

# Elisabeth BRIGGS MNatSc (Chem) MSc MCSFS MAE

## Senior Forensic Scientist

### specialising in Handwriting and Questioned Documents

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Forensic scientist since: 2001

#### Summary

Elisabeth has nearly 20 years' experience as a Forensic Document Examiner and has examined in excess of 1000 cases from private and corporate instructions, civil and criminal matters as instructed by legal advisors, including cases where she has acted as a 'Single Joint Expert', government departments and direct instruction from various UK Police forces. She has also provided evidence for enquiries into media personalities and politicians, including magisterial inquiries in Malta.

Elisabeth has given expert evidence at court on many occasions, attending courts all over the UK in person and providing evidence remotely in the UK and abroad. She has also given evidence at employment tribunals and civil hearings.

Elisabeth has provided training in relation to the use and interpretation of Electrostatic Detection Apparatus (ESDA – a tool utilised by document examiners to assist in detecting writing indentations on paper) on several occasions, including a bespoke course for the Guardia Civil in Madrid, Spain. She has also acted as trainer and mentor to newly recruited document examiners.

#### Experience

- Leading forensic scientist with nearly 20 years' experience.
- Highly respected forensic scientist and expert in all aspects of document examinations including signature comparison, handwriting analysis and the forensic examination of questioned or disputed documents.
- Highly skilled in the utilisation of detailed observational methods to analyse documents in order to determine authenticity and detect forgery.
- Leading handwriting expert, having examined and analysed thousands of documents with evidential value.
- Vastly experienced senior court reporting scientist having presented evidence and assisted with cross-examinations on numerous occasions.
- Trained at the Grampian Police Forensic Laboratory in Aberdeen.
- Completed training courses in 'Excellence in Report Writing', 'Witness Familiarisation' and 'Cross Examination' organised by Bond Solon.
- Has trained and professionally developed forensic scientists in the UK and overseas.
- Takes part in regular proficiency tests supplied by Collaborative Testing Services, in common with many Forensic laboratories throughout the world.

#### Committee memberships

- Member of the Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences
- Corresponding member of the Australasian Society of Forensic Document Examiners Inc.
- Practising Member of the Academy of Experts
- A registered Forensic Practitioner until the Council for the Registration of Forensic Practitioners (CRFP) was disbanded in 2009



#### Areas of expertise

##### Forensic Chemistry

Handwriting analysis  
Forged or disputed documents  
Signature comparison