**Tools used in Forensic Biology Division**

1. Microscopes: Different types of microscopes, such as compound microscopes and stereomicroscopes, are used to examine biological samples like hairs, fibers, bloodstains, and tissue for analysis.
2. DNA Sequencers: DNA sequencing machines are used to determine the genetic information of biological samples, which can help identify individuals or establish relationships between individuals.
3. PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) Machines: PCR machines are used to amplify small quantities of DNA so they can be analyzed more easily. This technique is crucial for DNA profiling and comparison.
4. Electrophoresis Equipment: Electrophoresis is used to separate DNA fragments or proteins based on their size and charge. Gel electrophoresis is commonly used in forensic biology for DNA analysis.
5. Serological Testing Equipment: This includes tools for testing bodily fluids, such as blood, saliva, semen, and urine, to determine the presence of specific antigens and enzymes.
6. Biological Evidence Collection Kits: These kits contain items like swabs, containers, and protective gear for safely collecting and preserving biological samples at crime scenes.
7. Forensic Software: Specialized software is used for data analysis, comparison of DNA profiles, and interpretation of results.
8. Ultracentrifuges: These high-speed centrifuges are used for the separation of cellular components and other biological materials.
9. Spectrophotometers: Spectrophotometers are used to measure the concentration of DNA, RNA, or proteins in biological samples.

**Tools used in Forensic Chemistry Division**

1. Gas Chromatograph-Mass Spectrometer (GC-MS): GC-MS is a powerful instrument for separating and identifying chemical compounds in complex mixtures. It is commonly used in the analysis of drugs, explosives, accelerants, and volatile organic compounds.
2. Liquid Chromatograph-Mass Spectrometer (LC-MS): LC-MS is used to analyze and identify compounds in liquid samples, making it valuable for drug analysis, toxicology, and other forensic applications.
3. Infrared Spectrophotometer (FT-IR): FT-IR spectrometers are used to identify and characterize substances based on their infrared absorption spectra. They can be used to identify unknown substances or confirm the composition of known compounds.
4. UV-Visible Spectrophotometer: UV-Visible spectrophotometers are used to measure the absorption of ultraviolet and visible light by chemical substances. This is useful for quantifying the concentration of compounds and studying their electronic structure.
5. Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Spectrometer: NMR spectrometers are used to determine the structure and composition of organic compounds. They are essential for identifying and characterizing complex molecules.
6. Mass Spectrometer (MS): Mass spectrometry is used to determine the mass and structure of compounds. It is valuable for chemical analysis and identification.
7. Raman Spectrometer: Raman spectroscopy is used to identify and characterize substances based on how they scatter laser light. It provides information about the chemical composition of materials.
8. X-ray Fluorescence (XRF) Spectrometer: XRF is used for elemental analysis and can determine the composition of substances, especially metals and minerals
9. High-Performance Liquid Chromatograph (HPLC): HPLC is used to separate and analyze compounds in liquid samples, such as drugs, toxins, and other chemicals.

**Tools used in Forensic Physics Division**

1. Microscopes: Various types of microscopes, such as comparison microscopes and stereomicroscopes, are used to examine physical evidence like bullets, toolmarks, fibers, and other trace evidence.
2. Ballistics Analysis Equipment: This includes tools for analyzing firearms, bullet trajectories, and cartridge casings. Equipment may include bullet comparison microscopes and shooting incident reconstruction tools.
3. Spectroscopy Instruments: Spectrometers and spectrophotometers can be used for analyzing the chemical composition of materials, such as paint, ink, and glass fragments.
4. X-ray Machines: X-ray diffraction and fluorescence tools are used for examining structural characteristics and elemental composition of materials, including metals and minerals.
5. Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM): SEMs provide high-resolution images and elemental analysis of samples, making them valuable for studying the microstructure of materials.
6. Atomic Force Microscope (AFM): AFMs are used to examine surface topography and mechanical properties of materials at the nanoscale.
7. Digital Imaging and Photography Equipment: High-resolution cameras, UV and IR imaging devices, and photomicrography equipment are used for capturing visual evidence.
8. Laser Scanners: Laser scanning technology is employed for documenting and reconstructing crime scenes and accident scenes in 3D.
9. Soil Analysis Tools: Tools for soil sample collection and analysis to link soil evidence to crime scenes.

