Professional Certificate in Forensic Document Examination

AASCC: Automated Advanced Spectroscopic Comparison Computer, a tool used in forensic document examination to analyze the chemical composition of ink and paper. Related terms: ink analysis, paper analysis. The AASCC is used to compare the chemical composition of ink and paper samples to determine their origin and authenticity. For example, in a case where a suspect is accused of forging a document, the AASCC can be used to analyze the ink and paper used in the document to determine if they match the ink and paper used in other documents known to be written by the suspect.

Abiogenesis: the process by which living organisms arise from non-living matter. Related terms: evolution, origin of life. In the context of forensic document examination, abiogenesis is not directly relevant, but it can be used as an analogy to understand the complexity of biological systems and the importance of careful analysis in forensic science.

Accelerant: a substance used to speed up a chemical reaction or process. Related terms: arson, fire investigation. In forensic document examination, accelerants can be used to analyze the chemical composition of ink and paper, but they can also be used to destroy or alter documents, making it difficult to analyze them.

Accuracy: the degree of closeness of a measurement or result to the true value. Related terms: precision, reliability. In forensic document examination, accuracy is crucial in analyzing documents and determining their authenticity. For example, when analyzing the handwriting on a document, it is essential to be accurate in identifying the characteristics of the handwriting to determine if it matches the handwriting of a known individual.

Addendum: an addition or supplement to a document. Related terms: amendment, appendix. In forensic document examination, an addendum can be used to provide additional information or clarification to a document, but it can also be used to alter or forge a document.

Alteration: a change made to a document after it has been written or signed. Related terms: erasure, obliteration. In forensic document examination, alterations can be difficult to detect, but they can be identified through careful analysis of the document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as infrared reflectography and electron microscopy.

Amendment: a change or revision made to a document. Related terms: addendum, revision. In forensic document examination, amendments can be used to update or correct a document, but they can also be used to alter or forge a document.

Analysis: the process of breaking down a complex system or substance into its component parts to

understand its nature and properties. Related terms: examination, investigation. In forensic document examination, analysis is a critical step in determining the authenticity of a document and identifying any alterations or forgeries.

Annealing: a process of heating a material to relieve internal stresses and make it more stable. Related terms: metallurgy, materials science. In forensic document examination, annealing is not directly relevant, but it can be used as an analogy to understand the importance of careful handling and preservation of documents to prevent damage or alteration.

ANSI: American National Standards Institute, an organization that develops and publishes standards for various industries and fields. Related terms: standards, certification. In forensic document examination, ANSI standards can be used to ensure that documents are handled and analyzed in a consistent and reliable manner.

Anti-forgery: measures taken to prevent or detect forgery or alteration of a document. Related terms: security features, authentication. In forensic document examination, anti-forgery measures can include the use of specialized paper, ink, and printing techniques, as well as the inclusion of security features such as watermarks and holograms.

Appendix: a supplement or addition to a document, often containing additional information or supporting material. Related terms: addendum, annex. In forensic document examination, an appendix can be used to provide additional information or context to a document, but it can also be used to add or alter information in a document.

Arson: the intentional act of setting fire to a building or property. Related terms: fire investigation, accelerant. In forensic document examination, arson can be relevant in cases where documents are damaged or destroyed by fire, and the examiner must analyze the remaining documents and debris to determine the cause of the fire and any potential evidence of arson.

ASCLD: American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors, an organization that accredits and certifies crime laboratories. Related terms: accreditation, certification. In forensic document examination, ASCLD accreditation can ensure that a laboratory has met certain standards and guidelines for handling and analyzing evidence, including documents.

ASCII: American Standard Code for Information Interchange, a character encoding standard used in computer systems. Related terms: character recognition, font analysis. In forensic document examination, ASCII can be used to analyze the font and character encoding used in a document to determine its authenticity and potential sources.

Authentication: the process of verifying the genuineness or legitimacy of a document or signature. Related terms: verification, validation. In forensic document examination, authentication is a critical step in determining the authenticity of a document and identifying any alterations or forgeries.

Authorship: the identification of the person or entity that created a document or wrote a particular text. Related terms: handwriting analysis, stylistic analysis. In forensic document examination, authorship can be

determined through analysis of handwriting, language style, and other characteristics of the document.

Autopen: a machine that signs documents using a mechanical or electronic signature. Related terms: signature analysis, mechanical signature. In forensic document examination, autopen signatures can be difficult to distinguish from handwritten signatures, but they can be identified through careful analysis of the signature and the document.

