

MARK MASTAGLIO

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A forensic scientist with over 30 years experience who has achieved success in casework, standards setting and as an ambassador for the Forensic Science Service (FSS). Now Co-Director of the Forensic Firearms Consultancy (FFC) Ltd and Principal Forensic Services (PFS) Ltd. A highly motivated and influential professional internationally recognised as an expert in firearms forensic science. Extensive experience of managing projects and delivering results to exacting standards and demanding timelines.

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

- Established the Forensic Firearms Consultancy (FFC) Ltd in 2012 with Angela Shaw, the former FSS Principal Scientist for Gunshot Residue (GSR) analysis. Taken FFC into the marketplace establishing it has a leading provider of independent forensic firearms advice. Also co-founded Principal Forensic Services (PFS) Ltd with fellow former FSS Principal Forensic Scientists.
- Nationally acknowledged expert in the field of Firearms as evidenced by membership of the following UK bodies; Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) Firearms and Explosives Licensing Working Group (FELWG), ACPO FELWG Firearms Technical Panel, Home Office Appointee: Forensic Firearms Standards Group, Home Office Appointee: Historic Weapons Reference Panel, Home Office/ACPO/British Shooting Sports Council Forum, Ministry of Defence/Royal Armouries Service Level Agreement Committee, Senior Associate National Ballistics Intelligence Service (NABIS), NABIS Scientific Services Group, Firearms Lead Assessor for the Council for the Registration of Forensic Practitioners (CRFP).
- Internationally acknowledged expert in the field of Firearms, elected in 2009 as Chair of the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes, Firearms/GSR Expert Working Group, now an associate member. International assessor for the Netherlands Register of Forensic Experts.
- In 2015 was made a Senior Technical Advisor in Forensic Ballistics, to the UN Public Security Programme.
- Worked on complex and sensitive high-profile investigations in the UK (including legacy investigations in Northern Ireland) and internationally, providing expert witness testimony for over 30 years in cases involving the full range of firearms forensic science from illegal possession of firearms/ammunition to homicide. International work includes high profile shootings in Kosovo, Jamaica, Iraq, Republic of Ireland and southeast Asia. In all cases ensured rigorous standards applied and suitable conclusions reached. Given expert testimony in Magistrates, Crown, Coroners, Appeal and Military Courts.
- In 2012 won a Home Office tender to assist the Forensic Regulator in drafting the Appendices to the Codes of Practice and Conduct for Firearms examination. Delivered on time.
- Former FSS lead for cold case review, Defence and complex legal interpretation cases with respect to firearms and advisor to the Home Office on firearms classification and deactivated/imitation firearms issues. Developed FSS modular Training platform for firearms internal and external students.
- Responsible for the overall quality of all FSS firearms processes to the ISO17025 Standard and providing assurances to the Board of Directors and external auditing authority.
- Audited European Forensic Laboratories in conjunction with the National Accreditation Authority (Akkreditierung Austria, DANAK, INAB, Norsk Akkreditering) against the ISO17025 Standard for all aspects of forensic firearms examination.
- Responsible for all firearms and explosive licensing compliance issues. Developed all Firearms examination Standards and Competencies used by the FSS leading to greater consistency in operating procedures and competence monitoring.
- A published authority and regular peer reviewer of forensic firearms papers. Approached by the Royal Society of Chemistry and commissioned to write the firearms chapter for the textbook 'Crime Scene to Court: The Essentials of Forensic Science' a recommended textbook for students, lawyers and police officers interested in forensic science. Interviewed by the media, including BBC, ITN and Channel 4 on numerous occasions on forensic firearms related issues.

- A member of the Association of Firearms and Toolmarks association (AFTE)
- Elected in 2012 as a Fellow of the Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences.
- In 2021 appointed as a member of the Home Office Forensic Science Regulator's Firearms Specialist Group whose remit is to support the Forensic Science Regulator by providing advice on all matters related to the preparation, implementation and monitoring of forensic firearms quality standards and related issues within the remit of the Regulator.

Forensic Firearms Consultancy (FFC) Ltd (Director)	2012-present
Principal Forensic Services (PFS) Ltd (Director)	2012-present
Forensic Science Service	1996-2012
Principal/Consultant Forensic Scientist, Firearms	2005-2012
Senior Forensic Scientist /Team Leader	2001-2005
Senior Forensic Scientist	1996-2001
Metropolitan Police Forensic Science Laboratory	1989-1996
Higher Scientific Officer	1993-1996
Scientific Officer	1989-1993

EARLIER CAREER

Ministry of Defence	1985-1989
Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham, and at the Propellants, Explosives and Rocket Motor Establishment, R&D Division, Waltham Abbey.	

- Worked as a research scientist at the Royal Military College of Science as part of the Risk Assessment Group developing a new methodology to assess the hazards involved in the storage and transport of bulk explosives. Then joined the Hazard Assessment Group at Waltham Abbey; given responsibility for the large-scale testing programme for newly developed explosive compositions.

QUALIFICATIONS, AFFILIATIONS AND TRAINING

B.Sc. (Hons), II(ii) in Chemical Physics , University of Bristol
 (1985) Advanced Level Certificates: Physics, Maths,
 Chemistry (A, A, A) Quality Auditor
 Fellow of the Forensic Science Society

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- **Analytical Thinking:** A perceptive and astute individual who applies in-depth analytical skills to understand and interpret complex scenarios and results.
- **Communication:** An accomplished presenter who also communicates at all levels in a professional, clear and unbiased manner.
- **Consultation:** A leading technical advisor in the field of firearms who actively supports and promotes best practice and continuous improvement and developments in forensic science.
- **People Management:** An influential role model with the ability to lead and influence. Proactive in encouraging, mentoring and developing individuals with responsiveness and sensitivity.
- **Relationship Building:** A confident negotiator and spokesperson who builds trust and rapport at all levels both nationally and internationally.
- **Project Management:** Extensive experience of managing both technical and non-technical projects collaborating with a range of stakeholders delivering results and key recommendations to demanding timelines.

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PERSONAL

Driving License: Full EU-No endorsements

INTERESTS

Eating in restaurants I can barely afford, cooking, wine, reading and travel.