

Registration No. 333-

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-8

REGISTRATION STATEMENT
under
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

FORENSIC TECHNOLOGIES INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
(Exact name of issuer as specified in its charter)

Maryland
(State of Incorporation)

52-1261113
(IRS Employer Identification Number)

2021 Research Drive, Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(410) 224-8770
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

FORENSIC TECHNOLOGIES INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
1997 Stock Option Plan
(Full title of the Plan)

Jack B. Dunn, IV
Chief Executive Officer and President
Forensic Technologies International Corporation
2021 Research Drive
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(410) 224-8770
(Name, address and telephone number of agent for service)

Copy to:
John B. Watkins, Esquire
Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering
100 Light Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
(410) 986-2800

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered(1)	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price	Amount of Registration Fee (2)
Stock Options	1,000,000 options	---	---	---
Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share,	1,000,000 shares	\$ 7.25	\$ 7,250,000	\$ 2,196.95

(1) Also registered hereunder are such additional number of shares of Common Stock, presently indeterminable, as may be necessary to satisfy the antidilution provisions of the Plan to which this Registration Statement relates.

(2) The registration fee has been calculated in accordance with Rule 457(h) with respect to the 1,000,000 shares of Common Stock registered hereby on the basis of the average of the high and low sale prices reported on The Nasdaq National Market ("Nasdaq") on June 24, 1997.

PART I

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(a) PROSPECTUS

Note: The document(s) containing the information required by Item 1 of Form S-8 and the statement of availability of registrant information and any other information required by Item 2 of Form S-8 will be sent or given to participants as specified by Rule 428 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"). In accordance with Rule 428 and the requirements of Part I of Form S-8, such documents are not being filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") either as part of this Registration Statement or as prospectuses or prospectus supplements pursuant to Rule 424 under the Securities Act. Forensic Technologies International Corporation (the "Registrant" or the "Company") shall maintain a file of such documents in accordance with the provisions of Rule 428. Upon request, the Registrant shall furnish the Commission or its staff a copy or copies of all of the documents included in such file.

PART II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference

The Company hereby incorporates by reference the documents listed in (a) through (c) below. In addition, all documents subsequently filed by the Company pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") (prior to filing of a Post-Effective Amendment which indicates that all securities offered have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold) shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement and to be a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents.

(a) The Company's Annual Report on Form 10-KSB for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1996.

(b) All other reports filed by the Company pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, including the Company's quarterly financial statements on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 1997 filed on May 15, 1997 pursuant Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act

(c) The description of the Company's Common Stock which is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed by the Company under the Exchange Act on April 30, 1996, including any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

Item 4. Description of Securities

Inapplicable.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel

The validity of the authorization and issuance of the Common Stock offered hereby will be passed upon for the Company by Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering, Baltimore, Maryland. George P. Stamas, a member of the Board of Directors and a stockholder of the Company, is a partner in Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering. As of July 1, 1997, Mr. Stamas was the beneficial owner of 5,838 shares of Common Stock and stock options to purchase 9,800 shares of Common Stock of the Company.

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers

1. Statutory Provisions of the Maryland General Corporation Law.

Section 2-418. Indemnification of directors, officers, employees and agents.

(a) Definitions. - In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(1) "Director" means any person who is or was a director of a corporation and any person who, while a director of a corporation, is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee, or agent of another foreign or domestic corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, other enterprise, or employee benefit plan.

(2) "Corporation" includes any domestic or foreign predecessor entity of a corporation in a merger, consolidation, or other transaction in which the predecessor's existence ceased upon consummation of the transaction.

(3) "Expenses" include attorney's fees.

(4) "Official capacity" means the following:

(i) When used with respect to a director, the office of director in the corporation; and

(ii) When used with respect to a person other than a director as contemplated in subsection (j), the elective or appointive office in the corporation held by the officer, or the employment or agency relationship undertaken by the employee or agent in behalf of the corporation.

