



## St. Louis County Police Crime Laboratory

### Fingerprint Section

#### Terms and Definitions

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**ACE-V:** The acronym for a scientific method used by Latent Print Examiners; Analysis, Comparison, Evaluation, and Verification.

**AFIS (Automated Fingerprint Identification System):** Missouri State database for searching unknown latent prints to known prints.

**AFIS Potential Subject:** Result of searching a latent print in AFIS and/or NGI where the conclusion is reached that the latent print and the known print have a high degree of similarity based on sufficient quality and quantity of corresponding details contained within the images on the computer screen that were returned from a search in AFIS; an individual that was returned as a "hit" in AFIS and/or NGI.

**Exclusion:** The determination that the latent print and the known print did not originate from the same source.

**Hit:** Potential candidate match in AFIS/NGI.

**Identification:** The determination that the latent print and the known print originated from the same source.

**Inconclusive:** A conclusion of inconclusive is when neither an identification nor an exclusion can be determined.

**Insufficient (No value):** Determination that a latent print does not meet an acceptable threshold for examination.

**NGI (Next Generation Identification):** National (FBI) database for searching unknown latent prints to known prints; formerly known as IAFIS (Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System).

**Not compared:** An individual was not compared to a latent impression.

**Not Retained:** Latent impression that was searched in a database but will not be saved for a continual search.

**Not Suitable for AFIS:** A sufficient latent impression for comparison that does not meet the threshold for AFIS entry.

**Remains unidentified:** Source of the latent impression remains unknown.

**Retained:** Latent impression saved in a database that will be continually searched until the statute of limitations is met.



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Sufficient: Determination that a latent print meets an acceptable threshold for examination.

Suitable: Determination that an impression meets acceptable threshold for latent submission.

TPUL (Tenprint to Unsolved Latent): A previously searched and retained latent impression. When selected, the TPUL is considered a "hit" and the latent impression will no longer be searched or retained in AFIS/NGI.