Ballpoint pen: a type of pen that uses a rolling ball to dispense ink onto a surface. Related terms: ink analysis, handwriting analysis. In forensic document examination, ballpoint pens can be analyzed to determine the type of ink used and the characteristics of the handwriting.

Bankruptcy: a legal process in which an individual or entity is declared insolvent and their assets are distributed to creditors. Related terms: financial analysis, document examination. In forensic document examination, bankruptcy can be relevant in cases where financial documents are analyzed to determine the financial situation of an individual or entity.

Barcode: a symbol used to represent data in a machine-readable format. Related terms: data analysis, computer forensics. In forensic document examination, barcodes can be used to track and analyze documents, but they can also be used to create fake or altered documents.

Bates stamp: a stamp or label used to identify and number documents in a legal or business setting. Related terms: document management, litigation support. In forensic document examination, Bates stamps can be used to track and manage documents, but they can also be used to alter or forge documents.

Bifurcation: the splitting or division of a single entity into two or more parts. Related terms: branching, fork. In forensic document examination, bifurcation can be used to describe the process of creating multiple versions of a document or the division of a single document into multiple parts.

Binding: the process of attaching multiple pages or documents together using a fastening device or material. Related terms: bookbinding, document assembly. In forensic document examination, binding can be used to analyze the construction and assembly of a document, including the use of staples, glue, or other fastening devices.

Biometric: a physical or behavioral characteristic used to identify an individual. Related terms: fingerprint analysis, facial recognition. In forensic document examination, biometric analysis can be used to identify individuals through their handwriting, fingerprints, or other physical characteristics.

Blacklight: a type of light that emits ultraviolet radiation, often used to detect invisible marks or stains. Related terms: fluorescence, luminescence. In forensic document examination, blacklights can be used to detect invisible ink, stains, or other marks on a document that may not be visible to the naked eye.

Blind test: a type of test in which the examiner is not aware of the true nature or origin of the sample being analyzed. Related terms: double-blind test, controlled experiment. In forensic document examination, blind tests can be used to ensure the objectivity and reliability of the analysis, by preventing the examiner from being influenced by prior knowledge or expectations.

Bookbinding: the art or process of attaching multiple pages or documents together using a binding material or device. Related terms: binding, document assembly. In forensic document examination, bookbinding can be used to analyze the construction and assembly of a document, including the use of glue, staples, or other fastening devices.

Border: the edge or margin of a document or image. Related terms: margin, edge detection. In forensic document examination, borders can be used to analyze the layout and design of a document, including the use of margins, headers, and footers.

Branching: the process of creating multiple paths or forks in a document or system. Related terms: bifurcation, fork. In forensic document examination, branching can be used to describe the process of creating multiple versions of a document or the division of a single document into multiple parts.

Bulletproof: a type of paper or material that is resistant to penetration or damage. Related terms: tamper-evident, security paper. In forensic document examination, bulletproof paper can be used to create secure documents that are difficult to alter or forge.

Burn mark: a mark or scar left on a document or surface as a result of heat or fire. Related terms: fire damage, arson. In forensic document examination, burn marks can be used to analyze the cause and extent of fire damage to a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as infrared reflectography and electron microscopy.

Cancel: to void or annul a document or transaction. Related terms: void, annul. In forensic document examination, canceling a document can be used to render it invalid or ineffective, but it can also be used to alter or forge a document.

Carbon paper: a type of paper coated with a carbon-based material, used to create copies of documents. Related terms: carbon copy, duplicate. In forensic document examination, carbon paper can be used to create multiple copies of a document, but it can also be used to create fake or altered documents.

Cardstock: a type of paper or material that is thicker and more rigid than regular paper. Related terms: paper analysis, document construction. In forensic document examination, cardstock can be used to analyze the construction and assembly of a document, including the use of glue, staples, or other fastening devices.

Certification: the process of verifying the authenticity or legitimacy of a document or entity. Related terms: accreditation, validation. In forensic document examination, certification can be used to verify the authenticity of a document or the qualifications of an examiner.

Chain of custody: the sequence of events or handlers that a document or evidence has passed through. Related terms: evidence handling, document control. In forensic document examination, the chain of custody is critical in ensuring the integrity and reliability of the evidence, by tracking and documenting every step in the handling and analysis of the document.

Character recognition: the process of identifying and interpreting written or printed characters. Related terms: handwriting analysis, font analysis. In forensic document examination, character recognition can be

used to analyze the handwriting or printing on a document to determine its authenticity and potential sources.

Check: a type of document used to transfer funds from one entity to another. Related terms: financial analysis, document examination. In forensic document examination, checks can be analyzed to determine their authenticity and potential sources, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as infrared reflectography and electron microscopy.