(iii) "Official capacity" does not include service of any other foreign or domestic corporation or any partnership, joint venture, trust, other enterprise, or employee benefit plan.

(5) "Party" includes a person who was, is, or is threatened to be made a named defendant or respondent in a proceeding.

(6) "Proceeding" means any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative.

(b) Permitted indemnification of director. - (1) A corporation may indemnify any director made a party to any proceeding by reason of service in that capacity unless it is established that:

(i) The act or omission of the director was material to the matter giving rise to the proceeding; and

1. Was committed in bad faith; or

2. Was the result of active and deliberate dishonesty; or

(ii) The director actually received an improper personal benefit in money, property, or services; or

(iii) In the case of any criminal proceeding, the director had reasonable cause to believe that the act or omission was unlawful.

(2)(i) Indemnification may be against judgments, penalties, fines, settlements, and reasonable expenses actually incurred by the director in connection with the proceeding.

(ii) However, if the proceeding was one by or in the right of the corporation, indemnification may not be made in respect of any proceeding in which the director shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation.

(3)(i) The termination of any proceeding by judgment, order, or settlement does not create a presumption that the director did not meet the requisite standard of conduct set forth in this subsection.

(ii) The termination of any proceeding by conviction, or a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent, or an entry of an order of probation prior to judgment, creates a rebuttable presumption that the director did not meet that standard of conduct.

(c) No indemnification of director liable for improper personal benefit. - A director may not be indemnified under subsection (b) of this section in respect of any proceeding charging improper personal benefit to the director, whether or not involving action in the director's official capacity, in which the director was adjudged to be liable on the basis that personal benefit was improperly received.

(d) Required indemnification against expenses incurred in successful defense. - Unless limited by the charter:

(1) A director who has been successful, on the merits or otherwise, in the defense of any proceeding referred to in subsection (b) of this section shall be indemnified against reasonable expenses incurred by the director in connection with the proceeding.

(2) A court of appropriate jurisdiction, upon application of a director and such notice as the court shall require, may order indemnification in the following circumstances:

(i) If it determines a director is entitled to reimbursement under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the court shall order indemnification, in which case the director shall be entitled to recover the expenses of securing such reimbursement; or

(ii) If it determines that the director is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnification in view of all the relevant circumstances, whether or not the director has met the standards of conduct set forth in subsection (b) of this section or has been adjudged liable under the circumstances described in subsection (c) of this section, the court may order such indemnification as the court shall deem proper. However, indemnification with respect to any proceeding by or in the right of the corporation or in which liability shall have been adjudged in the circumstances described in subsection (c) shall be limited to expenses.

(3) A court of appropriate jurisdiction may be the same court in which the proceeding involving the director's liability took place.

(e) Determination that indemnification is proper. - (1) Indemnification under subsection (b) of this section may not be made by the corporation unless authorized for a specific proceeding after a determination has been made that indemnification of the director is permissible in the circumstances because the director has met the standard of conduct set forth in subsection (b) of this section.

(2) Such determination shall be made:

(i) By the board of directors by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of directors not, at the time, parties to the proceeding, or, if such a quorum cannot be obtained, then by a majority vote of a committee of the board consisting solely of two or more directors not, at the time, parties to such proceeding and who were duly designated to act in the matter by a majority vote of the full board in which the designated directors who are parties may participate:

(ii) By special legal counsel selected by the board of directors or a committee of the board by vote as set forth in subparagraph (i) of this paragraph, or, if the requisite quorum of the full board cannot be obtained therefor and the committee cannot be established, by a majority vote of the full board in which directors who are parties may participate; or

(iii) By the stockholders.

(3) Authorization of indemnification and determination as to reasonableness of expenses shall be made in the same manner as the determination that indemnification is permissible. However, if the determination that indemnification is permissible is made by special legal counsel, authorization of indemnification and determination as to reasonableness of expenses shall be made in the manner specified in subparagraph (ii) of paragraph (2) of this subsection for selection of such counsel.

