), Brunswick, GA. The teaching assignments were a part of the duties of document examiners in the USSS, Forensic Services Division, Questioned Document Branch.
- Additionally he has attended and/or presented technical papers, conducted workshops and breakout sessions on questioned documents at the:
  - American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS), and served as program Chair for the 2013 Questioned Document Section meeting in Washington, DC.
  - American Society of Questioned Documents (ASQDE)
  - Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Sciences (MAAFS)
  - Southwestern Association of Forensic Document Examiners (SWAFDE)
  - International Association of Financial Crime Investigators (IAFCI) – formerly known as the International Association of Credit Card Investigators (IACCI)
  - International Association of Asian Criminal Investigators (IAACI)
  - INTERPOL and several other international conferences
  - At a joint meeting of the Canadian Society of Forensic Sciences (CSFS), Mid-West Association of Forensic Sciences, Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Sciences, the Southern Association of Forensic Scientists.
  - Virginia Public Defenders conference in Norfolk, VA
  - The Charlottesville, VA bar association.
  - Guest lecturer at the Northern Virginia Community College, and the Questioned Document Seminar at Virginia Tech – Blacksburg, VA.
  - Guest lecturer at the George Washington University, Master Degree Forensic Science Program – questioned document class.
  - Numerous classes for bank investigators and other personnel at various banks, plus church, business, and other civic groups.

## Experience

- 1972 – Examiner of Questioned Documents Office, U.S. Treasury Department.
- 1973 – 1975 - Metropolitan Police Department, Questioned Document Laboratory
- 1975 – 1998 - U.S. Treasury Department, United States Secret Service (USSS), Questioned Document Branch where he completed his training program in 1975 and worked as a Forensic Document Examiner until his retirement in 1998.
- 1998 – Present - Ronald N. Morris & Associates, Inc.
- He served as a technical representative from the USSS to the INTERPOL, Payment Card Work Group, where he was elected Chairman of the Sub-group of experts. The work group's mission was to develop an international classification system for counterfeit plastic card documents.
- He has served as a technical adviser to the Standards Council of Canada (SCC). He served with other forensic document scientists in conducting accreditation surveys of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) forensic laboratory system Questioned Document Branch and Counterfeit Division. The technical advisers' mission is to assess the laboratories conformance to the International Standard Organization (ISO) standards governing the examination and operation procedures of the Questioned Document Laboratory.

## **Certification**

- February 1991 - present – The United States Secret Service, Forensic Services Division
- August 1980 - 2005 – Diplomate, American Board of Forensic Document Examiners (ABFDE)

## **Professional organization memberships**

- Fellow – The American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS), Questioned Document Section
- Member – The Mid-Atlantic Association of Forensic Scientists (MAAFS), Questioned Document Section.
- Member – The Canadian Society of Forensic Science (CSFS), Questioned Document Section.
- Member – The International Association for Identification (IAI), Questioned Document Section.
- Retired member – The International Association of Financial Crime Investigators (IAFCI), formally known as the International Association of Credit Card Investigators (IACCI)

## **Testimony**

He has testified approximately 275 times as an expert in handwriting and hand printing identification and related document cases in federal, state, local courts, courts in the District of Columbia, and military courts martial. His testimony experience includes testimony in criminal, civil, and juvenile courts.

## **Publications**

- Forensic Handwriting Identification / Fundamental Concepts and Principles, published in 2000, ISBN 0-12-507640-1, and contributor to The Encyclopedia of Forensic Sciences, both published by Academic Press. (Author)
- The Manufacturing of Genuine Credit Cards, published in Vol. 46, No. 3 May/June 1996, Journal of Forensic Identification of the IAI. (Author)
- Vacuum Metal Deposition of Silver as an Aid in Credit Card Examinations, published in Vol. 47, No. 1 January/February 1997, Journal of Forensic Identification of the IAI. (Co-author)
- What is the Basis for a Handwriting Elimination? Published in the Journal of the American Society of Questioned Document Examiners, Vol. 13, No. 2, December 2010. (Co-Author)
- Access Device Fraud and Related Financial Crimes, published by CRC Press, 1999, ISBN 0-8493-8130-4. (Co-Author)
- Evidence, published in Vol. 12, No. 2 July 1998, International Review of Law Computers & Technology. (Author)

Author or co-author of other technical papers on different questioned document topics, including, but not limited to, handwriting and hand printing identification, opinion terminology, document interlineations and alterations, fabrication techniques, nondestructive ink differentiation, paper fasteners, the examination of plastic card documents, and other documentary evidence examination areas, etc.