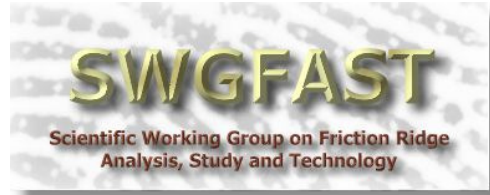


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June 29, 2010

In regards to: Position Clarification

To Whom It May Concern

During a recent hearing regarding a motion to exclude fingerprint evidence, the defense referenced two SWGFAST documents which contain conflicting information. The Glossary (version 2.0) which does not use the term "to the exclusion of all others" in conjunction with the term individualization and the Friction Ridge Examination Methodology for Latent Print Examiners (version 1.01) that does use the phrase.

The referenced version of the Glossary was approved on May 08, 2009 while the FR Examination Methodology was approved on August 22, 2002. SWGFAST has been in the process of reviewing the methodology document, and substantial changes to it are anticipated. These will include the removal of the phrase "to the exclusion of all others". With the review process already in progress an attempt to open the existing document in order to make this change was not considered.

The position of SWGFAST would be to support the most recent definition. This position was announced in 2009 during a conference at Arizona State University regarding the NAS report on Strengthening Forensic Science in the United States.

Best regards,

Leonard G. Butt
Chairman