(4) Shares held by directors who are parties to the proceeding may not be voted on the subject matter under this subsection.

(f) Payment of expenses in advance of final disposition of action. -

(1) Reasonable expenses incurred by a director who is a party to a proceeding may be paid or reimbursed by the corporation in advance of the final disposition of the proceeding upon receipt by the corporation of:

(i) A written affirmation by the director of the director's good faith belief that the standard of conduct necessary for indemnification by the corporation as authorized in this section has been met; and

(ii) A written undertaking by or on behalf of the director to repay the amount if it shall ultimately be determined that the standard of conduct has not been met.

(2) The undertaking required by subparagraph (ii) of paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be an unlimited general obligation of the director but need not be secured and may be accepted without reference to financial ability to make the repayment.

(3) Payments under this subsection shall be made as provided by the charter, bylaws, or contract or as specified in subsection (e) of this section.

(g) Validity of indemnification provision. - The indemnification and advancement of expenses provided or authorized by this section may not be deemed exclusive of any other rights, by indemnification or otherwise, to which a director may be entitled under the charter, the bylaws, a resolution of stockholders or directors, an agreement or otherwise, both as to action in an official capacity and as to action in another capacity while holding such office.

(h) Reimbursement of director's expenses incurred while appearing as witness. - This section does not limit the corporation's power to pay or reimburse expenses incurred by a director in connection with an appearance as a witness in a proceeding at a time when the director has not been made a named defendant or respondent in the proceeding.

(i) Director's service to employee benefit plan. - For purposes of this section:

(1) The corporation shall be deemed to have requested a director to serve an employee benefit plan where the performance of the director's duties to the corporation also imposes duties on, or otherwise involves services by, the director to the plan or participants or beneficiaries of the plan;

(2) Excise taxes assessed on a director with respect to an employee benefit plan pursuant to applicable law shall be deemed fines; and

(3) Action taken or omitted by the director with respect to an employee benefit plan in the performance of the director's duties for a purpose reasonably believed by the director to be in the interest of the participants and beneficiaries of the plan shall be deemed to be for a purpose which is not opposed to the best interests of the corporation.

(j) Officer, employee or agent. - Unless limited by the charter:

(1) An officer of the corporation shall be indemnified as and to the extent provided in subsection (d) of this section for a director and shall be entitled, to the same extent as a director, to seek indemnification pursuant to the provisions of subsection (d);

(2) A corporation may indemnify and advance expenses to an officer, employee, or agent of the corporation to the same extent that it may indemnify directors under this section; and

(3) A corporation, in addition, may indemnify and advance expenses to an officer, employee, or agent who is not a director to such further extent, consistent with law, as may be provided by its charter, bylaws, general or specific action of its board of directors, or contract.

(k) Insurance or similar protection. - (1) A corporation may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee, or agent of the corporation, or who, while a director, officer, employee, or agent of the corporation, is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee, or agent of another foreign or domestic corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, other enterprise, or employee benefit plan against any liability asserted against and incurred by such person in any such capacity or arising out of such person's position, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify against liability under the provisions of this section.

(2) A corporation may provide similar protection, including a trust fund, letter of credit, or surety bond, not inconsistent with this section.

(3) The insurance or similar protection may be provided by a subsidiary or an affiliate of the corporation.

(l) Report of indemnification to stockholders. - Any indemnification of, or advance of expenses to, a director in accordance with this section, if arising out of a proceeding by or in the right of the corporation, shall be reported in writing to the stockholders with the notice of the next stockholders' meeting or prior to the meeting.

2. Charter Provisions.

The Company has provided for indemnification by the following provision of ARTICLE EIGHTH of its Charter.

