August 30th, 2006 Forensic Science Bell-Ringer

- John Mark Karr is no longer considered a suspect in the killing of Jon Bonnet Ramsey for what reason?
- Give a list of possible reasons for Karr to confess to a crime, that the evidence states that he did not commit.



Physical Evidence

Common Types of Physical Evidence

- 1. Blood, Semen and Saliva. The presence of any of these samples in liquid form or dried suggest a relation to the offense or persons involved in a crime.
- These substances are subjected to serological and biochemical analysis for determination of identity and possible origins.

Documents and Drugs

- Documents: Any handwritten or typewriting submitted so that authenticity of source can be determined. Related items include, paper, ink, indented writing, obliterations, and burned or charred documents.
- Drugs: Any substance seized in violation of laws regulating the sale, manufacture, distribution or use of drugs.

Explosives and Fibers

- Explosives: Any devise containing a explosive charge, as well as all objects removed from the scene of an explosion that are suspected to contain the residue of an explosive.
- Fibers: Any natural or synthetic fiber whose transfer may be useful in establishing a relationship between objects and or persons.

Fingerprints, Firearms and Ammunition

- Fingerprints: All prints of this nature,
 Latent and Visible.
- Firearms and Ammunitions: Any firearm, as well as any discharged or intact ammunition, suspected of being involved in a criminal offense.

Glass and Hair

- Glass: Any glass particles or fragment that may have been transferred to a person or object involved in a crime. Windowpanes containing holes made by a bullet or other projectile are included in this category.
- Hair: Any animal or human hair present that could link a person with a crime.

Impressions and Organs and physiological fluids.

- Impressions: This category includes tire markings, shoe prints, depressions in soft soils, and all other forms of tracks. Glove and other fabric impressions as well as bite marks in skin or foodstuffs, are also included.
- Physiological Fluids: Body organs and fluids are submitted for toxicology to detect possible existence of drugs and poisons. This category includes blood to be analyzed from one vehicle to another during an automobile collision.

Paint and Petroleum Products

- Paint: Any paint, liquid or dried, that may have been transferred from the surface of one object to another during the commission of a crime. A common example is the transfer of paint from one vehicle to another during an automobile accident/collision.
- Petroleum Products: Any petroleum product removed from a suspect or removed from a crime scene. Common examples are gasoline residue removed from an arson, or grease and oil stains whose presence may suggest involvement in a crime.

Plastic Bags, Plastic, Rubber and other Polymers

- Plastic Bag is a polyethylene disposable bag such as a garbage bag may be evidential in a homicide or drug case. Examinations are conducted to associate a bag with a similar bag in the possession of a suspect.
- Plastic, rubber, and other polymers: Remnants of these man made materials recovered at the crime scene may be linked to objects recovered in the possession of a suspect perpetrator.

Powder Residue and Serial Numbers

- Powder Residue: Any item suspected of containing firearm discharge residue.
- Serial Numbers: This category includes all stolen property submitted to the laboratory for the restoration of erased identification numbers.

Soil, Minerals and Tool Marks

- Soil and Minerals: All items containing soil or minerals that could link a person or object to a particular location. Common examples are soil embedded in shoes and safe insulation found on garments.
- Tool Marks: This category includes and object suspected of containing the impression of another object that served as a tool in a crime. For Example, a screwdriver or crowbar could produce tool marks by being impressed into or scraped along a surface of a wall.

Vehicle Lights and Vegetative Matter

- Vehicle Lights: Examination of vehicle headlights and taillights is normally conducted to determine whether a light was on or off at the time of impact.
- Wood and other Vegetative Matter: Any fragment of wood or sawdust, shavings, or vegetative matter discovered on clothing, shoes, or tools that could link a person or object to a crime location.

Thank You for Your Attention!