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Courses are presented in partnership with the International Association for Identification.

#### ADA / Special Accommodations

To ensure we can accommodate persons with special needs who wish to attend our courses, please be sure to identify the accommodation needed when you register, or if applicable, at the time you register by phone.

#### Host a course

By hosting one of our courses, you will be providing your agency's personnel and the forensic professionals in your area with a high-quality training opportunity, right in your local area. This means less cost to you or your agency for expenses such as travel, lodging, and meals, and less time away from home and family. Plus, hosts can qualify for tuition savings. For more information, visit [tritechtraining.com](http://tritechtraining.com).



# Courtroom Testimony for Fingerprint Examiners

**Instructor: Erin West, MS, CLPE, CCSA**

**November 9 - 11, 2020 | 8 am - 5 pm**

**Tuition: \$459**

#### Location:

**Lee County Sheriff's Department - Forensic Center  
10070 Intercom Drive | Ft. Myers, FL 33913**

#### Lodging information:

**SpringHill Suites by Marriott  
9501 Marketplace Road | Ft. Myers, FL 339912  
239-561-1803**

**Room Rate:** \$115 plus tax - Single/ Double Occupancy | \*Rate expires 30 days prior to beginning of the course)

**Booking Info:** Call the hotel directly and mention Tri-Tech Forensics or use the booking link on the course page on our website, [www.tritechtraining.com](http://www.tritechtraining.com), to get the special rate.

This course has been approved for the following certification/recertification training credits: IAI Crime Scene Certification Board - 16 and IAI Latent Print Certification, Tenprint Fingerprint Certification, and Forensic Video Certification Board - 24. Please visit the IAI Certifications page at [tritechtraining.com](http://tritechtraining.com) for additional information.



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## ABOUT TRITECH

A leader in the forensics market, Tri-Tech Forensics provides evidence collection and crime scene investigation products and training to crime labs and crime scene investigators throughout the world. With over 30 years of experience, we are the nation's most proficient developer and manufacturer of forensic kits. We are committed to providing our customers with state-of-the-art forensics products and services at affordable prices. It is our goal, through our research and development program, to continue to develop superior products and training to aid in all aspects of crime scene investigation and crime lab analysis. We know how important our products and training are to the forensics community, from investigation to prosecution. Our mission is the same as our customers – *Identify. Protect. Preserve.*

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

# Courtroom Testimony for Fingerprint Examiners

Fingerprint examiners are frequently called upon to testify in court regarding their techniques, observations, and conclusions. In order to be accepted as an expert witness, the fingerprint examiner must display a current and in-depth knowledge of the science. Although fingerprint testimony was accepted with few judicial challenges for over one hundred years, challenges to fingerprint science as a method of human identification are becoming more common. These challenges are usually brought forth in what are called Frye or Daubert hearings. The use of these hearings was the result of several judicial decisions in the late 20th Century.

The goal of this course is to provide the students with the knowledge, confidence and practical experience necessary to survive qualifying questioning (voir dire), direct, and cross-examination. Students will learn how to take control of their testimony by preparing themselves and the concerned attorney(s) for the voir dire as well as direct examination.

The course will cover techniques the witness can employ to effectively explain fingerprint science and its



application to the judge and jury.

In order to maximize the students' opportunity to succeed, this course includes a review of the Frye decision and the Daubert trilogy, as well as several challenges to the admission of fingerprint evidence in court cases, including *US v Mitchell* (1999).

Due to the extensive amount of hands-on training in this course, enrollment is restricted to 16 participants.

## COURSE INSTRUCTOR

### ERIN WEST, MS, CLPE, CCSA



Erin West began her career in Forensics in 2006 as a Crime Scene Investigator for the Brevard County Sheriff's Office in Florida. In 2010, she became a Battlefield Forensics Instructor for the United States Army Intelligence Center of Excellence, where she was responsible for training military personnel how to use a variety of forensic disciplines to investigate crimes overseas. In 2012, she became a Supervisor and then a Deputy Program Manager for a Department of Justice forensic laboratory housed at American Systems, where she was responsible for training and supervising staff working in different forensic disciplines and at different levels of management.

She has spent the last few years working as a full time Latent Print Examiner for the Osceola County Sheriff's Office in Florida, where she is responsible for training new examiners to full competency.

Erin earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Central Florida in 2006 and a Master of Science degree in Forensic DNA and Serology with a graduate certificate in Forensic Toxicology from the University of Florida in 2012.

Erin is a member of the International Association for Identification (IAI) and the Florida Division of the IAI and has been a presenter at the annual FDIAI Conference. She is an IAI Certified Crime Scene Analyst and an IAI Certified Latent Print Examiner.