NAME:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ SECTION: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Crime scene investigation lab-***

**Identification of Inks in Felt Tip Pens Using Paper Chromatography**

MCj01980400000[1]**Background:** A crime has been committed.

A wealthy celebrity’s prize winning Poodle ‘Fluffy’ has been kidnapped. At the scene of the crime was a handwritten ransom note. In it the kidnapper demands $1 million dollars or

“**The pooch gets it!!**!”

The celebrity believes that a disgruntled former employee is behind the kidnapping.

Due to your well known expertise in such matters, she has hired your services to find out who the culprit is. You sneak into the three suspects’ offices late at night. You then ‘borrow’ pens/markers from these three suspects’ desks. You will compare the ink in these markers to that of the ransom-note’s. You will use paper chromatography to determine who wrote the note.

**Procedure**

1.Cut a strip off the left edge of the ransom note (with the O on it) and draw matching Os from all our three 'suspect' pens on separate strips of filter paper, labelled with the suspect's initials.

2. Pour a small amount of water into the large cup and then hang the paper strip in the cup. Make sure the ink line **does not touch the water** – only the bottom of the filter paper.

3. Allow the water to move up the paper for 5 minutes andthen remove the strip from the water. Hang it on the side of the table to dry.



**Identification of inks Data Sheet / Post-lab Questions**

**Tape chromatograms for your lab team here:**

**Evidence Suspect #1 Suspect #2 Suspect #3**

**Verdict**

Based on the evidence you collected, which suspects are innocent? Which suspect(s) must be investigated further? Explain.

Likely innocent:

Remains suspicious: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Why?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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