

**COST: \$625.00 PER STUDENT**

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<http://forensicpieces.com/hosting-and-attending-courses-faq>

**ADVANCED RIDGEOLOGY  
SCIENCE WORKSHOP**

By

Kathleen Bright-Birnbaum, CPLE  
Certified by IAI  
Co-Instructor for Forensic Pieces, Inc.

**ABOUT YOUR INSTRUCTOR:**

Kathleen Bright-Birnbaum retired from the Pima County Sheriff's Department with over thirty-six years of service. Over those years she served as a Latent Print Examiner, Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) site manager, forensic artist and crime scene technician. Kathleen has been an IAI Certified Latent Print Examiner since 1995. A contemporary of Pat Wertheim, who originally designed this course in the 1980s, Kathleen has been continuously updating the course since 2009 when she became its exclusive instructor. She has been teaching Fingerprint Courses since 1980 and travels regularly to South Africa to present the Advanced Ridgeology Science Workshop to the South African Police Service. She has been published in magazines such as the Journal of Forensic Identification, Servamus Security Magazine and The Champion. Kathleen has also served on the Editorial Review Board for the Journal of Forensic Identification since 2001. Since leaving the sheriff's department, Kathleen has continued to serve the criminal justice community through her company, Desert Forensics. Based in Tucson, Arizona, Desert Forensics provides independent forensic consulting services to attorneys throughout the US and Canada.



KATHLEEN BRIGHT-BIRNBAUM  
CLPE

**COURSE DATES: JUNE 18 – 22, 2018**  
**8:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**LOCATION: TRAVIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**5555 AIRPORT BLVD.**  
**AUSTIN, TX 78751**

**RECOMMENDED LODGING: HOLIDAY INN AUSTIN MIDTOWN**  
**6000 MIDDLE FISKVILLE, ROAD**  
**AUSTIN, TX 78752**  
**PHONE: (512) 451-5757**

**NORTH DRURY INN & SUITES**  
**6711 I.H. 35 NORTH**  
**AUSTIN, TX 78752**  
**PHONE: (512) 467-9500**

**HOSTING AGENCY: TRAVIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**HOST CONTACT: SHANNON SHAFER (512)854-8447 [SHANNON.SHAFER@TRAVISCOUNTYTX.GOV](mailto:SHANNON.SHAFER@TRAVISCOUNTYTX.GOV)**

**\*\*TO REGISTER CALL US AT (850)332-0141 OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.FORENSICPIECES.COM](http://WWW.FORENSICPIECES.COM)\*\***

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This five day, 40-hour course combines detailed lectures regarding the scientific basis for friction ridge identification with intense latent print comparison practical exercises. The lecture material incorporates the ridgeology concepts of David Ashbaugh with the practical application techniques developed by Pat Wertheim. This course is an excellent tool to help examiners prepare for the International Association for Identification (IAI) certification examination. Comparison exercises using actual latent prints and inked ten print cards help to reinforce the concepts presented in the lectures. Each student is evaluated and assigned practical exercises that are challenging, but achievable. Comparison exercises representing a wide range of difficulty levels allows each student to work at his or her own level of competency, from beginning latent print examiners to those already certified by the IAI. Individual attention will be available during exercise periods. This class is ideal, even for senior examiners who desire to increase their speed and accuracy in doing latent print comparisons, lectures to improve a student's overall knowledge of the fundamentals supporting ridgeology science, along with exercises to enable the examiner to develop the ability to make tough identifications and improve an examiner's efficiency in doing comparison will be presented throughout the course.

### COURSE TOPICS:

- Recognition of ridge pattern "clues", identifying which finger or which area of skin made a particular latent impression
- The correct use of 3rd level detail
- The philosophy and "ACE-V" methodology of comparing and identifying latent prints.
- The fundamental principles of persistency and uniqueness
- A detailed look into the accepted analysis of latent prints
- Non-friction ridge skin comparison and identification
- Forgery and fabrication
- Close non-matches and 3<sup>rd</sup> level detail
- Intentional mutilation
- Introduction to analysis of distortion
- Factors in determining latent print examiner ability
- Explain the relationship between examiner ability and image quality and quantity in the analysis and comparison of a latent print
- Four parts of ridgeprint identification philosophy

### WHAT TO BRING TO CLASS:

Casual attire is suitable. Each student must bring latent print comparison magnifier(s) suitable for doing latent print comparisons. The use of needle sharp ridge counters is strongly discouraged and students are urged to bring a pair that will not inadvertently penetrate skin nor damage latent and/or inked prints. There will be ridge counters available for those students that do not have a sufficient pair.

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This is an intermediate level class. Although every effort will be made to accommodate persons new to the field, some foundation in latent print knowledge is strongly recommended prior to taking the class. Students are expected to be familiar with fingerprint terminology and should have some exposure to latent print comparisons.