

TENNESSEE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Forensic Services Division

Violent Crime Response Team Standard Operating Procedures
Gelatin Lifter Procedure



10. VCRT Procedures

10.24 Gelatin Lifters

10.24.1 Scope

Gelatin lifters were specially developed for the lifting of fingerprints and marks in dust (footwear/tire tracks). The adhesive gelatin layer permits the lifting of evidence from almost every surface. The lifters consist of three layers: the carrier, the adhesive and the cover sheet. Areas can also be dusted with print powder and lifted with the appropriate contrasting color lifter if detail is developed.

10.24.2 Definitions

Refer to VCRT 11.0 Definitions and Abbreviations

10.24.3 Chemicals and Reagents

None

10.24.4 Equipment and Supplies

Gel lifters
Print Powder

10.24.5 Procedure

Comparison photographs should be made before Gelatin Lifting is attempted. See VCRT 10.34 Comparison Photography for additional information.

Use a clean piece of Gelatin Lifter large enough to cover the print allowing excess in all directions.

Remove the cover sheet.

Gently curl the Gelatin Lifter and place it in the center of the print allowing the ends to roll down across the impression.

Rub the back of the Gelatin Lifter assuring the lifter makes contact with the whole print.

On the back of the lifter write the following:

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- Initials of person making the lift
- Date and time
- Marker number or Identifier
- Location and/or orientation of lift to a reference

Lift up the lifter.

Replace protective cover sheet.

Properly package the lift for submission into Evidence Receiving.