

Curriculum Vitae:

Elisabeth Briggs MNatSc (Chem) MSc MCSFS MAE



Academic Qualifications

MNatSc (Chem) *1st Class* University of Birmingham (2000)
MSc Forensic Science University of Strathclyde (2001)

Employment

2019 - present *Self-employed - Forensic Document Examiner*
2008 – 2019 *Key Forensic Services Ltd, Coventry - Forensic Document Examiner*
2005 – 2008 *Document Evidence Ltd, Birmingham - Forensic Document Examiner*
2003 – 2005 *Grampian Police Forensic Science Laboratory, Aberdeen - Forensic Document Examiner*
2001 – 2003 *HFL Ltd - Screening Scientist*

Career Summary

I have 20 years' experience as a Forensic Document Examiner, having worked at both Police and private laboratories before becoming a self-employed expert consultant. Throughout my career I have worked alongside many of the most experienced experts in the UK.

I have examined more than 1000 cases from private and corporate instructions together with civil and criminal matters as instructed by government departments and legal advisors, including cases where I have acted as a Single Joint Expert. I have also provided evidence for enquiries into media personalities and politicians, including magisterial inquiries in Malta.

I have given expert evidence at court on many occasions, attending magistrates, crown and county courts all over the UK in person and have also provided evidence remotely in the UK and abroad, including the Royal Courts of Justice in London and the Coroner's Court in the Cayman Islands.

I have provided training in relation to the use and interpretation of Electrostatic Detection Apparatus (ESDA – a tool utilised by document examiners to assist in detecting writing indentations on paper) on several occasions, including a bespoke course for the Guardia Civil in Madrid, Spain. I have also acted as trainer and mentor to newly recruited document examiners.

I appeared on the BBC television programme 'Fake Britain' as an expert witness, demonstrating the methodology used in a case involving a forged will. I also contributed to the BBC Radio 4 Podcast 'Fairy Meadow' broadcast in 2022, relating to the disappearance of three-year-old Cheryl Grimmer in Australia in 1970. I was interviewed on the BBC Radio 4 programme 'You and Yours' in 2023 about my examination of a fabricated tenancy document.

Professional Membership

I am a Practising Member of the Academy of Experts, a Member of the Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences, and a Corresponding Member of the Australasian Society of Forensic Document Examiners Inc.

I was registered as an expert with the CRFP (Council for the Registration of Forensic Practitioners), an independent regulatory body to promote public confidence in forensic practice in the UK. This organisation was set up to ensure the competency of all police and forensic experts but was closed in 2009.

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