The Corporation shall indemnify (a) its directors and officers, whether serving the Corporation or at its request any other entity, to the full extent required or permitted by the General Laws of the State of Maryland now or hereafter in force, including the advance of expenses under the procedures and to the full extent permitted by law, and (b) its other employees and agents to such extent as shall be authorized by the Board of Directors or in the Corporation's By-laws and be permitted by law. The foregoing shall not be exclusive of any other rights to which those seeking indemnification may be entitled. The Board of Directors may take such actions as are necessary to carry out these indemnification provisions and is expressly empowered to adopt, approve, and amend from time to time such By-Laws, resolutions and contracts implementing such provisions or such further indemnification arrangements as may be permitted by law. No amendment of the charter of the Corporation shall limit or eliminate the right to indemnification provided hereunder with respect to acts or omissions occurring prior to such amendment or appeal.

3. By-laws Provisions.

The Company has provided for indemnification by the following provisions of ARTICLE XI of its By-laws:

SECTION 1. Definitions. As used in this Article XI, any word or words that are defined in Section 2-418 of the Corporations and Associations Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland (the "Indemnification Section"), as amended from time to time, shall have the same meaning as provided in the Indemnification Section.

SECTION 2. Indemnification of Directors and Officers. The Corporation shall indemnify and advance expenses to a director or officer of the Corporation in connection with a proceeding to the fullest extent permitted by and in accordance with the Indemnification Section.

SECTION 3. Indemnification of Other Agents and Employees. With respect to an employee or agent, other than a director or officer of the Corporation, the Corporation may, as determined by and in the discretion of the Board of Directors of the Corporation, indemnify and advance expenses to such employees or agents in connection with a proceeding to the extent permitted by and in accordance with the Indemnification Section.

Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed

Not Applicable.

Item 8. Exhibits

Number	Description
4.1*	Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Registrant.
4.2*	Restated By-Laws of the Registrant.
4.3	1997 Stock Option Plan
4.4*	Specimen certificate representing the Common Stock of Registrant.
5.1	Opinion of Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering.
23.1	Consent of Independent Public Accountants.
23.2	Consent of Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering (included in Exhibit 5.1).

* Incorporated herein by reference from the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form SB-2 (File No. 333-2002).

Item 9. Undertakings

The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes the following:

(a) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1993;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement;

- (iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

Provided, however, that paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed by the registrant pursuant to section 13 or section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(b) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to section 13(a) or section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of any employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(c) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes, that, insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question of whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in Annapolis, Maryland on June 30, 1997.

FORENSIC TECHNOLOGIES INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

/s/ Jack B. Dunn IV

 Jack B. Dunn, IV
 Chief Executive Officer and President

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Jack B. Dunn, IV his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him or in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities to sign any and all amendments or post-effective amendments to this Registration Statement, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorney-in-fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite or necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney-in-fact and agent or his substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the date indicated.

Signature -----	Title -----	Date -----
/s/ Jack B. Dunn IV ----- Jack B. Dunn, IV	Director, Chief Executive Officer and President (principal executive officer)	June 30, 1997
/s/ Gary Sindler ----- Gary Sindler	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and Treasurer (principal financial and accounting officer)	June 30, 1997
/s/ Daniel W. Luczak ----- Daniel W. Luczak	Chairman of the Board	June 30, 1997

/s/ Joseph R. Reynolds, Jr. ----- Joseph R. Reynolds, Jr.	Vice Chairman of the Board	June 30, 1997
/s/ James A. Flick ----- James A. Flick	Director	June 30, 1997
/s/ Peter F O'Malley ----- Peter F. O'Malley	Director	June 30, 1997
/s/ Dennis J. Shaughnessy ----- Dennis J. Shaughnessy	Director	June 30, 1997
/s/ George P. Stamas ----- George P. Stamas	Director	June 30, 1997

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

EXHIBITS

to

FORM S-8

REGISTRATION STATEMENT

under

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, As Amended

FORENSIC TECHNOLOGIES INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Exhibits

Number	Description
4.1*	Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Registrant.
4.2*	Restated By-Laws of the Registrant.
4.3	1997 Stock Option Plan
4.4*	Specimen certificate representing the Common Stock of Registrant.
5.1	Opinion of Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering.
23.1	Consent of Independent Public Accountants.
23.2	Consent of Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering (included in Exhibit 5.1).

