



## New Training Opportunity

### Effective Preparation for Evidentiary Hearings

Articulating the Scientific Foundations of  
Firearm and Toolmark Identification

#### Introduction

This lecture series is focused on building a coherent argument for the scientific foundations of firearm and toolmark identification. It does this by taking the simple question, "Was this toolmark produced by the submitted tool?" and dividing it into its two component issues. The first is similarity, e.g., "Do different tools create different toolmarks?" This has been demonstrated to be true by over 30 machine-based studies that have examined the question.

The second is discernibility, e.g., "Can a trained examiner, using accepted methods, procedures and controls, reliably discern differences and similarities and render accurate common source determinations?" This has been demonstrated to be true by over 25 studies that have examined that question.

It is hoped that this lecture series will cause us to look at and articulate our scientific foundations in a different way, one that allows the courts to have a better understanding of what we do, why we do it, how we do it and why it works.

Completion of the course provides the student with a certificate of completion, a resource list, and an outline for motions in support of firearm and toolmark identification.

#### Curriculum

Part 1 – Introduction

Part 2 – Similarity

Part 3 – Developing an Identification Criteria

Part 4 – Discernibility

Part 5 – Strategy

#### Availability

Register in the school at: <https://fatmid-advanced-training.teachable.com/>

Register for the course – Effective Preparation for Evidentiary Hearings

Cost \$125 USD individual cost (contact me for institutional cost)

*If you have difficulty navigating the site, please let me know. You must register for the school first, and then the course.*

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