**Tools used in Forensic Physics Division**

1. Microscopes: High-quality microscopes, including comparison microscopes, are used to examine the minute details of documents, such as handwriting, paper texture, and ink characteristics.
2. Spectroscopy Instruments: Instruments like infrared spectrophotometers and UV-Visible spectrophotometers are used to analyze inks, dyes, and paper to determine their chemical composition.
3. Magnifiers: Handheld magnifiers with varying levels of magnification are used to closely examine documents.
4. Video Spectral Comparator (VSC): The VSC is used to examine documents in multiple lighting conditions, including infrared and ultraviolet light, to reveal hidden information or alterations.
5. Electrostatic Detection Apparatus (ESDA): ESDA machines are used to detect indented or erased writing and impressions on paper, especially useful for revealing alterations or forgeries.
6. Ink Analysis Tools: Tools for comparing and analyzing different inks, including thin-layer chromatography (TLC) plates and gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) for ink component analysis.
7. Ultraviolet and Infrared Light Sources: UV and IR light sources are used to visualize fluorescent and non-visible ink and alterations on documents.
8. Imaging and Photography Equipment: High-resolution cameras, forensic imaging systems, and specialized lighting setups are used to document and analyze documents.
9. Electroscopy and Electrostatic Detection Devices: These tools can detect alterations made with various writing instruments by measuring the electrostatic charge of the ink or toner.
10. Stereomicroscope: Stereomicroscopes provide a three-dimensional view of the document, which can be useful for analyzing fine details.

**Polygraph Test**

A polygraph test, commonly known as a "lie detector" test, is a forensic tool used to measure physiological responses in individuals when they are asked a series of questions. The main components of a polygraph test include a polygraph machine, sensors, and a question protocol:

**Components:**

1. **Polygraph Machine:** The primary instrument used in the test, the polygraph machine, records physiological responses. It typically measures changes in galvanic skin response (GSR), heart rate, respiration rate, and chest and abdominal movements.

* **Galvanic Skin Response (GSR):** Measures changes in skin conductivity due to sweat, which can be influenced by emotional responses.
* **Cardiovascular Measures:** Blood pressure and heart rate are monitored to detect changes associated with anxiety or stress.
* **Respiration Rate:** Measures the rate and depth of breathing, which can be affected by emotional states.
* **Pneumograph:** This instrument records chest and abdominal movements to monitor breathing patterns.

1. **Question Protocol:** The examiner formulates a set of questions, including relevant and control questions. Relevant questions are directly related to the issue under investigation, while control questions are more general and provoke a physiological response in most individuals.

**How It Works:**

1. **Pre-Test Interview:** Before the test, the examiner conducts a pre-test interview to explain the procedure, build rapport with the examinee, and gather background information.
2. **Questioning Phase:** During the test, the examiner asks a series of questions, including relevant and control questions. The examinee is instructed to respond truthfully to all questions.
3. **Data Collection:** As the examinee responds to the questions, the polygraph machine records physiological responses, such as changes in sweating, heart rate, and respiration.
4. **Data Analysis:** The examiner interprets the physiological data, looking for significant changes in responses when the examinee answers relevant questions, which are indicative of stress or deception.
5. **Scoring:** The examiner scores the test based on the physiological responses and the consistency of reactions to relevant and control questions.
6. **Results:** Based on the analysis, the examiner provides an opinion on the truthfulness of the examinee's responses, typically categorized as "deceptive," "non-deceptive," or "inconclusive."