* Incorporated herein by reference from the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form SB-2 (File No. 333-2002).

FORENSIC TECHNOLOGIES INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
1997 STOCK OPTION PLAN

PURPOSE Forensic Technologies International Corporation, a Maryland corporation ("FTI" or the "Company"), wishes to recruit, reward, and retain employees and outside directors. To further these objectives, the Company hereby sets forth the Forensic Technologies International Corporation 1997 Stock Option Plan (the "Plan"), effective, subject to stockholder approval, as of March 25, 1997 (the "Effective Date"), to provide options ("Options") to employees and outside directors to purchase shares of the Company's common stock (the "Common Stock").

OPTIONEES All Employees of FTI and the Eligible Subsidiaries are eligible for option grants under this Plan, as are the directors of FTI and the Eligible Subsidiaries who are not employees ("Eligible Directors"). Eligible employees and directors become optionees when the Administrator grants them an option under this Plan. The Administrator may also grant options to certain other service providers. The term optionee also includes, where appropriate, a person authorized to exercise an Option in place of the original recipient.

Employee means any person employed as a common law employee of the Company or an Eligible Subsidiary.

ADMINISTRATOR The Administrator will be the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of FTI (the "Compensation Committee"). The Board may also act under the Plan as though it were the Compensation Committee.

The Administrator is responsible for the general operation and administration of the Plan and for carrying out its provisions and has full discretion in interpreting and administering the provisions of the Plan. Subject to the express provisions of the Plan, the Administrator may exercise such powers and authority of the FTI Board as the Administrator may find necessary or appropriate to carry out its functions. The Administrator may delegate its functions (other than those described in the GRANTING OF OPTIONS section) to officers or employees of FTI.

The Administrator's powers will include, but not be limited to, the power to amend, waive, or extend any provision or limitation of any Option other than a Formula Option. The Administrator may act through meetings of a majority of its members or by unanimous consent.

GRANTING OF OPTIONS Subject to the terms of the Plan, the Administrator will, in its sole discretion, determine

- the recipients of option grants,
- the terms of such grants,
- the schedule for exercisability (including any requirements that the optionee or the Company satisfy performance criteria),
- the time and conditions for expiration of the

Option, and

the form of payment due upon exercise.

The Administrator's determinations under the Plan need not be uniform and need not consider whether possible optionees are similarly situated.

Options granted to employees may be nonqualified stock options ("NQSOs") or "incentive stock options" ("ISOs") within the meaning of Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended from time to time (the "Code"), or the corresponding provision of any subsequently enacted tax statute. Options granted to Eligible Directors must be NQSOs.

The Administrator may also grant Options in substitution for options held by individuals who become Employees of the Company or of an Eligible Subsidiary as a result of the Company's acquiring the individual's employer. If necessary to conform the Options to the options for which they are substitutes, the Administrator may grant substitute Options under terms and conditions that vary from those the Plan otherwise requires.

DATE OF GRANT

The Date of Grant will be the date as of which the Administrator awards an Option to an optionee, as specified in the Administrator's minutes.

EXERCISE PRICE

The Exercise Price is the value of the consideration that an optionee must provide under an Option Agreement in exchange for one share of Common Stock. The Administrator will determine the Exercise Price under each Option. The Administrator may set the Exercise Price of an Option without regard to the Exercise Price of any other Options granted at the same or any other time.

The Exercise Price per share for NQSOs may not be less than 50% of the Fair Market Value of a share on the Date of Grant. If an Option is intended to be an ISO, the Exercise Price per share may not be less than the greater 100% of the Fair Market Value (on the Date of Grant) of a share of Stock covered by the Option; provided, however, that if the employee would otherwise be barred from receiving an ISO by reason of the provisions of Code Sections 422(b)(6) and 424(d) (relating to more-than-10%-stock-owners), the Exercise Price of an Option that is intended to be an ISO may not be less than 110% of the Fair Market Value (on the Date of Grant) of a share of Stock covered by the Option.

