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Short Communication

Shortcomings and limitations of forensic science and digital forensics in particular on Latin America and the current situation in Argentina

Lic Olga Haydee Fernandez Chavez

Forensic Calligraphy Expert, Ballistic Expert, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Abstract

A quick analysis of the legal system's reliance on forensic science evidence in criminal prosecutions and examines how existing adversarial process for admitting this type of evidence demonstrate that the current situation is inadequate. All across Latin America, and particularly in Argentina, the rules governing the admissibility of forensic evidence are very vague and have lesser requirements regarding the applicable standards governing appellate review of trial court decisions based on Forensic evidence than, for instance, USA, Canada, Europe, or Australia.

Furthermore, digital forensic laboratories vary between the data reported and the steps they take to verify the safeguarding of the evidence received and subsequent control of said step with regard to the preservation of the chain of custody, the extent of their reports, the quality certifications that the institutions to which they belong have or lack, and the participation given to the defendant's expert witness, especially in the use of premium digital forensic analysis tools, etc., remaining at the discretion of the institution since there are no specific regulations.

Biography

Olga Haydeé Fernandez Chavez has completed his studies at the age of 22 years from University Institute of the Federal Argentinian Police, later she also graduates at National Technological University (UTN), Universidad Isabel I, and finish her Master Studies from Spanish Technological Institute, Valencia, Spain. She is a Forensic Scientist Expert, Document & Handwriting Examinations for the public ministry of defense.

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