Chemical analysis: the process of analyzing the chemical composition of a substance or material. Related terms: ink analysis, paper analysis. In forensic document examination, chemical analysis can be used to determine the composition of ink, paper, or other materials used in a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as gas chromatography and mass spectrometry.

Chemical eraser: a type of eraser that uses chemicals to remove or alter written or printed marks. Related terms: erasure, obliteration. In forensic document examination, chemical erasers can be used to remove or alter written or printed marks on a document, but they can also be used to detect and analyze the chemical composition of the eraser.

Codicology: the study of books and manuscripts as physical objects. Related terms: bookbinding, document construction. In forensic document examination, codicology can be used to analyze the construction and assembly of a document, including the use of glue, staples, or other fastening devices.

Collation: the process of assembling and arranging multiple pages or documents in a specific order. Related terms: document assembly, binding. In forensic document examination, collation can be used to analyze the construction and assembly of a document, including the use of glue, staples, or other fastening devices.

Colorimetry: the science of measuring and analyzing the colors of a substance or material. Related terms: ink analysis, paper analysis. In forensic document examination, colorimetry can be used to analyze the colors used in a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as spectrophotometry and colorimetric analysis.

Comparison: the process of examining and contrasting two or more items or samples. Related terms: analysis, examination. In forensic document examination, comparison can be used to analyze and contrast different documents or samples to determine their authenticity and potential sources.

Computer forensics: the application of computer science and technology to the analysis of digital evidence. Related terms: digital forensics, cybercrime. In forensic document examination, computer forensics can be used to analyze digital documents and evidence, including emails, files, and other digital data.

Condensed font: a type of font that is narrower than a standard font. Related terms: font analysis, typography. In forensic document examination, condensed fonts can be used to analyze the typography and layout of a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as font analysis software.

Confidentiality: the state of being private or secret. Related terms: secrecy, privacy. In forensic document

examination, confidentiality is critical in ensuring the integrity and reliability of the evidence, by protecting sensitive information and preventing unauthorized access or disclosure.

Content analysis: the process of examining and interpreting the content of a document or communication. Related terms: text analysis, discourse analysis. In forensic document examination, content analysis can be used to analyze the language, tone, and style of a document to determine its authenticity and potential sources.

Contrast: the degree of difference between two or more colors or values. Related terms: colorimetry, visual analysis. In forensic document examination, contrast can be used to analyze the visual appearance of a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as spectrophotometry and colorimetric analysis.

Control sample: a sample or specimen used as a reference or standard for comparison. Related terms: comparison, analysis. In forensic document examination, control samples can be used to analyze and compare different documents or samples to determine their authenticity and potential sources.

Convenience copy: a copy of a document that is created for convenience or reference. Related terms: duplicate, replica. In forensic document examination, convenience copies can be used to create multiple copies of a document, but they can also be used to create fake or altered documents.

Copy: a duplicate or replica of a document or original. Related terms: duplicate, replica. In forensic document examination, copies can be used to create multiple versions of a document, but they can also be used to create fake or altered documents.

Counterfeit: a fake or forged document or item. Related terms: forgery, counterfeit detection. In forensic document examination, counterfeit documents can be detected through careful analysis of the document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as infrared reflectography and electron microscopy.

Court exhibit: a document or item presented as evidence in a legal proceeding. Related terms: evidence, trial exhibit. In forensic document examination, court exhibits can be analyzed to determine their authenticity and potential sources, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as infrared reflectography and electron microscopy.

Credential: a document or certificate that verifies the identity or qualifications of an individual. Related terms: authentication, verification. In forensic document examination, credentials can be analyzed to determine their authenticity and potential sources, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as infrared reflectography and electron microscopy.

Crime scene: the location where a crime has been committed. Related terms: forensic science, crime investigation. In forensic document examination, crime scenes can be analyzed to determine the authenticity and potential sources of documents found at the scene, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as infrared reflectography and electron microscopy.

Criminology: the study of crime and criminal behavior. Related terms: forensic science, crime investigation. In forensic document examination, criminology can be used to analyze the context and circumstances surrounding a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as infrared reflectography and electron microscopy.

Cross-examination: the process of questioning a witness or expert in a legal proceeding. Related terms: testimony, evidence. In forensic document examination, cross-examination can be used to challenge the authenticity and reliability of a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as infrared reflectography and electron microscopy.

Cryptanalysis: the process of analyzing and decrypting encrypted messages or codes. Related terms: encryption, decryption. In forensic document examination, cryptanalysis can be used to analyze and decrypt encrypted documents or messages, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as frequency analysis and cryptanalysis software.

