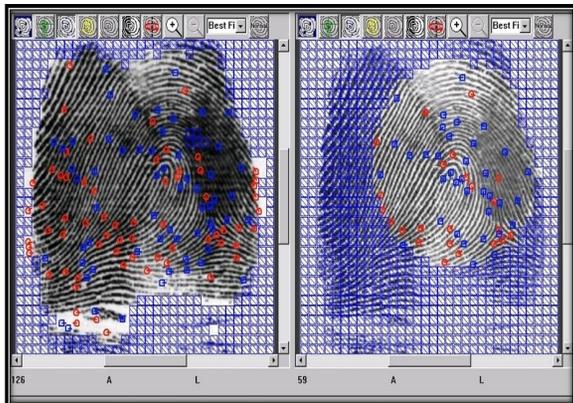


THE AFIS CONNECTION

AFIS searches for investigative leads can be performed on unidentified latent prints.

The Washington State Patrol is a participating member of the Western Identification Network (WIN) and has had great success in linking unsolved crimes using the WIN database. For example, a person arrested in Oregon can “hit” to a unsolved latent print from Washington.

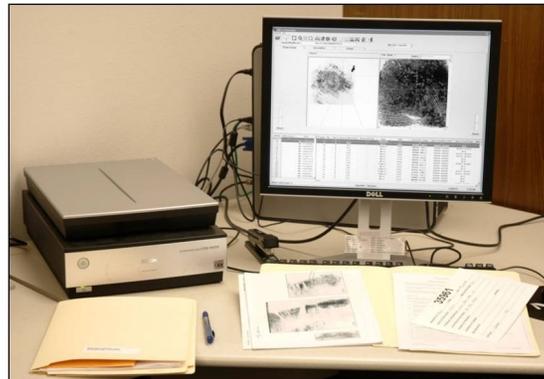
With over six million fingerprints and thousands of palm prints in an ever growing WIN database, more than 600 identifications have been made in Washington State.



Side by side images from AFIS

Benefits of AFIS to Law Enforcement

- Match previously unsolved crimes
- Reduce the number of unsolved cases
- Increase interagency communication



WHAT CAN AFIS DO?

- Search unsolved latent prints (fingers and palms) found at crime scenes against ten print cards
- Register unsolved latent prints into the data base
- Search ten prints against registered latent prints

FORENSIC LABORATORY SERVICES BUREAU

Automated Fingerprint Identification System

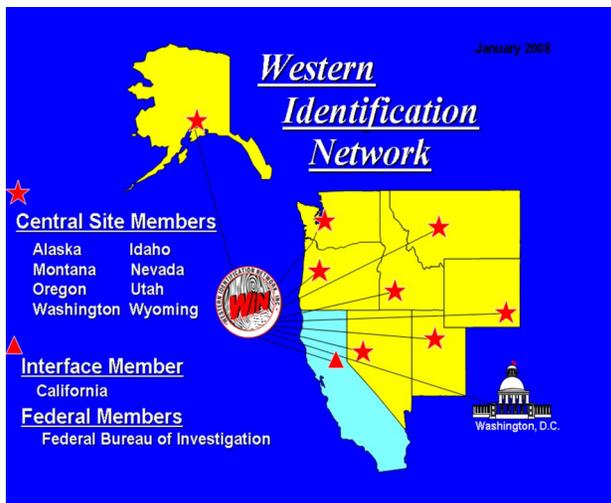


Washington State Patrol
Crime Laboratory

April 2012

What happens with latent print evidence submitted to the lab?

1. Evidence for processing is submitted with a Request for Laboratory Examination (RFLE) form, assigned a laboratory case number and barcoded for tracking through the laboratory.
2. The submitted evidence is analyzed for identifiable latent prints and compared to listed suspect and elimination prints. Unidentified latent prints are evaluated for AFIS suitability.
3. Suitable latent prints are searched through AFIS and finger and palm print exemplars are retrieved for possible matches.
4. The forensic scientist will then compare the latent print to the known finger or palm print exemplars.
5. A report is issued with the results of the examination.



Participating Member States

Alaska - Idaho - Montana - Nevada - Oregon
Utah - Washington - Wyoming

Interface Agencies

California

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

WHAT DOES AFIS DO?

AFIS (Automated Fingerprint Identification System) is a system used to search both unknown latent and inked/livescan finger and palm prints against a database of known fingerprint and palm prints and return a list of potential candidates for comparison.

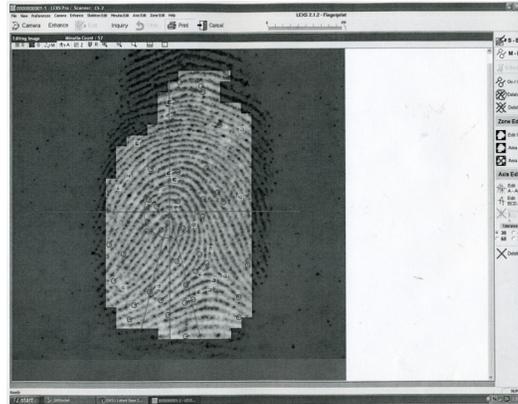


Image from AFIS Screen

WHAT YOU CAN DO

1. Submit latent lifts or digital images of latent prints for analysis, comparison, and AFIS searching capabilities.
2. List any potential suspects, victims, or witnesses. Include name, date of birth, and if possible, State Identification Number (SID).
3. If you have information that a suspect may be performing interstate crimes or if a specific state may be relevant to your case, indicate the geographic area on the RFLE. If it is not a WIN participating state, contact that state, obtain finger and palm print exemplars, and submit them with the evidence.

WHEN A LATENT "HIT" DOES NOT OCCUR

When a latent search does not produce a possible candidate, the latent is then registered into the database for future searches.

The print is then routinely searched against new and upgraded submitted finger and palm print exemplars.

If a possible candidate is found, a request is made to the agency to resubmit the evidence for comparison.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact any forensic scientist in the Latent Prints Crime Laboratory - Olympia
(360) 705-5988