

## **Robert J. May**

### **Biographical Information & CV**

With a distinguished career spanning more than 30 years, Mr. May has extensive experience in forensic analysis, executive-level management, and quality assurance.

Mr. May has a diverse background in both forensics and law enforcement. Prior to his current position as the Crime Lab Manager for the Corpus Christi (TX) Police Department's Forensic Services Division, Mr. May spent 26 years as a trooper with the Michigan State Police, one of the nation's premier law-enforcement agencies. Aside from considerable knowledge of general investigations and law-enforcement operations, his deepest expertise, and greatest passion, lies with forensic science. Mr. May spent most of his career within the MSP Forensic Science Division, beginning as a technical expert in latent prints, crime scene investigation, and forensic photography. He rose to the position of supervisor in latent prints and was ultimately promoted to laboratory director at the Sterling Heights Laboratory in Metro Detroit. He retired in 2020 as a decorated command officer with multiple commendations to his name, including awards for professional excellence and lifesaving, among others.

Mr. May is a latent print examiner with nearly 25 years of experience and has been a consultant with Riley, Welch, LaPorte and Associates for roughly 20 years. He has conducted latent print casework and technical reviews across the United States and beyond, having been qualified as an expert witness across multiple jurisdictions. He is a recognized expert in the use of automated fingerprint identification systems (AFIS), digital enhancement techniques, evidence processing using a variety of physical and chemical techniques, and latent print visualization using alternate light sources and lasers. He is also a subject matter expert in digital photography, having taught crime scene and general photography for multiple agencies, and is an accomplished photographer in his own right.

In addition to technical acumen in his forensic specialties, as a laboratory executive Mr. May is a recognized leader in the forensic community. He has served as a laboratory director across multiple systems, with broad knowledge of lab operations, facility design, policy development, budgeting, human resources, metrics, process evaluation, and more. In his current role, Mr. May was instrumental in securing funding for and directly implementing the laboratory's very first electronic laboratory information management system (LIMS). He was also responsible for completely modernizing laboratory technology and best practices, adopting 3D scanning for crime scenes, incorporating drone technology, and upgrading the lab with state-of-the-art latent print processing equipment. During his tenure Mr. May has dramatically improved all aspects of the lab's operations, bringing them in line with ever-evolving industry standards.

As an integral part of his leadership portfolio, Mr. May is intensely committed to forensic quality assurance. He is a trained accreditation assessor with extensive knowledge of the ISO 17025 standard for forensic testing laboratories. Aside from taking an active, hands-on role in his own lab's quality management, he regularly participates in Association of Forensic Quality Managers (AFQAM) conferences and workshops. As a result of this commitment, under Mr. May's leadership his laboratory's quality system has been recognized by the Texas Forensic Science Commission as a model of excellence for others to emulate.

Mr. May is an active participant in the wider forensic community in many other ways as both a technical expert and as an executive. He represents the Texas Association of Crime Lab Directors (TACLCD) on the Texas Forensic Science Commission's Rapid DNA Working Group, which is responsible for developing policy/procedure, training, and agency guidelines for the deployment of Rapid DNA technology across the state. He is a longtime member of the International Association for Identification (IAI), as well as the American Society of Crime Lab Directors (ASCLD), Texas Association of Crime Lab Directors (TACLCD), and local and regional associations.

Mr. May's complete curriculum vitae (CV) can be found below.



# MR. ROBERT J. MAY

P.O. Box 70  
Frankenmuth, MI. 48734  
Telephone: (269) 270-2148  
Email: Robertmay052@gmail.com

## Curriculum Vitae

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### Education:

*Alma College, Alma, MI.; 1989-1993; Bachelor of Science, Biology*

*Michigan State University School of Criminal Justice, School of Staff & Command, E. Lansing, MI.; 2013*

*Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi, TX.; Master of Public Administration; 2021 - present*

### Employment History:

(1) **Job Title:** Latent Print Examiner and Forensic Expert Consultant *January 2008 – Present*

