



# Sample Report of Forensic Examination

## Cartridge Case and Shotshell Examination

(Fired and Unfired)

### Results of Examination

See the following sample report using the above noted evidence items.

Reports should also indicate if any submitted items were not examined and why (e.g., as a result of a conference with the lead investigator).

### **Fired Cartridge Case and Shotshell Casing Examination Result Sample**

#### **Identification of a Fired Cartridge Case with a Submitted Firearm Based on Firing Pin Impression, Breech Face Marks, or Chamber Marks**

- Item #4 was identified as having been fired in Item #1.
  - Item #6 and Item #7 were identified as having been fired in Item #3.
- OR-
- The Item #4 cartridge case was identified as having been fired in the Item #1 pistol.
  - The Item #6 and Item #7 shotshell casings were identified as having been fired in the Item #3 shotgun.

#### **Interidentification of Fired Cartridge Cases with No Firearm Submitted Based on Firing Pin Impression, Breech Face Marks or Chamber Marks**

- Item #4 and Item #5 are .380 Auto caliber cartridge cases which were identified as having been fired in a single firearm.
- OR-
- Item #4 and Item #5 are .380 Auto caliber cartridge cases which were identified as having been fired in the same firearm.

#### **Inconclusive Comparison of a Fired Cartridge Case with Submitted Firearm**

Due to insufficient corresponding individual microscopic marks, it could not be determined whether or not the Item #4 cartridge case was fired in the Item #1 pistol.

#### **Identification Based on Extractor and/or Ejector Marks**

- The Item #4 and the Item #5 fired cartridge cases were identified as having been loaded into and extracted from the Item #1 pistol. Due to a lack of sufficient corresponding microscopic characteristics, no conclusion could be reached as to whether or not they were fired in the Item #1 pistol.

#### **Inconclusive Intercomparison of Cartridge Cases with No Firearm Submitted**

- Items #4 and #5 are .380 Auto caliber cartridge cases marketed by Federal Cartridge Company. Both bear limited microscopic marks of value for comparison purposes. Due to a lack of sufficient corresponding individual microscopic marks, it could not be determined whether or not Items #4 and #5 were fired in the same firearm.

#### **Cartridge Case with No Firearm Submitted**

- Item #5 is a fired .380 Auto caliber cartridge case of Winchester manufacture. It is noted that Item #5 bears microscopic marks of value for comparison purposes should a suspect firearm be recovered.

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## Cartridge Case and Shotshell Examination

(Fired and Unfired)

### Elimination of a Cartridge Case Based on Differences in Class Characteristics

- Item #5 is a fired .380 Auto caliber cartridge case which bears microscopic marks of value for comparison purposes. Item #2 is a .32 Auto caliber pistol. Due to dimensional differences, Item #5 could not have been fired in the Item #2 pistol.
- Item #5 is a fired .380 Auto caliber cartridge case which bears microscopic marks of value for comparison purposes. Item #1 is a .380 Auto caliber pistol of marketed by Colt. Due to the differences in the shape and size of the firing pin impressions produced by the Item #1 pistol, the Item #5 cartridge case was not fired in the Item #1 firearm.
- Due to differences in the size and shape of the firing pin impressions in the Item #4 and Item #5 cartridge cases, they were not fired in the same firearm.

### Unsuitable for Comparison

- Item #4 is a fired 9mm Luger caliber cartridge case of Federal manufacture. Item #4 bears no microscopic marks of value for comparison purposes.

### Unfired Cartridge Case and Shotshell Examination Result Sample

- The Item #8 and Item #9 cartridges were identified as having been loaded into and extracted from the Item #1 pistol.
- Item #10 is an unfired 12-gauge shotshell that bears mechanism marks like those produced by the Item #3 shotgun. However these marks are insufficient for identification with Item #3. Therefore it could not be determined whether or not Item #10 was loaded into and extracted from Item # 3.
- The Item #8 cartridge was identified as having been loaded into and removed from the Item #1 magazine.

*Note: When reporting results for unfired ammunition, it is important not to overstate the significance of these identifications.*

### Disposition of the Evidence

The submitted items will be retained in this laboratory until called for by a representative of your agency.

-OR-

The submitted items will be returned to your agency by (*registered mail, FedEx, UPS, etc.*).

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(Signature/ Title)

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