Cryptography: the practice of encrypting and decrypting messages or data. Related terms: encryption, decryption. In forensic document examination, cryptography can be used to analyze and decrypt encrypted documents or messages, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as frequency analysis and cryptanalysis software.

Dactylography: the study of fingerprints and finger printing. Related terms: fingerprint analysis, biometrics. In forensic document examination, dactylography can be used to analyze fingerprints found on a document to determine its authenticity and potential sources.

Data analysis: the process of examining and interpreting data to extract meaning or insights. Related terms: statistical analysis, data mining. In forensic document examination, data analysis can be used to analyze and interpret data found in a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as statistical analysis software and data mining techniques.

Dating: the process of determining the age or date of a document or item. Related terms: chronology, timeline. In forensic document examination, dating can be used to determine the age or date of a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as radiocarbon dating and dendrochronology.

Decipher: to decode or interpret a code or message. Related terms: cryptanalysis, decryption. In forensic document examination, deciphering can be used to analyze and decrypt encrypted documents or messages, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as frequency analysis and cryptanalysis software.

Decryption: the process of converting encrypted data or messages into plain text. Related terms: encryption, cryptanalysis. In forensic document examination, decryption can be used to analyze and decrypt encrypted documents or messages, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as frequency analysis and cryptanalysis software.

Deface: to damage or destroy a document or item. Related terms: vandalism, destruction. In forensic

document examination, defacing can be used to analyze and interpret damage or destruction found on a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as infrared reflectography and electron microscopy.

Delete: to remove or erase a document or item. Related terms: erasure, obliteration. In forensic document examination, deleting can be used to analyze and interpret removal or erasure of information found on a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as infrared reflectography and electron microscopy.

Demodulation: the process of extracting or recovering information from a modulated signal. Related terms: modulation, signal processing. In forensic document examination, demodulation can be used to analyze and interpret signals or information found on a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as signal processing software and modulation analysis.

Dendrochronology: the study of tree rings to determine the age of a tree or wooden item. Related terms: dating, chronology. In forensic document examination, dendrochronology can be used to determine the age or date of a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as radiocarbon dating and dendrochronology.

Density: the measure of the mass or weight of a substance or material per unit volume. Related terms: paper analysis, ink analysis. In forensic document examination, density can be used to analyze the physical properties of a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as densitometry and spectroscopy.

Deletion: the process of removing or erasing a document or item. Related terms: erasure, obliteration. In forensic document examination, deletion can be used to analyze and interpret removal or erasure of information found on a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as infrared reflectography and electron microscopy.

Detect: to discover or identify a document or item. Related terms: detection, identification. In forensic document examination, detection can be used to discover and identify documents or items, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as infrared reflectography and electron microscopy.

Dewarping: the process of correcting or flattening a warped or curved surface. Related terms: image processing, document scanning. In forensic document examination, dewarping can be used to correct and flatten warped or curved surfaces found on a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as image processing software and document scanning.

Dialog: a conversation or exchange of information between two or more parties. Related terms: communication, conversation. In forensic document examination, dialog can be used to analyze and interpret conversations or exchanges of information found on a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as linguistic analysis and conversation analysis.

Die: a tool or device used to cut or shape a material or object. Related terms: cutting, shaping. In forensic document examination, dies can be used to analyze and interpret cutting or shaping found on a document,

including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as tool mark analysis and materials science.

Digital forensic: the application of computer science and technology to the analysis of digital evidence. Related terms: computer forensics, cybercrime. In forensic document examination, digital forensics can be used to analyze digital documents and evidence, including emails, files, and other digital data.

Digital signature: a type of electronic signature that uses cryptography to authenticate a document or message. Related terms: electronic signature, authentication. In forensic document examination, digital signatures can be used to authenticate documents and messages, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as cryptanalysis and digital signature analysis.

Digitization: the process of converting analog data or information into digital form. Related terms: scanning, imaging. In forensic document examination, digitization can be used to convert analog data or information found on a document into digital form, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as scanning and imaging.

Diplomatics: the study of historical documents and diplomatic correspondence. Related terms: historical analysis, document analysis. In forensic document examination, diplomatics can be used to analyze and interpret historical documents and diplomatic correspondence, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as historical analysis and document analysis.

Disposal: the process of getting rid of a document or item. Related terms: destruction, elimination. In forensic document examination, disposal can be used to analyze and interpret disposal or destruction of documents or items, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as infrared reflectography and electron microscopy.

