

Research papers are the key to professional development of forensic experts

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At the present stage, international relations play an important role in developing the potential of Collection of Scientific Papers: *Theory and Practice of Forensic Science and Criminalistics*, one of the main areas of which is compliance with European standards. The *Theory and Practice of Forensic Science and Criminalistics* Collection of Scientific Papers is currently on the way to joining international scientometric databases in order to disseminate research papers of edition authors among the European community.

In particular, Collection of Scientific Papers is indexed in *Google Scholar*, international abstract databases *ERIH PLUS*, *Academic Search Engine "RefSeek"*, *Central and Eastern European Online Library (CEEOL)*, *WorldCat*, *Index Copernicus International*, *Polska Bibliografia Naukowa*, *ResearchBib*, on web site of the International DOI Foundation, and has full-text online versions on the platforms of Vernadsky National Library of Ukraine, libraries of forensic science institutions of the Ministry Justice of Ukraine, higher education institutions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, etc.

The Collection Editorial Board continues to work towards joining *Scopus* and *Web of Science*. These are the most authoritative scientometric databases indexing publications and articles about the world's leading scientific achievements. For this purpose,

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Requirements for Research Papers in this and subsequent issues of the *Theory and Practice of Forensic Science and Criminalistics* collection have been increased (in 2021 there are already three per year, from 2022 will be four per year). Articles should meet all the criteria that unify Ukrainian and European approaches to publication of scientific results. As four issues per year are planned for the next year, this will allow scholars and practitioners to publish their research papers more quickly and discuss with like-minded people in the columns our collection.

All edition articles are divided into two sections: Research Papers and Case Notes. The section with research papers contains a presentation of researches marked by sound content, large-scale and non-standard approaches to research.

Valery Shepitko, in his research paper: *Theoretical and methodological model of criminalistics and its new directions* justifies the need to launch a new section in the structure of criminalistics: forensic strategy (as a system of forensic tools to combat crime with a view to the long term). The author considers emergence peculiarities, formation and development of new branches (directions) of criminalistics, paying special attention to development and formation of medical, digital and nuclear criminalistics.

Mykhailo Shcherbakovskyi, analyzed opinions of scientists on reliability of evidence in general and forensic expert conclusion in particular; clarified circumstances that precede forensic expert conclusion and determine its reliability; singled out epistemological and procedural criteria of this characteristic and standard formulation, according to which reliability of forensic expert conclusion can be determined by research results.

Oleksandr Ukhno, considers development genesis and ways to improve the

theoretical and applied areas of criminalistics, forensic expertology and criminal procedure for solving forensic, procedural, organizational and other problematic implementation issues and use of science and technology in pre-trial investigation and trial of criminal offenses at different historical stages of development of this area in Ukraine.

In his article, **Ruslan Stepaniuk** raises an extremely topical issue: the main areas of use of DNA analysis in the practice of detecting and investigating crimes. Traditional DNA profiling methods based on *STR*-locus analysis and *mtDNA SNP* analysis are described, as well as information on the application of new technologies, including methods of mass parallel sequencing of many DNA fragments and rapid DNA profile tests.

Following the good tradition of fruitful international cooperation, Editorial Board of the collection: *Theory and Practice of Forensic Science and Criminalistics* published in this issue an article by a scientist from “National Bureau of Expertises” State Non-Profit Organization of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia. In his research, **Karen Mamikonyan** draws attention to modern concepts of accounting development. Each entity mainly uses information reflected in the financial statements relating to the value of the enterprise assets, including information on property, plant and equipment as documentary evidence of its reliability in investment relations in order to attract potential investors and partners and/or obtain credit financing. Since fixed assets are an essential component of all assets, improving the efficiency of their use through a qualitative assessment of their value can be considered one of the leading areas of improving enterprise accounting.

The section with case notes opens with an article by **Aleksandar Ivanović**

(Montenegro), *Serhii Naumenko* and *Svitlana Briukhan* (both – Ukraine), devoted to the assessment of handwriting identification signs in various forms of forensic expert conclusion. The main value of this research is the algorithm of actions for detection and careful study of signs as convergent and divergent ones. Conditions of their occurrence and interdependence, the influence degree of diagnostic signs on identification ones are determined. The options for solving forensic expert issues proposed in this research paper can be used in forensic expert practice in order to optimize forensic research.

The article by *Florin Rusitoru*, *Oleksandr Sviderskyi* and *Vitalii Varlahov* is devoted to the use of the *TASolver* software package in research on circumstances of traffic accidents occurred in conditions of limited visibility. This research paper considers examples of research on traffic accidents occurred in conditions of limited visibility using the *TASolver* software package developed by professionals of National Scientific Center «Hon. Prof. M. S. Bokarius Forensic Science Institute». Using Graph-Analytical Method, this software determines the distance at which the vehicle was from the collision scene at the time of danger for further movement. You can also use the *TASolver* software package to determine the vehicle location and the pedestrian while collision, and several vehicles in the event of a collision. The *TASolver* software package allows you to quickly and easily simulate the situation of a traffic accident occurred through an object that limited visibility. Results of discussion of possibilities of this software package at the international level (in particular, at the meeting of the ENFSI Road Accident Analysis Expert Working Group chaired by Florin Rusitoru) ensure that this research will help improve quality of forensic examinations and research-

es, reduce the expert labor costs, as well as increase probative value of the expert conclusion.

Marharyta Zhuravlyova considered possibility of conducting forensic psychological evaluation of moral suffering caused to a group of people. The article presents the algorithm of actions of forensic psychologist while examination of moral suffering of people on group lawsuits, considering current forensic practice and legislation of Ukraine.

This is not the first time that Editorial Board of the *Theory and Practice of Forensic Science and Criminalistics* collection publishes a joint research paper of Ukrainian and Lithuanian forensic handwriting experts. *Natalya Syrotenko*, *Rasa Tamoshunaite*, *Valentina Abrosymova* devoted their article to the issue of solving certain integration tasks in forensic handwriting analysis; a topic relevant to Ukrainian and Lithuanian forensic experts. The paper presents the main provisions of the theory of forensic handwriting on the research of handwriting objects made by altered movements, often due to natural disturbances. Examples from forensic expert practice of National Scientific Center «Hon. Prof. M. S. Bokarius Forensic Science Institute» are provided.

The purpose of *Iryna Tararaka's* research is to generalize issues of appointing and conducting forensic engineering and forensic environmental examinations (researches) on the facts of administrative misconduct while using the subsoil and provide practical recommendations for their solution. The author identified the subjects (participants in public law disputes and initiators of involving forensic expert to conduct research on administrative proceedings while consideration of environmental offenses), as well as the subject and tasks of forensic environmental research and species of objects

provided to forensic experts for conducting above mentioned researches.

Integration of scientific knowledge is a promising direction for both Ukraine and European countries. For this reason, in joint research paper, expert from Greece *Pavlos Kipouras* and Ukrainian researcher *Inessa Ovsiannykova* considers standardization and accreditation processes as the main directions of international cooperation in the field of forensic science activity and one of the important factors in improving efficiency of forensic science activity at the international level is cooperation with the European Network of Forensic Science

Institutes (*ENFSI*) that main activity is to improve information exchange in the field of criminalistics.

Finally, research paper collection contains information about the V Kharkiv International Legal Forum that took place on September 20-24, 2021 at the Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University.

The Editorial Board expresses its sincere gratitude to all the authors who provided content for publication, as well as to the professionals who took part in its publication and invites scholars and practitioners to prepare articles in future issues.

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