**Employer:** Riley Welch LaPorte & Associates Forensic Laboratories

**Principal Duties:** As a Forensic Consultant, Mr. May provides comprehensive technical review and expert analysis in complex criminal and civil matters involving latent print examination, crime scene investigation, and forensic digital photography. His work bridges the gap between detailed forensic evidence and the courtroom by critically evaluating laboratory methods, case files, comparison documentation, photographic records, scene-processing procedures, and related reports to determine whether examinations, conclusions, and quality practices meet accepted forensic and accreditation standards, including ISO 17025 and other relevant professional guidelines. He offers case-specific opinions regarding latent print development, comparison and identification methodology, AFIS-related issues, crime scene processing, evidence documentation, and the forensic use of digital imaging, drawing on his extensive experience as a laboratory executive, latent print examiner, crime scene investigator, instructor, and ANSI National Accreditation Board accreditation assessor. Mr. May also reviews and explains issues involving laboratory management, quality assurance, personnel supervision, and operational compliance in accredited forensic laboratories, based on his service as Crime Lab Manager for the Corpus Christi Police Department and former Laboratory Director and Laboratory Manager with the Michigan State Police Forensic Science Division. When requested, he provides clear, accessible expert testimony, affidavits, and consultation to attorneys, investigators, and courts, translating complex latent print, crime scene, and forensic imaging issues into opinions that can be understood and evaluated by judges and juries.

(2) **Job Title:** Crime Lab Manager

*June 2020 – Present*

**Employer:** Corpus Christi Police Department, Forensic Services Division

**Principle Duties:** As Crime Lab Manager for the Corpus Christi Police Department Forensic Services Division, Mr. May serves as the administrator of an ISO 17025:2017 accredited crime laboratory comprising approximately 20 full-time employees. He is responsible for overall operational management of the laboratory, including setting priorities, directing daily activities, and ensuring that all forensic services are delivered efficiently, accurately, and in accordance with applicable standards and agency policies. Mr. May oversees the laboratory's quality assurance program, monitors compliance with accreditation requirements, and leads continuous-improvement efforts in methods, documentation, and performance. He has primary responsibility for budget planning, expenditure oversight, and resource allocation, and he manages personnel recruitment, training, evaluation, and professional development. In addition, he maintains strong relationships with law-enforcement stakeholders and community partners, representing the laboratory at meetings and public events and helping to ensure that forensic services align with the needs and expectations of the criminal justice system and the broader community.

- (3) **Job Title:** Laboratory Director (Detective First Lieutenant) *January 2016 – May 2020*

**Employer:** Michigan State Police, Forensic Science Division

**Principle Duties:** As Laboratory Director (Detective First Lieutenant) of the Michigan State Police Forensic Science Division's Sterling Heights Laboratory, Mr. May served as the administrator of an ISO 17025:2017 accredited forensic laboratory composed of both enlisted and civilian personnel. He was responsible for directing overall laboratory operations and allocating staff and technical resources to meet the needs of law-enforcement agencies and other stakeholders throughout the laboratory's service area. His duties included budget planning, projection, and oversight, as well as making recommendations regarding equipment, staffing, and operational priorities. Mr. May managed personnel recruitment, training, performance evaluation, and disciplinary matters, and he drafted work-site policies and procedures while enforcing department and State of Michigan rules and regulations. He represented the department at stakeholder meetings and community functions, and he continuously monitored laboratory activity and performance to ensure the quality of work products and ongoing compliance with accreditation and quality-assurance requirements.

- (4) **Job Title:** Assistant/Acting Post Commander *2012 – 2013*

**Employer:** Michigan State Police – Wayland Regional Post #52

**Principle Duties:** As Assistant/Acting Post Commander (Lieutenant) at the Michigan State Police Wayland Regional Post #52, Mr. May served as the operational administrator for a regional state police post, two detachments, and multiple remote offices, supervising approximately 50 sworn personnel across a service area of more than 2,400 square miles. He exercised oversight of budget planning, projection, and expenditures and provided recommendations regarding staffing, equipment, and resource deployment. Mr. May managed personnel matters including assignment, training, performance evaluation, and discipline, and coordinated the delivery of police services through both fixed facilities and resident troopers to ensure consistent, prompt, and professional responses to citizen calls for service. He worked closely with partner agencies and local governments, serving on county and regional administrative boards (such as 911, emergency management, and concealed-weapons licensing) and maintaining effective relationships with civic organizations and community groups to support public safety objectives.