Document: a written or printed record of information. Related terms: record, writing. In forensic document examination, documents can be analyzed to determine their authenticity and potential sources, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as infrared reflectography and electron microscopy.

Document analysis: the process of examining and interpreting a document to determine its authenticity or meaning. Related terms: examination, interpretation. In forensic document examination, document analysis can be used to analyze and interpret documents to determine their authenticity and potential sources.

Documentation: the process of creating and maintaining records of information. Related terms: record-keeping, documentation. In forensic document examination, documentation can be used to create and maintain records of information found on a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as document scanning and imaging.

Dossier: a collection of documents or records related to a person or case. Related terms: file, record. In forensic document examination, dossiers can be used to collect and analyze documents and records related to a person or case, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as document analysis and record-keeping.

Doublet: a pair of documents or items that are identical or very similar. Related terms: duplicate, twin. In

forensic document examination, doublets can be used to analyze and compare identical or very similar documents or items, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as document analysis and comparison.

Draft: a preliminary or unfinished version of a document or writing. Related terms: rough draft, preliminary draft. In forensic document examination, drafts can be used to analyze and interpret preliminary or unfinished versions of documents or writings, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as document analysis and writing analysis.

Duplicate: a copy or replica of a document or item. Related terms: copy, replica. In forensic document examination, duplicates can be used to create multiple copies of a document, but they can also be used to create fake or altered documents.

Edition: a version or issue of a document or publication. Related terms: version, issue. In forensic document examination, editions can be used to analyze and compare different versions or issues of documents or publications, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as document analysis and comparison.

Editorial: a commentary or interpretation of a document or text. Related terms: commentary, interpretation. In forensic document examination, editorials can be used to analyze and interpret commentaries or interpretations of documents or texts, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as document analysis and textual analysis.

Effaced: erased or removed. Related terms: erasure, obliteration. In forensic document examination, effaced can be used to analyze and interpret erasure or removal of information found on a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as infrared reflectography and electron microscopy.

Electrostatic: relating to static electricity or electrostatic charges. Related terms: electrostatic detection, electrostatic imaging. In forensic document examination, electrostatic can be used to analyze and interpret electrostatic charges or detection found on a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as electrostatic detection and electrostatic imaging.

Elimination: the process of getting rid of a document or item. Related terms: destruction, disposal. In forensic document examination, elimination can be used to analyze and interpret disposal or destruction of documents or items, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as infrared reflectography and electron microscopy.

Emboss: to raise or create a relief on a surface. Related terms: deboss, engraving. In forensic document examination, embossing can be used to analyze and interpret raised or created reliefs found on a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as embossing analysis and relief analysis.

Emendation: the process of correcting or amending a document or text. Related terms: correction, amendment. In forensic document examination, emendation can be used to analyze and interpret corrections or amendments made to a document or text, including the use of specialized tools and

techniques such as document analysis and textual analysis.

Encryption: the process of converting plain text into code or cipher. Related terms: decryption, cryptography. In forensic document examination, encryption can be used to analyze and interpret encrypted documents or messages, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as cryptanalysis and digital signature analysis.

Endorsement: a statement or comment written on the back of a document or check. Related terms: signature, authentication. In forensic document examination, endorsements can be used to analyze and interpret statements or comments written on the back of a document or check, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as document analysis and signature analysis.

Engraving: the process of cutting or etching a design or image into a surface. Related terms: etching, carving. In forensic document examination, engraving can be used to analyze and interpret designs or images cut or etched into a surface, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as engraving analysis and image analysis.

Erasure: the process of removing or obscuring written or printed marks. Related terms: obliteration, deletion. In forensic document examination, erasure can be used to analyze and interpret removal or obscuring of written or printed marks found on a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as infrared reflectography and electron microscopy.

Error: a mistake or inaccuracy in a document or calculation. Related terms: mistake, inaccuracy. In forensic document examination, errors can be used to analyze and interpret mistakes or inaccuracies found on a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as document analysis and error analysis.

Evidential: relating to evidence or evidentiary material. Related terms: evidence, proof. In forensic document examination, evidential can be used to analyze and interpret evidence or evidentiary material found on a document, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as evidence analysis and proof analysis.

Examination: the process of inspecting or analyzing a document or item. Related terms: analysis, inspection. In forensic document examination, examination can be used to analyze and interpret documents or items, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as document analysis and inspection.

Exemplar: a sample or specimen used as a reference or standard. Related terms: control sample, reference sample. In forensic document examination, exemplars can be used to analyze and compare documents or items, including the use of specialized tools and techniques such as document analysis and comparison.

Expert: a person