

VALID COMPARISONS

A Supplemental
Training
Course

Advanced Courtroom Principles and Techniques for Forensic Pattern Experts

VALIDCOMPARISONS.COM

AN ONLINE COURSE FOR FORENSIC PATTERN EXAMINERS

Prepare to testify with confidence, integrity, and composure.

The courtroom has changed for forensic pattern examiners. Attorneys are better prepared to challenge pattern comparison testimony, and criticism of these disciplines has grown more organized and persistent. Based on the book **Valid Comparisons**, this course prepares examiners to explain the scientific foundations of their work, to address questions about error and certainty with honesty and candor, and to present their findings in a way that earns the trust of judges and juries.

WHAT PARTICIPANTS WILL LEARN

- What makes a science valid, and why the pattern disciplines meet that standard
- What the Daubert ruling *really* meant
- How to answer questions about error rates and certainty without overstating or weakening a conclusion
- The critical distinction between the expert's analytical and consulting roles
- How temperament shapes the way a judge and jury receive and judge the reliability of testimony

COURSE STRUCTURE

- 1 INTRODUCTION
Welcome to Valid Comparisons
- 2 PART 1
Understand the Issues and Challenges
- 3 PART 2
Laying the Foundations
- 4 PART 3
Courtroom Mastery
- 5 CONCLUSION
Putting the Principles into Practice

"Science is a confidence business, not a certainty business."

TAUGHT BY JOHN MORREY COLLINS

Former director of forensic science for the State of Michigan, with hundreds of hours of testimony in criminal trials, death penalty cases, and Daubert hearings. Author of **Valid Comparisons**.

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