Requirements before attending the Fingerprinting Merit Badge Clinic

Before attending the Merit Badge Clinic each boy should be prepared to give to the counselors a written report giving a short history of fingerprinting and telling the difference between civil and criminal identification.

In the report explain the difference between the automated fingerprint identification systems (AFIS) now used in law enforcement agencies and the biometric fingerprint systems used to control access to computers and places like buildings and airports.

In your report name the surfaces of the body where friction or papillary ridges are found. Name the two basic principles supporting the science of fingerprints and give a brief explanation of each principle. Explain what it takes to positively identify a person using fingerprints.

At the clinic each boy will be required to make both rolled and plain impressions. (Equipment will be on hand for each boy to use in order to accomplish this requirement).

You will also be required to show your counselor that you can identify the three basic types of fingerprint patterns and their subcategories. You will use your own hand to identify the types of patterns you see.

Things each boy will need in order to participate in the Fingerprint Merit Badge Clinic.

1. A Blue Card properly filled out and signed by his Scoutmaster.
2. A pen or pencil.
3. His completed written report.

The Counselors will provide fingerprint cards and the equipment needed to make both sets of prints.

The boys are encouraged to be in Scout uniform when attending the clinic.

For questions call the merit badge counselor, Ski Ingram, at 435-313-2078

Name: _____   Troop: _____

Phone #: _____   Date: _____

1.   Give a short history of fingerprinting. Tell the difference between civil and criminal identification.

Marcello Malpighi

Johannes Evangelista Purkinje

Merit Badge Counselors   Ski Ingram 435-313-2078
                             Paul Whetten 480-392-9192

William Herschel

Henry Faulds

Gilbert Thompson

Merit Badge Counselors   Ski Ingram 435-313-2078
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Mark Twain

Francis Galton

Juan Vucetich

Fingerprinting Worksheet

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                                    Paul Whetten 480-392-9192

The Henry System

First Uses in the United States

Fingerprint Bureaus

Fingerprinting Worksheet

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First American Military Use

FBI Identification Division

International Exchange

Fingerprinting Worksheet

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First Print Taken from Human Skin

Integrated Automatic Fingerprint Identification System

2.   Explain the difference between the automated fingerprint identification systems (AFIS) now used by some law enforcement agencies and the biometric fingerprint systems used to control access to places like buildings, airports, and computer rooms.

Fingerprinting Worksheet

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                            Paul Whetten 480-392-9192

3.   Do the following:

   A. Name the surfaces of the body where friction or papillary ridges are found.

   B. Name the two basic principles supporting the science of fingerprints and give a brief explanation of each principle.

   C. Explain what it takes to positively identify a person using fingerprints.

4.   Take a clear set of prints using ONE of the following methods:

   A. Make both rolled and plain impressions. Make these on an 8-by-8-inch fingerprint identification card available from your local police department or counselor.

   B. Using clear adhesive tape, a pencil, and plain paper, record your own fingerprints or those of another person.

   (Requirement #4 will be accomplished at the Merit Badge Clinic)

5.   Show your merit badge counselor you can identify the three basic types of fingerprint patterns and their subcategories. Using your own hand, identify the types of patterns you see.

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Paul Whetten 480-392-9192

Worksheet for Requirement 5

Shown on this page are the three basic fingerprint pattern types. For each type, two typical examples are given. Fill in the blanks beside each pattern type at the bottom of the page with the two letters identifying examples of that type.

1. Loops

   _____ and _____

2. Arches

   _____ and _____

3. Whorls

   _____ and _____