CRM 341 ~ Lab Experiment 5:
The Collection (Taking) of Inked Fingerprints for Identification Purposes

Supplies from your CSI Kit:
- 7X Folding Magnifier
- Four Pairs of Nitrile Gloves
- Fingerprint Pad (Inkless)

Supplies from home:
- Several sheets of 8x12 sized paper OR print an actual FBI 10-print fingerprint card from the following website: http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/background-checks/standard-fingerprint-form-fd-258
- Alcohol wipes (or soap and water)
- Ruler
- Pen or Pencil
- Table to work on
- Heavy rectangular object (for weight)
- Print-out of FBI “Guide to Taking Legible Fingerprints”
- Someone to fingerprint (optional)
- A camera (digital/one-time use) to take photos of your “lifts” you will be asked to upload those photos to include in your report or as attachments to your report.

PLEASE READ THROUGH ALL THE DIRECTIONS PRIOR TO BEGINNING THE EXPERIMENTS ~ FOR YOUR SAFETY AND TO PROTECT YOUR HOME

Instructions:
- If you are fingerprinting someone else, you should use a pair of nitrile gloves. If you choose to fingerprint yourself, that is fine as well (just may be a bit more difficult)
  - Make sure this experiment is completed in an area where you can make a mess, as the chemicals may be difficult to clean up/get out of upholstery, etc.
  - You may want to place newspaper or old rags on the surface where you will work so that you don’t make more of a mess than necessary.
- Make certain to read ALL instructions found with the packaging of the Inkless Fingerprint pad, including reviewing the MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheet) (if provided)
- Using the template in your textbook, create a “ten-print” fingerprint card on one sheet of the 8x12 piece of paper you have. Using your pen/pencil and ruler, create the blocks needed for each of your ten fingers. Don’t worry about attempting to do the plain impressions (those boxes at the bottom of the card). If you are able, then go ahead and create those blocks as well: one large space for your left four fingers, a space for your left thumb, a space for your right thumb, and a large space for your right four fingers
  - Don’t forget to document the blocks you created, i.e. the first box should be for finger 1 (right thumb), finger 2 (right index), and so on, so you remember what finger to put in which block!
- Next, following the instructions you have from the FBI guide to taking legible fingerprints, take your sheet and “fold” it over so you collect one “hand” at a time
- Use a heavy rectangular object (a textbook for example) keep the paper on the table so that you can roll your fingers into the individual blocks
- Again, following the instructions in the FBI guide to taking legible fingerprints, take one finger and roll in the method which prevents the least resistance and stress on the hand
HINT: Look at the QuickTime video available at the FBI guideline website to see how to properly roll a finger for a legible fingerprint

- Once you have collected inked fingerprints of all ten fingers, using your 7X fingerprint magnifier, attempt to classify your prints in Henry, NCIC, and the IAFIS systems. You can block them on your “ten-print” card or you can list them on a separate piece of paper
- If you’d like to repeat the process, try to fingerprint someone in your family
- When you are completely done, wipe the inkless residue off your hands with an alcohol pad (or soap and water) and clean your surface, just in case any of the residue accidentally made it onto the table

Directions:

- Please attach a MS Word report (500-750 words) of your experiment to the designated Dropboxes AND to the discussion boards.
  - You report should include documentation of how you used your materials, how you conducted the experiment, your methods to conduct the experiment, as well as describing your findings and experience, and providing a conclusion as to what you learned from the practical.

- You will also post to the lab report several photos, such as those of your “ten-print” card and the equipment used. You might have some difficulty photographing the ten-print card, as it should lay on a flat surface; watch your flash for any glare that might interfere with viewing the inked prints.

- Finally, you will review other students’ postings and discuss with at least two (2) classmates how their experiences were either similar or dissimilar to yours. Did they do something different in their methodology? Did you enjoy doing this experiment?