

Part 3- Fingerprints as Evidence

A. Properties that make a fingerprint useful for identification =

1. its unique, characteristic _____
2. its consistency over a _____
3. the systematic classification used for fingerprints _____

B. No legal requirements in US on # of points/ minutiae that must match before certain it belongs to individual

--criminal courts generally accept _____ points

C. Computer-Based fingerprint files

1. _____ = Automated Fingerprint Identification System
 - a. started in the 60s
 - b. by 80s at least 5 systems in use. problem????
 - c. recently IAFIS available (Integrated) AFIS . . . includes _____ database of known fingerprint cards
2. Other electronic databases for law enforcement
 - a. CODIS = Combined _____ Indexing System
 - b. IBIS = Integrated _____ Identification System
3. Each electronic database has . . .
 - a. "knowns" file
 - b. "forensic" file = images or profiles from _____

D. Types of Evidentiary Fingerprints

1. _____ = clearly _____
Ex. Made with grease, dirt, oil, blood, etc.
2. _____ = recognizable indentation in a soft receiving surface such as butter, silly putty, or tar
3. _____ = not visible, requires further processing for comparison