

# SPECIAL REPORT: Forensic Document Examination



Hi, my name is Bart Baggett, President of The International School of Forensic Document Examination. Thanks for downloading this special report about how you can make \$1,000 a day, or more, as a Certified Document Examiner.

If you're reading this special report, you have an interest in changing careers and/or possibly adding to the feathers in your cap the title of "Court Qualified Document Examiner." In this special report, what I would like to answer a few key questions about the career of document examining:

- ☐ What's a document examiner?
- ☐ How much can you get paid?
- ☐ Can you really make \$1,000 a day?
- ☐ Who is going to hire you?
- ☐ Where do you get trained?
- ☐ How do you get trained?
- ☐ Is it a career for you?

Obviously, the last question, whether this is a career for you or not, you will have to answer for yourself.

I'd also like to answer a few questions about what document examining is not, because it's important to know what kind of career you're getting into. If you decide to take the certification training to become a document examiner, when you graduate, you will have a new career. You'll have a new skill, you'll have the ability to make \$100 to \$200 an hour, just for looking at samples of handwriting and making a decision. Essentially, you'll be getting paid a lot of money to give your opinion on questioned documents.

This is a very important criteria - if you don't understand what document examining is, and what it isn't, what you're going to be required to learn and some of the things you aren't required to learn. Let me first say that I can't give you everything you need to know in this simple free special report, but hopefully I'll give you some highlights so you can decide, "Hey, this is great, I'd like to learn more."

There are a lot of ways to learn more. We have teleconferences where you can meet and talk to professors, we have lots of articles on the website about document examining, we of course have lots of articles about cases and document examining. You might have seen me on CNN or Court Television, discussing handwriting cases and famous cases like the Jon Benet Ramsey murder. I was on TV when OJ Simpson was being tried for the murder of his ex-wife and they were looking handwriting samples and suicide notes. I've been on the Catherine Crier Show on the Court Television network, discussing the personality traits of convicted killers, such as Scott Peterson and David Westerfield.

Here is an important distinction - I want you to understand, a Court Qualified Document Examiner helps authenticate the authorship or integrity of a document. So when you saw me on Court Television talking about the character traits of a mass murderer, or someone that would kill his wife, that's the field of handwriting analysis. I happen to be trained in both, but the document examining field is all about forensics. It's what you see on CSI, except some of the stuff they have on CSI doesn't exist in real life - like a 10 second document examiner computer that can instantly tell you who wrote the note. That is still done by humans! Lucky for us, because that's why the attorneys pay the big money. They have someone like you come to court and testify that someone forged or altered the document. Based on the opinion you gave, the attorney can win or lose the case.

If you decide to enroll in our certification program, you'll work from home, you'll listen to teleconferences, and you'll even get to attend our conference once a year. One of the people whom you'll get to know very well is Curt Baggett. He is the co-founder of Handwriting University, and he is arguably the #1 document examiner in the United States, based strictly on case-load. He has sometimes 30 different cases a month that he is requested to render an opinion on, and in many cases go to court and fight very, very upset attorneys, convincing them that his opinion could win the case for one side or the other.

What does he get paid for this? Well, he gets paid the same as every one of our graduates - and that's because we price them all the same. Now, naturally, when you graduate, you could raise or lower your prices, because you will then be working for yourself. Curt charges \$1,000 a day for court, and he charges \$500 for a written opinion. Sometimes it takes 30 minutes to render an opinion, sometimes it takes him hours - but the fact is, as a court-qualified document examiner, what is required of you is to take a handwriting sample of a known or an unknown entity, and decide who wrote the note. In some cases, you'll never find out who wrote it, but you'll know for a fact who didn't write it - and that opinion is worth a lot of money.

Let's run through some of these questions:

**What is a document examiner?** A document examiner is a person who renders an opinion on the authorship or integrity of a document. Document examining usually involves some sort of handwriting or script as far as the authorship. However, document examining does NOT include psychological profiling or graphology. As much as we respect that science, it is a totally different field, and it is not to be discussed and/or taught in the field of document examination training. They are two different fields - we encourage you to study both, but they are different.

**Who can become a document examiner?** Anybody. The truth is, document examiners are trained through apprenticeship training programs. It's helpful if you have a college degree, it's helpful if you have a resume, it's helpful if you were trained with the FBI, and if you're a sheriff. But none of it is necessary.

Many of the associations for document examining do require an undergraduate degree. You don't have to become a member of these trade association to work in the industry or testify in