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Title: Water Content of Latent Fingerprints-Dispelling the

Myth

Author: Terry Kent

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Highlights

- 1. Many reference works state that latent fingerprints are 90 to 99.5% water.
- 2. This cannot be supported by any available evidence.
- 3. It is likely that latent fingerprints contain less than 20% water.
- 4. The amount of water in eccrine sweat is modified by evaporation and re-absorption.
- 5. Most latent fingerprints contain additional sebaceous material.

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