Contents

Foreword
Preface
Acknowledgments

1 Biological Identification

What is Identification? 1
Biological Identification 2
Biological Methods of Identification 3
Characterization 4
Successive Classification 5
Q vs. K Comparisons 5
Genetics and Heredity 6
Rules of Heredity 10
Chapter Summary 16

2 Before DNA

The Nature of Forensic Samples 17
Transfusions and Blood Types 19
Phenotypes and Genotypes 20
ABO Blood Groups and Biological Identification 21
Secretors and Non-Secretors 22
Issues with ABO Methods and a Case Example 24
Serum Proteins and Isoenzymes 26
Typing Using Gels 27
Combining Data 28
## Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Product Rule and an Example Scenario</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population Data and Interpretation</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual Assault Cases</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limitations of Blood and Isoenzyme System Typing</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Summary</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3 First-Generation Forensic DNA</strong></td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Research Laboratory to Courtroom</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repeating DNA fragments</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The RFLP Process</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mutation and Mutation Rates</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The First Cases</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immediate Impact</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The First Wave</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court Rulings and Implications</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Key Cases</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCR</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial PCR Typing Techniques</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Summary</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4 STR Methods and Loci</strong></td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What are STRs?</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identification of Biological Sex</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STR Typing</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steps in STR Typing: Collection and Characterization</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steps in STR Typing: Extraction</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steps in STR Typing: Quantitation</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steps in STR Typing: Amplification</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Companies and Kits</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steps in STR Typing: Typing and Interpretation</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trusting the Method</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Phantom of Heilbronn</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretation</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual Assault Cases and Mixtures</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Summary</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5 DNA Analysis and Interpretation: Single-Source Samples and Simple Mixtures

Data Analysis and Interpretation 74
What is a Peak? 75
Binary Thresholds 76
Missing Peaks 77
Extra Peaks 77
What Marker Does the Peak Represent? 79
Q and K Comparison 79
DNA Databases 80
Search Results vs. Conclusions 83
Simple Mixtures 84
Is it a Mixture? 84
Mixture Ratios and Peak Patterns 85
Deconvolution 88
Likelihood Ratios 88
Case Examples 90
Chapter Summary 92

6 The Curse of Sensitivity

Low Copy Number 94
Stochastic Effects 94
Working with LCN 96
What is Touch DNA? 97
Sources of Touch and Trace DNA 97
Locating Trace DNA 98
Relevant Transfer, Background, or Contamination? 100
Shedders 102
Dangers of Contamination 102
It’s Not Just Whose DNA It Is, But How It Got There 103
The Amanda Knox Case 104
Tools and Techniques 107
Chapter Summary 108

7 From Mothers and Fathers

DNA From One Parent 109
# Table of Contents

**Patterns of Inheritance**
- What is Mitochondrial DNA? 111
- Early Cases 112
- Sequence Data 112
- mtDNA Analysis 113
- Heteroplasmy 114
- Interpretation of mtDNA Data 114
- mtDNA Databases and Counting 115
- Identification of the Last Russian Tsar 116
- Y-Chromosome Markers 119
- Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemings 121
- X-Chromosome STRs 122
- Combined Use of Autosomal STRs and Lineage Markers 123
- Chapter Summary 124

## 8 Emerging Technologies

- SNPs 125
- King Richard III 126
- DNA Sequencing 127
- SNP Case Example 128
- Sequencing STRs 129
- Linkage and Microhaplotypes 130
- Why Aren't All Labs Using NGS? 131
- Rapid DNA 131
- Non-Human DNA 133
- Case Examples 134
- DNA and Marijuana 135
- Microbial Forensics 135
- Forensic Epigenetics 136
- Chapter Summary 137

## 9 Emerging Issues

- Interpretation of Complex DNA Mixtures 138
- Mixture Interpretation and Cognitive Bias 139
- Proprietary Software 140
- Reliability 141