
FROM THE EDITOR

The 2023 JFDE is now complete. The JFDE receives many papers covering a wide range of topics related to the field of forensic document examination. Some of these papers are more historical in an attempt to apply the principles of handwriting identification to older handwritten documents or musical scores. The JFDE publishes those papers when they are original, well researched, well reasoned, illustrated and are approved through a blind peer review process. Both papers in the 2023 issue of the JFDE meet these high standards.

The first authors for the paper, “Decipherment of Text on Foxed Documents by Hyperspectral Imaging Utilizing the Video Spectral Comparator 6000,” are from the Departments of Forensic Science for their respective government agencies in India. The paper provides a solution for those attempting to decipher the text as a result of “foxing” that is a process of deterioration in older papers that creates spots and browning.

The second paper, “The Audley End Annotations: Applying Huber and Headrick’s Element of Handwriting Discrimination to a 16th Century Unknown Document,” by Roger Stritmatter is an extensive and well documented attempt to identify the author of specialized annotations in 16th century books in the Audley End House in Essex, UK.

Dr. Stritmatter, a Professor of Humanities at Coppin State University in Baltimore, Maryland, received his PhD in comparative literature from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Dr. Stritmatter would like to see the principles of forensic document examination utilized in historical documents rather than from practitioners of other disciplines who he believes speculate about authorship in historical documents.

As with all papers published in the JFDE, the research, analysis, and conclusions are the responsibility of the author, not the JFDE.

Michael Pertsinakis, LL.B, Ph.D., MCSFS
Crete, Greece
Editor