- (5) **Title:** Laboratory Manager (Detective Lieutenant) *2001 – 2012*

**Employer:** Michigan State Police, Forensic Science Division (Northville/Lansing Labs)

**Principle Duties:** As Laboratory Manager (Detective Lieutenant) in the Michigan State Police Forensic Science Division, Mr. May supervised the latent print units at both the Northville and Lansing laboratories. He was responsible for directing unit activities, including case assignment, technical workflows, resource allocation, scheduling, and staff training to ensure timely and accurate completion of examinations. Mr. May managed personnel matters such as performance evaluation, coaching, and discipline, and he promoted adherence to established laboratory policies, procedures, and quality standards. As needed, he also assumed the duties of Acting Laboratory Director, providing broader operational oversight and leadership for the laboratories.

(6) **Title:** Laboratory Specialist (Detective Sergeant) *2001 – 2009, 2013 – 2016*

**Employer:** Michigan State Police, Forensic Science Division (Grand Rapids/Lansing Labs)

**Principle Duties:** As a Laboratory Specialist (Detective Sergeant) in the Michigan State Police Forensic Science Division at the Grand Rapids and Lansing laboratories, Mr. May's primary duties included the analysis of physical evidence for latent prints, comparison of known and latent finger impressions, and on-scene crime scene investigation. He served as a certified operator of the NEC AFIS 21 and FBI Next Generation Identification systems, performing database searches, evaluating candidate lists, and documenting identification decisions. Mr. May directed the activities of crime scene response teams, coordinating evidence recognition, documentation, collection, and preservation at major incident scenes. He also acted as a crime scene trainer and instructor for the Michigan State Police and other agencies, with particular expertise in general and forensic digital photography. In addition, he has significant experience in the recovery and documentation of human remains, contributing to the proper handling of sensitive and complex death investigations.

### Leadership & Management:

State of Michigan Management Development *2018*

International Association of Chiefs of Police—Leadership in Police Organizations (LPO) *2017*

American Society of Crime Lab Directors Leadership Academy *2016*

Michigan State Police Leadership Development Academy *2016*

Police Supervision (Macnlow & Associates) *2009*

### Forensic & Crime Scene Training:

- American Society of Crime Lab Directors (ASCLD) Symposium and Workshops (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2022)
- Certified ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) accreditation assessor for forensic testing laboratories under ISO 17025:2017 and AR 3125
- Latent Print Exclusions, October 2015
- AFIS Users Conference, May 2015
- Latent Print Direct Testimony and Recent Trends in Testimony, May 2015 (Melissa R. Gische,

Federal Bureau of Investigation)

- Midwest Association of Forensic Scientists 2014 Annual Meeting and Workshops, October 2014
- 2014 International Association for Identification Educational Conference and Workshops, August 2014
- Digital Photography of Latent Prints, August 2014 (Larry Dow & Esther Neate)
- Producing High-quality Photographs Using HDR Technology, August 2014 (King C. Brown et al.)
- Examination of Simultaneous Impressions, July 2014 (John Black)
- Michigan AFIS Users Conference, May 2014
- Michigan AFIS Users Conference, May 2011
- Advanced Palmprint Comparison Techniques, May 2011 (Jamie Bush)
- Research liaison for MFRC project, “A Fluorogenic Method for Lifting, Enhancing, and Preserving Bloody and Proteinaceous Impression Evidence” (w/Jessica Zarate, M.S., 2009-2011).
- Midwest Association of Forensic Scientists Annual Meeting, October 2010
- Integrity, Character, and Ethics in the Forensic Sciences, October 2010 (Dan Gunnell)
- Accreditation of Forensic Science Laboratories under ISO 17025:2005, October 2010 (Joseph Bono)
- FBI/National Institute of Justice Impression and Pattern Evidence Symposium, August 2010
- Using Layers in Photoshop CS4 to Process Forensic Photographs, July 2010 (Robert Sanders)
- Using Smart Object Layers in Photoshop CS5 to Process Latent Print Photographs, July 2010 (Robert Sanders)
- 2010 International Association for Identification Educational Conference, Spokane, WA, July 2010
- Analysis of Distortion in Latent Prints, May 2010 (Alice Maceo)
- Michigan AFIS Users Conference, May 2010
- International Association for Identification Educational Conference, August 2009

