

FROM THE HISTORY OF ESTABLISHMENT OF FORENSIC SERVICE OF UKRAINE

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ABSTRACT: State Scientific Research Expertise and Forensic Centre of Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine was created on May 6, 1998. At present the Centre employs 160 people and yearly executes approximately 300 thousand expertises and forensic researches expertises in 34 directions of research.

KEY WORDS: Ukraine; Forensic Centre; History of forensic sciences.

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It is a great honour for me to be present here at this Meeting today. I am very grateful to you for having given Ukraine, the Expertise Service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine and me personally the opportunity to participate in the Meeting.

Ukraine became independent on August 24, 1991. From this very date Ukraine started its development as a democratic European state. It had to conduct reforms in all spheres and reorganize different structures to meet the requirements of the world community.

Ukraine is situated in Europe. It borders with Russia, Belorussia, Poland, Slovakia, Moldova, Hungary and Romania. Its total area is about 604 thousand square kilometers. Its population is 49 million people. Administratively it is divided into 27 regions.

Kiev is the capital of Ukraine. It was founded in the IVth century. More than 2.5 millions live in this city. Today, Kiev is a contemporary city with a highly developed infrastructure.

Ukrainian's executive institutions play an important role in the process of reforming. Together with the other ministries of our country the Ministry of the Internal Affairs belongs to the executive institutions. Its main objective is to protect the constitution rights and freedoms of every citizen of Ukraine and to struggle against crime.

According to the Law of Ukraine "On Forensic Expertise" (1994) in Ukraine the forensic and expertise activity is provided by the scientific re-

search institutions of the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health Care and Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine. All institutions mentioned above fulfill the similar duties—they provide all kinds of examination. But it is the only the State Scientific Research Expertise and Forensic Centre of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (with its subdivisions) that provides the examination of the crime scene and seizes the material evidences and uses in its work “criminalistic account”. It is the biggest forensic and expertise institution in Ukraine.

The State Scientific Research Expertise and Forensic Centre is a part of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine. All of the personnel are police officers. State Centre with Regional Research Criminalistic Centres are components of Expertise service of Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine.

The staff of expertise service is about 3500. In the State Scientific Research Expertise and Forensic Centre work 160 people.

State Scientific Research Expertise and Forensic Centre of MIA was created according to decree of the Cabinet of Ukraine N 617 on May 6, 1998 based on Expert Forensic Department, Centre of Forensic Examinations and Technical Explosion Service.

Core activities of the Centre are:

- organisation of legal and methodological leadership of forensic service subdivisions;
- forensic support of activities of law enforcement bodies related to prevention, investigation and solving of crimes and other offences;
- executing examinations for criminal, civil, and arbitral cases and performing other work inside its jurisdiction;
- ensuring conducting of forensic records and databases;
- implementation of scientific research activities into forensic support.

At present the Centre executes expertises in 34 directions of research. The majority of directions of research of expert activity are characterised by necessity of fulfillment scientifically substantial tool researches, such as DNA-analysis, gas and liquid chromatography, spectroscopy, magneto-optical defectoscopy and others. Moreover, the Institute works on a wide application of different sorts of the automated system for expert’s investigations.

DNA-analysis method (determination of DNA profiles) in the department of biological and medical expertise has begun to be engaged since 1994.

In May, 1999, thanks to the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, the DNA lab bought the only, at that time, Genetic analyzer ABI 310 Prism in Ukraine.

With the help of the device ABI 310 Prism (Perkin Elmer) since 1999 up till now about 250 expertises have been executed and more than 1000 objects of a biological materials of crimes have been investigated. It is necessary to

mark, that capabilities of research of objects of a biological parentage are now transferred on new, higher qualitative level. It allows researching even very small quantities of traces, such as a single hair, pieces of stubs of cigarettes, masticator elastics, bone remains, single spermatozoons.

More than 80% of research have resulted in the identification of a person whose traces were examined. The probability of an accidental coincidence of genetic indications of researched objects compiles not below than 1 person on 10 billions.

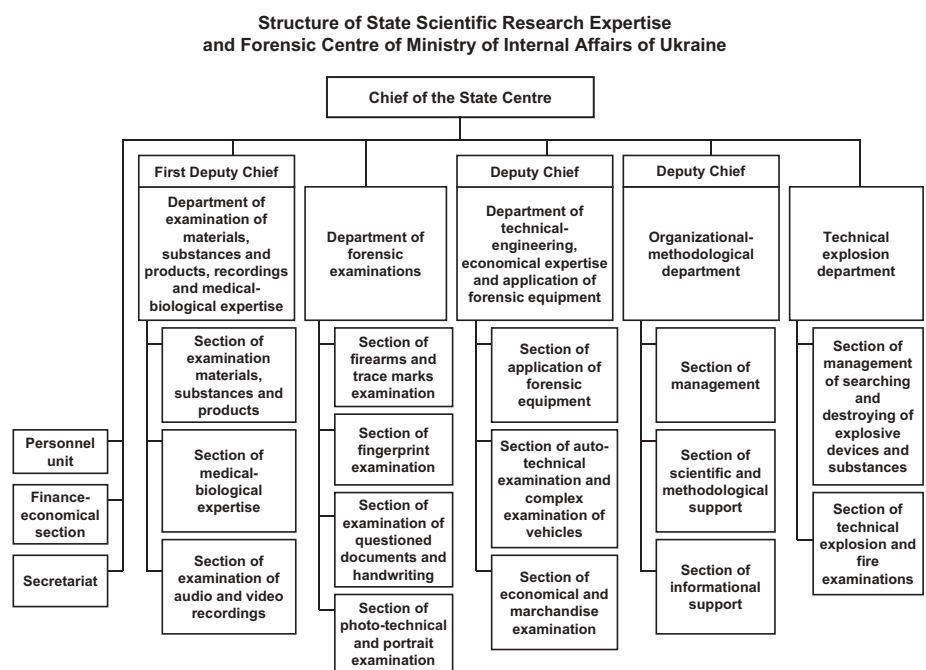


Fig. 1. Structure of the State Scientific Research Expertise and Forensic Centre.

Yearly execute approximately 300 thousand expertises and forensic researches by the departments of the expert service. In last time, a modern Regional Research Criminalistic Centres was founded in Poltava, Ternopol, Zaporizhzhya and others region.

Now expertise service of MIA of Ukraine is developing in accordance with European standards. But this process is kept back by insufficient financing and absence of necessary equipments, first of all it is automated system for expert's investigations.