FAIR MARKET
VALUE

Fair Market Value of a share of Common Stock for purposes of the Plan will be determined as follows:

if the Common Stock is traded on a national securities exchange, the closing sale price on that date;

if the Common Stock is not traded on any such exchange, the closing sale price as reported by the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. Automated Quotation System ("Nasdaq") for such date;

if no such closing sale price information is available, the average of the closing bid and asked prices as reported by Nasdaq for such date; or

if there are no such closing bid and asked prices, the average of the closing bid and asked prices as reported by any other commercial service for such date.

For any date that is not a trading day, the Fair Market Value of a share of Common Stock for such date shall be determined by using the closing sale price or the average of the closing bid and asked prices, as appropriate, for the immediately preceding trading day.

The Company may use the consideration it receives from the optionee for general corporate purposes.

EXERCISABILITY

The Administrator will determine the times and conditions for exercise of each Option but may not extend the period for exercise beyond the tenth anniversary of its Date of Grant.

Options will become exercisable at such times and in such manner as the Administrator determines and the Option Agreement indicates; provided, however, that the Administrator may, on such terms and conditions as it determines appropriate, accelerate the time at which the optionee may exercise any portion of an Option.

No portion of an Option that is unexercisable at an optionee's termination of employment will thereafter become exercisable, unless the Option Agreement provides otherwise, either initially or by amendment.

LIMITATION ON
ISOS

An Option granted to an employee will be an ISO only to the extent that the aggregate Fair Market Value (determined at the Date of Grant) of the stock with respect to which ISOs are exercisable for the first time by the optionee during any calendar year (under the Plan and all other plans of the Company and its subsidiary corporations, within the meaning of Code Section 422(d)), does not exceed \$100,000. This limitation will be applied by taking Options into account in the order in which such Options were granted.

DIRECTOR
FORMULA GRANTS

Each Eligible Director who is first elected or appointed to the Board after the first Annual Meeting of the Stockholders following the Effective Date (i.e., after the 1997 Meeting) will receive a Formula Option as of his election or appointment to purchase 14,700 shares of Common Stock. Each Eligible Director serving on the Board of Directors at the 1997 Meeting whose term will continue beyond the 1997 Meeting will receive a Formula Option as of the 1997 Meeting to purchase 4,200 shares of Common Stock. For succeeding Annual Meetings, Eligible Directors who will continue in service beyond that Annual Meeting will receive additional grants of Formula Options for 4,200 shares of Common Stock as of the Annual Meeting.

EXERCISE
PRICE

The Exercise Price of each Option granted to an Eligible Director will be the higher of the Fair Market Value on the Date of Grant or on the date of initial shareholder approval of the Plan, if later.

EXERCISE
SCHEDULE

Formula Options will become exercisable for one-third of the Shares it covers six months after the Date of Grant, for another one-third on the first anniversary of the Date of Grant, and for the remaining one-third on the second anniversary of the Date of Grant. A Formula Option will become exercisable in its entirety upon the director's death, disability, or attainment of age 70. Options will be forfeited to the extent they are not then exercisable if a director resigns or fails to be reelected as a director.

METHOD OF
EXERCISE

To exercise any exercisable portion of an Option, the optionee must:

Deliver a written notice of exercise to the Secretary of the Company (or to whomever the Administrator designates), in a form complying with any rules the Administrator may issue, signed by the optionee, and specifying the number of shares of Common Stock underlying the portion of the Option the optionee is exercising;

Pay the full Exercise Price by cashier's or certified check for the shares of Common Stock with respect to which the Option is being exercised, unless the Administrator consents to another form of payment (which could include the use of Common Stock); and

Deliver to the Administrator such representations and documents as the Administrator, in its sole discretion, may consider necessary or advisable.

