

Computer Forensics for Handwriting Comparison in Court Cases

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Abstract—Handwriting becomes very important in documentary evidence before the courts of law. When a document is required to be proved for its contents, many times it becomes a difficult proposition. A document if typed is contested on the point of signatures of the executer and the witnesses. If the document is handwritten then its authenticity is often challenged. Since in many court cases, documentary evidence relates to the property claim and such evidence is the only evidence in the case, it becomes imperative to prove the authenticity of the document contents and/or the signature of the executing party. The law on evidence asked for proving the document to the satisfaction of the court and also trail of the opposing party. In such a situation, when the science of forensics is not very scientifically authenticated, such a proof becomes very difficult and in the process of a scientific lag the deserving party may lose the case. So far as proving the handwriting is concerned, it is the satisfaction of the court deciding the case which though subjective but legally it expects the parties to demonstrate the proof of handwriting comparison before the court. This is the task of the handwriting expert and the use of available technological knowhow in this regard. The science of handwriting comparison has not found acceptability in the scientific sectors and also in the courts of law. The tools and techniques of the handwriting experts otherwise qualified in the science of forensic are not very scientific and demonstrable of the conclusions arrived at by them. It is here the role of new search is recognized not only for proving the handwriting comparison by scientific tools and tests but also the computer technology must play a role to make the conclusions of the handwriting expert demonstrable before the court so that it may feel satisfied to the desirable extent for deciding the matter before it.

Keywords: Handwriting comparison, signature authenticity.
