

# Columbia International Forensics Laboratory

**Gaylan Warren**                      **Forensic Microscopist**  
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What follows is my customary response to inquire for forensic assistance including a fee schedule.

My involvement in any case is as a disinterested party. I am an advocate for no person or position. I am an advocate for the physical evidence, to speak for the evidence that cannot speak for itself \*. I reserve the right to refuse any case or to cease work on any case should the contracting parties try to influence me or the results of my work.

With all cases, you will want to see what property was collected. Quite often only a select few items of what is collected is ever examined. Selective examination can bias results and reports to reach a target conclusion. I will do my best to show you how the physical evidence and the examinations of physical evidence can best support your position, and conversely, where it may hinder. While having had some experience in just about every area of forensic science my skills are primarily forensic microscopy, toolmark comparison, firearm examination, and shooting scene reconstruction.

Most work I am able to get to immediately upon receipt of the test materials and only rarely do I have the evidence more than a few days. If I cannot get to your case immediately I will notify you and schedule an agreeable time for both of us or assist you in finding other resources. Whether or not you have examinations or additional examinations done, you should at least have notes and reports reviewed by an independent forensic expert.

Remember, the results of examination are not always as you anticipate. It is my job as a forensic scientist to teach you what the physical evidence has to say that it cannot say for itself. I work as a disinterested party and take no sides in an issue. I purpose to teach you about my areas of interest with respect to your case and then proceed per our arrangement.

To estimate cost, figure about 1½ hours for each item you wish to have examined. For review of reports and notes, it depends on complexity and volume (around 5 hours is average). You have more control over court time than I, so figure this accordingly and do not forget travel and expenses.

Fee schedule  
subject to change without notice

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- **Rate @ \$250.00/hr.** For all time spent consulting on a case.
  - **Travel time @ \$125.00/hr.** Travel time charges are portal to portal.
  - **Expenses @ actual.** All expenses portal to portal (transportation, fares, mileage @ \$0.53/mile, meals, parking, supplies, shipping, lodging, etc.).
  - **Court @ \$1,100.00 + \$125.00/hr.** I charge an expert witness fee of \$1,100.00 which gets you an hour, \$125.00/hr. thereafter on the day of call, time on subsequent days at \$250.00/hr.
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- Billing is at the end of each month for work done during that period or upon conclusion of work, whichever comes first. Statements will follow.
  - All charges are due and payable within 30 days, unless other arrangements have been made.
  - Past due accounts will be charged at 1.5% per month compounded monthly on the unpaid balance.
  - **Remember!** You - the contacting party - are responsible for all charges regardless of outcome.
  - A retainer is not necessary.
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Payable to:

COLUMBIA INT'L. FORENSICS LAB.  
202 Casey Court  
Newport, WA 99156-9363

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Sincerely,

Gaylan Warren  
[www.povn.com/4n6/](http://www.povn.com/4n6/)

\* *Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves; ... see that they get justice.* Proverbs 31:8-9 (NLT)