**Ch. 15: Detecting Deliberate Disguised Handwriting (pgs. 336-337)**

While it isn’t easy to disguise your writing in a short sample, it becomes more and more difficult as you continue to write a longer piece. Authorities may ask an individual for a sample of writing that is several pages long. Not only can handwriting be compared, but margins, the arrangement of the writing on the paper, alignment, punctuation, spelling, and grammar may also be individualized.

You will be writing the paragraph below on two sheets of lined paper (provided).

On the first sheet of paper, write your name and “original” at the top. Write the paragraph using your everyday handwriting.

On the second sheet of paper, write your name and “disguised” at the top. Write the same paragraph, doing your best to disguise the handwriting. You must follow the following rules:

* You cannot switch hands. If your original was written left-handed, your disguised must be written left-handed.
* You must not switch writing tools. Use the same pen for both.
* You must keep the same writing format. If you printed the first paragraph, the second paragraph must be in print. If you used cursive for the first paragraph, the second paragraph must also be in cursive.
* You cannot write in BLOCK LETTERS or all CAPS.

I will take all of the samples and make copies for class analysis. I will remove the names from the “disguised” samples, and you will attempt to match each questioned (disguised) handwriting sample to the correct exemplar (original).

**If you ever want to see your dog again, read carefully. Do not call the authorities; do not notify any of your neighbors. Yes, we have your precious Buddy. He is a fine example of an American pit bull, is well trained, and I’m sure will bring a nice price. If you want to see Buddy safe and alive again, you will need to bring $3,500.00 in unmarked bills to locker #48 B at the bus terminal. Put the money in a plain paper bag and put it in the locker by 7:30pm on Monday. We will be watching you to make sure you drop off the money and leave. Call the following phone number to receive further instructions: 555-6789. If all goes well, you will get Buddy back; otherwise you will never see him again.**