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**Applications of VSC**

A Video Spectral Comparator (VSC) is a specialized instrument used in forensic document examination to analyze questioned documents. It is a valuable tool for document examiners when investigating cases involving forged or altered documents, counterfeit currency, and other types of questioned documents. The VSC is designed to provide an enhanced visual examination of documents by using different lighting conditions and spectral imaging. Here are some of the applications of VSC in forensic questioned documents:

1. **Revealing Hidden Writing and Alterations:** The VSC can reveal indented or obliterated writing on documents. By using various light sources, including infrared (IR) and ultraviolet (UV) illumination.
2. **Identifying Forgery and Counterfeiting:** The VSC helps document examiners detect forged or counterfeit documents, such as forged signatures, checks, banknotes, and security features.
3. **Comparing Inks and Materials:** The VSC allows document examiners to compare different inks used on a document. This is crucial for determining if multiple inks have been used in a fraudulent manner or if alterations have been made to a document. The instrument can also help identify the presence of printing or writing performed with different materials.
4. **Authenticity Verification:** Document examiners use the VSC to authenticate documents, such as passports, identification cards, and certificates. The examination of security features, watermarks, and other elements under different lighting conditions can reveal discrepancies that indicate forgery.
5. **Determining Age and Origin of Documents:** By analyzing the aging characteristics of documents, the VSC can help document examiners determine when a document was created or altered. It can provide insights into the origin of materials and inks used.
6. **Quality Control in Printing and Security Industries:** The VSC is also used for quality control purposes, particularly in industries that produce banknotes, passports, and security documents. It helps identify printing defects, irregularities, and issues with security features.
7. **Questioned Signatures and Handwriting:** When dealing with questioned signatures or handwriting, the VSC can assist in determining the authenticity of a document's contents. It can reveal variations in the ink used for signatures or handwriting.
8. **Document Reconstruction:** In some cases, the VSC can aid in the reconstruction of partially destroyed or damaged documents. By examining the remaining traces of writing or printing, document examiners may be able to piece together the original content.

**IBIS (Integrated Ballistics Identification System)**

The Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS) is a sophisticated forensic technology used in the field of firearms and toolmark analysis. IBIS is designed to help law enforcement agencies identify and link firearms, spent shell casings, and bullets used in various crimes, particularly those involving firearms. Here's a note on the Integrated Ballistics Identification System:

**Key Components of IBIS:**

1. **Firearm Evidence Collection:** Firearms and their components, such as barrels and slides, along with ammunition (live and spent rounds), are collected as evidence from crime scenes or from individuals involved in criminal investigations.
2. **Digital Imaging:** The IBIS system captures high-resolution digital images of various types of evidence, including spent cartridge cases, fired bullets, and cartridge boxes.
3. **Entry into Database:** The images of the collected ballistic evidence are entered into the IBIS database. Each piece of evidence is given a unique identifier, and its characteristics are recorded.
4. **Microscopy and Analysis:** The IBIS system uses sophisticated microscopes and imaging techniques to capture fine details of fired cartridge cases and bullets. This includes features like firing pin impressions, breechface marks, and toolmarks left on the ammunition during the firing process.
5. **Pattern Matching Algorithms:** IBIS employs powerful pattern recognition and matching algorithms to compare the unique markings on spent shell casings and bullets with those in the database. The system is capable of detecting minute imperfections and toolmarks that can distinguish one firearm from another.
6. **Ballistics Database:** IBIS maintains a comprehensive database of ballistic images, allowing examiners to search and match new evidence against previously collected data.

**Applications of IBIS:**

1. **Firearm Identification:** IBIS is used to identify the make and model of firearms used in crimes. It can also match spent shell casings and bullets to the specific firearm that fired them, potentially linking multiple crimes to the same weapon.
2. **Firearm Tracing:** Law enforcement agencies can use IBIS to trace the history of a firearm by examining its ballistic history, including previous crimes and ownership records.
3. **Linking Criminal Cases:** IBIS can connect seemingly unrelated crimes by matching ballistic evidence, potentially helping investigators identify serial shooters or gang-related violence.
4. **Crime Scene Reconstruction:** The system aids in reconstructing crime scenes by providing evidence of the number of shots fired, the sequence of shots, and the location of the shooter.
5. **Courtroom Evidence:** IBIS results can be presented as evidence in court to help establish a link between a suspect's firearm and a crime scene.