

**COST: \$625.00 PER STUDENT**

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**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 Pima County Sheriff's Department with over 36 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 and has served on the Editorial Review Board for the Journal of Forensic Identification since 2001. A contemporary of Pat Wertheim, who originally designed this course in the 1980s, she has been continuously updating the course since 2009 when she became its exclusive instructor. Kathleen has been teaching Fingerprint Courses since 1980 and has traveled many times 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. 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: FEBRUARY 4 – 8, 2019**  
**8:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**LOCATION: AMARILLO COLLEGE**  
**WEST CAMPUS**  
**BUILDING C, ROOM 112**  
**6222 W. 9<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE**  
**AMARILLO, TX 79106**

**RECOMMENDED LODGING: HOLIDAY INN AMARILLO**  
**WEST MEDICAL CENTER**  
**8231 W. AMARILLO BOULEVARD**  
**AMARILLO, TX 79124**  
**PHONE: (806) 332-4777**

**HOSTING AGENCY: AMARILLO COLLEGE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAMS**  
**HOST CONTACT: ERIC WALLACE (806) 356-3682 OR [ECWALLACE@ACTX.EDU](mailto:ECWALLACE@ACTX.EDU)**

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

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This 5-day, 40-hour course combines pertinent information on the science of friction ridges and latent print identification techniques with a significant amount of latent print comparison practical exercises that help reinforce the newly learned concepts. The lecture material incorporates friction ridge concepts with the practical comparison exercises originally developed by Pat Wertheim. These practical exercises consist of actual latent prints and inked ten prints. The practical exercises are divided into multiple levels of difficulty thus allowing each student to be evaluated, and assigned practical exercises that are challenging, yet achievable. The wide range of exercise 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 for examiners of all experience levels who wish to increase their speed and accuracy in doing latent print comparisons. Lectures to improve the student's overall knowledge of the fundamentals supporting ridgeology science, along with exercises that enable examiners to develop the ability to make tough identifications and improve their efficiency in doing comparisons will be presented throughout the course.

This course has been approved for 40 hours of training credit towards certification/recertification by the IAI Latent Print Certification Board and the Tenprint Fingerprint Certification Board.

### 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 persistence and uniqueness
- A detailed look into the accepted analysis of latent prints
- Non-friction ridge skin comparison and identification
- Foot print clues and court precedence
- Non-friction ridge skin comparison and identification
- Forgery, fabrication and tough IDs
- Close non-matches and 3<sup>rd</sup> level detail
- Analysis of Distortion
- Intentional Mutilation

### 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. Suitable ridge counters will be provided in class for student use.

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This is generally considered an intermediate level course but is suitable for individuals performing any level of ten-print or latent print comparisons. Every effort will be made to accommodate persons new to the field, though some foundational knowledge and working vocabulary of fingerprint terminology is strongly recommended prior to taking the class.