



**Article Title:** Jeffrey Daniel Bunche v State of Florida 2009-02-18 4<sup>th</sup> District Appeal

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**Article's Subject Matter:**

Court decision on an appeal of a conviction for burglary where fingerprint evidence was used to convict. Appealed on grounds that hearsay evidence on a second examiner's opinion (verification) should have been excluded from testimony.

**Key Points in Article**

- Fingerprint Evidence used to convict
- Examiner testified that a second examiner conferred with him over the identification
- A verification was conducted and the examiner told the court of those findings
- Defence argued examiner's verification testimony was hearsay

**Fallacies and or Issues**

- Court agreed that it was hearsay, but saved the decision harmless as identification wasn't contested by the defence
- This matter could have had a different decision – if the defence had contested the identity of the fingerprint origin
- Currently in Canada not aware of this being an issue – however writer has had two court cases now where the fingerprint verifier was required to attend court to present their evidence in lieu of a statement from the first fingerprint examiner of the Verification conclusion.
- This may be in an issue in future and examiners in the field should be aware that in some circumstances, the verifier may be required to present their own evidence.