

Maria Ruggiero is a Law Enforcement and forensic Specialist with Thales, where she provides training on Thales' biometric products utilized by law enforcement customers. Maria has worked in forensic science since 1990, performing latent print comparisons and processing crime scenes. She has managed training programs in friction ridge comparisons and crime scene investigations. Maria holds a Bachelor's degree in Public Administration, with a concentration in Criminal Justice, and a Master's degree in Negotiation and Conflict Management, both from California State University, Dominguez Hills. She is a Technical Assessor for the ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB).

From 2008 to 2011, Maria served as a member of the Expert Working Group on Human Factors in Latent Print Analysis, sponsored by the National Institute of Justice. From 2010 through 2013, she was selected as a member of the Scientific Working Group on Friction Ridge Analysis, Study and Technology (SWGFAST). As the SWGs transitioned into the Organization for Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) in 2014, Maria continued her membership in the Friction Ridge Subcommittee. She assisted with developing the proposed Training Standard for Latent Print Examiners and served on the Executive Board as Secretary from 2017 through 2019. Maria's term ended on October 1st, 2019. However, she remains an affiliate member of the OSAC Friction Ridge Subcommittee.