

CV of Stephen Cosslett

Academic Qualifications

B.Sc. (Hons) Chemistry, Surrey University (1979)

Experience

Questioned Document Section, Home Office Forensic Science Service (FSS), Priory House, Birmingham 1983 - 1992

Document Evidence Limited (DEL), Director, 1992 - 2008

Head of Questioned Document Section, Key Forensic Services, 2008 – October 2018

Forensic Document Examiner, Cosslett and Barr Limited

Court Experience

I have given expert evidence as a forensic handwriting expert/document examiner on approximately 400 occasions for both the prosecution and defence in criminal cases as well as in Civil cases. In my career I have given evidence in most Crown Courts within England and Wales including the Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey), at the Royal Courts of Justice, the Four Courts and Special Criminal Court in Dublin as well as in Northern Cyprus.

Other Information

In April 2011 I was the convenor of the Forensic Science Society Questioned Documents Conference, this was the first conference aimed specifically at questioned document examiners in the UK for a number of years.

Until its abolition in 2008, I was registered as an expert with the CRFP (Council for the Registration of Forensic Practitioners), an independent regulatory body to promote public confidence in forensic practice in the UK. This organisation was set up to ensure the competency of all police and forensic experts.

I have provided a number of CPD lectures on questioned document examination to Solicitors and to Trading Standards. In addition I have assisted in the training of other document examiners. In 2012 I spent a week in Kigali providing training for document examiners employed by the Rwandan Police and in 2014 I supervised courses for trainees from the Forensic Services for Northern Ireland, the Garda (Republic of Ireland Police) and the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau, a government organisation in Tanzania.