- Use of Small Particle Reagent for the Recovery of Wet Latent Fingerprints, August 2009 (International Assn. for Identification Workshop, Tampa, FL)
- RUVIS Latent Prints in the RAW, August 2009 (International Assn. for Identification Workshop, Tampa, FL)
- Latent Print and Trace Evidence Detection on Human Skin, October 2008 (Brian Dalrymple, John Norman, and Lesley Hammer/Ron Smith & Associates)
- Michigan AFIS Users Conference, May 2008
- Michigan AFIS Users Conference, May 2007
- Finding Latent Evidence with Chemistry and Light, March 2007 (Brian Dalrymple & Dave Sibley/Ron Smith and Associates)
- Michigan AFIS Users Conference, May 2006
- Complex Latent Print Examination, January 2006 (Debbie Benningfield & Chuck Richardson/Ron Smith & Associates)
- Law Enforcement Photography: Going Digital, October 2005 (Richard McEvoy/Ron Smith and Associates)
- Demystifying Palm Prints, Carrollton, TX, July 2004 (Ron Smith/Ron Smith & Associates)
- Ultraviolet Imaging System (RUVIS) Certification, Mt. Pleasant, MI, March 2004 (Sirchie, Inc.)
- Advanced Death Investigation, Michigan State University, May 2003 (Drs. Norm Sauer & Todd Fenton, et al.)
- Ridgeology Science Workshop, Las Vegas, NV, January 2003 (Kasey Wertheim)
- Forensic Ridgeology, Lansing, MI, September 2002 (S/Sgt. David Ashbaugh, RCMP)
- Forensic Digital Imaging, Lansing, MI, September 2002 (David Witzke, PC Pros/More Hits, Inc.)
- MSP Crime Scene Investigation School, Lansing, MI, April/May 2002 (Various instructors)
- Certified AFIS Operator, NEC AFIS 21 System
- American Institute of Applied Science Forensic Science Certification, January 2002
- Michigan State Police Latent Print Training Program, 2001-2003



### **Related Training & Experience:**

- Extensive training in and knowledge of emergency management and the Incident Command System
  - ICS 100, 200, 300, 400
  - Basic Public Information Officer (PIO) course
  - Full emergency management training transcript available upon request
- Experience with complex and large-scale incident management. Notable example: The “B-93 Birthday Bash” country music festival, a two-day event in West Michigan that draws 80,000+ attendees.

### **Professional Associations:**

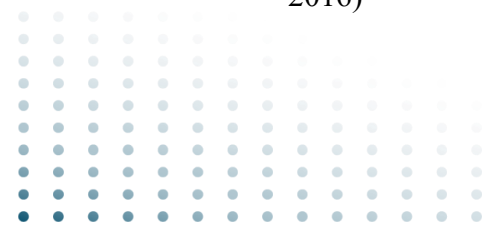
- International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP - formerly)
- American Society of Crime Lab Directors (ASCLD) • International Association for Identification (IAI)
- Midwest Association of Forensic Scientists (MAFS - formerly)
- Macomb County Chiefs Association (formerly)
- Southeast Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police (formerly)

### **Awards & Recognition:**

- Michigan State Police Award for Professional Excellence
- MSP Lifesaving Award
- MSP Oscar G. Olander Safe Driving Award
- Lansing Police Department Personal Memorandum

### **Training & Instruction:**

1. Instructor, Michigan State Police Evidence Technician Training Program—photography, latent prints, and crime scene investigation (2003-2016) Toxicology Evidence Collection and Handling—new MPD Evidence Techs,
2. Crime scene investigation instructor, Michigan State Police Training Academy (2003-2016)



3. Photography instructor, Detroit Police Department Evidence Technician School (2008)
4. Subject matter expert for Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) panel for developing statewide standards for video recording of Interrogations (2013)

**Courtroom Testimony:**

I have testified many times in County, State, and Federal Courts. I have never been excluded as an expert or from testifying as an expert witness in any County, State, Federal, Arbitration or Administrative proceeding.

