



# RON SMITH & ASSOCIATES, INC.



## Detection, Documentation and Recovery of Footwear & Tire Track Evidence

### Course Description

Many criminals are aware of leaving fingerprints at a crime scene and therefore take measures to minimize their risk of doing so. However, they typically don't consider depositing footwear and/or tire track impressions, thus leaving a wealth of evidence to be discovered. Sadly, footwear and tire track impressions are by far the most overlooked, improperly documented and under-collected types of forensic evidence, even though they may provide direct linkage between the victim, suspect and/or location. This hands-on course will provide the necessary guidance and information for the attendee to confidently detect, photograph, collect and preserve this valuable but elusive evidence. Instruction will also be provided in the collection of footwear and tire track standards for examination/comparison purposes.

### Target Audience

This course is appropriate and necessary for anyone tasked with detecting, photographing and collecting footwear and tire track impression evidence. Patrol officers, detectives, crime scene personnel and others are welcome to attend. Whether you are a novice or perhaps a bit more seasoned, you will acquire new knowledge, skills and abilities to better perform your job and serve your community.

### Should be Able to Perform

- At the completion of this course, the student should be able to:
- Understand the importance and significance of footwear and tire track evidence.
  - Select the appropriate detection method for locating this evidence.
  - Confidently take examination-quality photographs to document these impressions.
  - Properly collect both two- and three-dimensional impression evidence through a variety of lifting and casting methods.
  - Develop and/or enhance bloody impressions.
  - Collect footwear and tire track standards for comparison purposes.

### Must Bring to Class

Students should wear appropriate business casual clothing for both indoor and outdoor practical exercises. Clothing can be soiled or ruined during the practical exercises due to chemicals and/or working outside. Students are asked to bring the following: digital camera (digital SLR preferred) and instruction manual, lens, batteries for camera and flash, digital media, off-camera flash and instruction manual, remote flash cord, tripod (if available), and a flashlight. These items are not required to attend class but are strongly recommended to enhance the learning experience.



**Class instructor:**  
**John Black, CLPE,**  
**CFWE, CSCSA**



Tuition: \$450.00  
3 Days  
24 I.A.I. Approved Training Hours

***This course approved for  
I.A.I. Certification & Re-certification***

# Daily Schedule

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
Hour 1	Registration Course Overview Introductions	Practical exercises: 2-D impression collection and packaging	Cast collection/clean-up/evaluation/packaging
Hour 2	Overview and importance of footwear impression evidence	Development and enhancement of bloody impressions	Collection of footwear standards
Hour 3	Types of impressions and detection methods	Practical exercises: Bloody impressions (amido black/LCV)	Practical exercises: Footwear standard collection using powder/acetate, inkless methods and Biofoam
Hour 4	Photographic documentation and equipment considerations	Practical exercises: 3-D impression detection and photography	
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Hour 5	Practical exercises: 2-D impression detection and photography	Practical exercises: 3-D impression detection and photography	Collection of tire track standards
Hour 6		Collection methods for 3-D impressions: casting with stone and sulfur products	Practical exercises: tire track standard collection using powder/ink methods on chart board
Hour 7	Collection methods for 2-D impressions: EDL, gel lifts and adhesive lifts	Practical exercises: casting in dirt/sand, underwater casting, dry-casting in snow	
Hour 8	Practical exercises: 2-D impression collection and packaging		

## Recommended Reading

*Bodziak, William J. Footwear Impression Evidence: Detection, Recovery, and Examination; 2nd ed. 2000, CRC Press LLC, Boca Raton, Florida.*

*Hilderbrand, Dwane S. Footwear, the Missed Evidence: A Field Guide to the Collection and Preservation of Forensic Footwear Impression Evidence; 1999, Staggs Publishing, Temecula, California.*

## Online Class Registration

Visit us at: [www.RonSmithandAssociates.com](http://www.RonSmithandAssociates.com) and register today!