

Fundamentals Of Forensic Handwriting Examination

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Abstract— *The article analyzes the subject, the object of forensic handwriting examination, the issues solved in the research process, and the problems of their solution.*

Keywords— forensic examination, forensic handwriting examination, manuscripts, signatures, written signs.

1. INTRODUCTION

Today, forensic handwriting examination is one of the most common types of criminological forensic examinations, which allows to reveal the objective truth in criminal and civil cases. With its assist, the preliminary investigation and judicial authorities determine the circumstances that are significant in civil and criminal cases. The difficulty of this type of examination is due to the fact that human writing skills have a very complex organizational and psycho-physiological basis, and the process of performing the manuscript, which is a direct object of research, is influenced by several internal and external factors. Theoretical and practical research in the field of correspondence always allows to expand the scope of questions addressed by the expert-correspondent.

2. MAIN PART

The system of criminologically analysis of material evidence in the process of forensic handwriting examination has certain features. This is reflected, on the one hand, in the diversity of the characteristics of the written action skill in the manuscript and, on the other hand, in the variability of these characteristics in different writing conditions.

In the course of the preliminary investigation and trial of a criminal case, there is a problem in identifying the person who made the notes and (or) signatures in the documents often collected as material evidence, or in some cases, the conditions of execution of those records and signatures. These types of cases are important, especially in proving the guilt of individuals who have plundered public and state property by falsifying various payment documents.

The importance of a forensic handwriting examination is also important in cases involving the determination of the authenticity of civil claim documents (e.g., receipts, wills, etc.).

Correspondents identify various manuscripts, digital symbols, information about the executor of signatures on documents and the compiler of the document, and also they assist to identify other real information related to the compilation of various documents (writing conditions, status of the writer) that are important in civil litigation, crime prevention and detection.

The subject of forensic handwriting examination is the determination by the expert only of the facts (circumstances) that fall within his competence. These powers are strictly limited with a set of identification and non-identification types of questions, which are clearly addressed through the application of scientifically developed and tested research methods in the field of forensic correspondence. Therefore, after receiving the inquiry, investigator's decision or court ruling on the appointment of an expert examination, the expert must first get acquainted with the essence of the questions asked for resolution, to determine whether they are within their competence. In this way, the expert determines the tasks of the research to be conducted, as well as the subject and methodology of the research.

Therefore, the subject of forensic examination is the performance of identification, diagnostic and situational tasks using existing research methods in forensic correspondence in order to determine the facts (circumstances) of evidence in criminal and civil cases in accordance with criminal and civil procedure legislation is calculated.

Correspondence examination deals with precisely and precisely issues that did not happen. After reviewing the clearly posed questions, the expert will determine the purpose and boundaries of the research. In this case, the forensic expert must refuse to resolve the questions raised by the inquiry officer, investigator and judge before the expert in the field of forensic correspondence, if they are beyond his competence. If you need other experts in the field to solve some of the questions, then it is necessary to conduct a comprehensive examination. In doing so, it should be borne in mind that a written examination should be conducted prior to a study in which the appearance of the document may be compromised.

The courier expert can answer the following questions during the research:

- which of the persons under investigation executed the suspicious manuscript;
- which of the examined manuscripts was made by the suspect;
- whether the dubious manuscript was made by one person or by different persons;
- The manuscript is executed in the usual or unusual way. If not usual, then in which case;
- whether the manuscript was made with a deliberately altered inscription;
- whether the dubious manuscript was made in the same way as any other person's handwriting;
- whether the manuscript was made in a state of physical exhaustion, mental excitement, serious illness or alcohol consumption;
- The time of completion of the manuscript;

- whether the manuscript was made by a man or a woman.

In addition, other questions may be asked to the expert.

Requirements for materials submitted for correspondence examination and their preparation. Samples of the suspects' records should be selected to address issues related to the identification of the executor of the document and its author.

Samples of the letter selected for the comparative study must meet the following requirements.

1. Independent execution. Documents selected (manuscripts) as samples of written speech and writing should not be written (compiled) by the person being examined and artificially modified. Written speech patterns are the creative work of the person being examined and should not be influenced by strangers in terms of style, grammar and content.

Free and experimental samples of the record are suitable for identification (identification) of the executor of the document. For the study of documents executed in left-hand and capital letters, along with free samples performed in the general order and under normal conditions, experimental samples performed in the manner in which the document under study is performed must also be submitted.

In order to obtain experimental samples, a special text consisting of specific words and sentences is created in order to check their spelling in the research process. Sampling should be done as many times as possible.

2. The size of the writing samples. As a general rule, written speech and written samples should be able to verify and determine the stability of symptoms with an individual complex that is sufficiently identifiable. The sufficiency and suitability of graphic and lexical materials for comparative research depends, first of all, not only on quantity and quality, but also on the fact that the performer's and the author's written speaking skills and graphic specificity are clearly reflected in it.

3. Execution time of free samples. The record samples selected for the comparative study should correspond to the time of writing of the document under study, i.e. they should be written as close as possible to the time of writing of the document under study performed by the person being examined.

4. Content of the topic of comparison materials. When comparing the record, the content of the samples has no practical effect on the research results. Therefore, as far as possible, they should be different in their purpose, which affects the level of graphic execution of documents with accuracy. The presence of manuscripts done in a chaotic or careless manner helps to understand the different options for character identification.

The selection of comparison samples in signature validation research has some peculiarities. This uniqueness depends on the function of the document, the signature can be executed with high or low accuracy, it can take more or less letters of the surname. Therefore, when signatures are made by another person, full and abbreviated experimental signatures of free samples of signatures in the document, which have various features, carefully and fragmented, should be obtained from them.

These free and experimental samples allow to determine whether the signature is forged or not, the method of forgery of the signature and whether the forgery was committed by the suspect.

3. CONCLUSION

Objects of correspondence examination. The objects of forensic research can be different texts. Experts, inquirers, investigators, and other personnel are confronted with a variety of manuscripts in the detection and investigation of crimes. Any manuscript can be considered as a source of information about the person who made it. Manuscripts can be found at the scene of the accident, presented by witnesses, the victim, obtained by mail. Regardless of the way in which a criminal case is filed, it is possible to identify the executor of the document related to the incident under investigation.

Writing samples as objects of correspondence are divided into:

1) Free samples - manuscripts made by the alleged executor before the crime was committed and regardless of the crime. Such records include the application for employment, explanatory letters, records on the personnel record sheet, personal correspondence, and so on. In carrying out such documents, the person may not have known or even considered that these documents could be used as writing samples in the future;

2) Experimental samples - records (manuscripts) made specifically by the alleged executor for expert research;

3) Conditionally-free samples - a record (manuscript) made after the initiation of a criminal case, but not for special expert research, for example, explanatory letters on a criminal case, handwritten instructions and other documents.

4. REFERENCES

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