Payment in full of the Exercise Price need not accompany the written notice of exercise provided the notice directs that the stock certificates for the shares issued upon the exercise be delivered to a licensed broker acceptable to the Company as the agent for the individual exercising the option and at the time the stock certificates are delivered to the broker, the broker will tender to the Company cash or cash equivalents acceptable to the Company and equal to the Exercise Price.

If the Administrator agrees to payment through the tender to the Company of shares of Common Stock, the individual must have held the stock being tendered for at least six months at the time of surrender or must have acquired the stock under an option granted at least six months before the time of surrender. Shares of stock offered as payment will be valued, for purposes of determining the extent to which the optionee has paid the Exercise Price, at their Fair Market Value on the date of exercise. The Administrator may also, in its discretion, accept attestation of ownership of Common Stock and issue a net number of shares upon Option exercise.

OPTION
EXPIRATION

No one may exercise an Option more than ten years after its Date of Grant (or five years, for an ISO granted to a more-than-10% shareholder). Unless the Option Agreement provides otherwise, either initially or by amendment, no one may exercise an Option after the first to occur of:

EMPLOYMENT
TERMINATION

The date of termination of employment (other than for death or Disability), where termination of employment means the time when the employer-employee or other service-providing relationship between the employee and the Company ends for any reason, including retirement. Unless the Option Agreement provides otherwise, termination of employment does not include instances in which the Company immediately rehires a common law employee as an independent contractor. The Administrator, in its sole discretion, will determine all questions of whether particular terminations or leaves of absence are terminations of employment;

DISABILITY

For disability, the earlier of (i) the first anniversary of the optionee's termination of employment for disability and (ii) thirty (30) days after the optionee no longer has a disability, where disability means the inability to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment that can be expected to result in death or that has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than twelve months; or

DEATH

The date twelve months after the optionee's death.

If exercise is permitted after termination of employment, the Option will nevertheless expire as of the date that the former employee violates any covenant not to compete in effect between the Company and the former employee.

Nothing in this Plan extends the term of an Option beyond the tenth anniversary of its Date of Grant, nor does anything in this OPTION EXPIRATION section make an Option exercisable that has not otherwise become exercisable.

OPTION
AGREEMENT

Option Agreements will set forth the terms of each Option and will include such terms and conditions, consistent with the Plan, as the Administrator may determine are necessary or advisable. To the extent the agreement is inconsistent with the Plan, the Plan will govern. The Option Agreements may contain special rules.

STOCK SUBJECT
TO PLAN

Except as adjusted below under CORPORATE CHANGES, the aggregate number of shares of Common Stock that may be issued under the Options (whether ISOs or NQSOs) may not exceed 1,000,000 shares and the maximum number of shares that may be subject to Options for a single individual in a calendar year may not exceed 150,000 shares. The Common Stock will come from either authorized but unissued shares or from previously issued shares that the Company reacquires, including shares it purchases on the open market. If any Option expires, is canceled, or terminates for any other reason, the shares of Common Stock available under that Option will again be available for the granting of new Options (but will be counted against that calendar year's limit for a given individual).

No adjustment will be made for a dividend or other right for which the record date precedes the date of exercise.

The optionee will have no rights of a stockholder with respect to the shares of stock subject to an Option except to the extent that the Company has issued certificates for such shares upon the exercise of the Option.

The Company will not issue fractional shares pursuant to the exercise of an Option, but the Administrator may, in its discretion, direct the Company to make a cash payment in lieu of fractional shares.

PERSON WHO
MAY EXERCISE

During the optionee's lifetime, only the optionee or his duly appointed guardian or personal representative may exercise the Options. After his death, his personal representative or any other person authorized under a will or under the laws of descent and distribution may exercise any then exercisable portion of an Option. If someone other than the original recipient seeks to exercise any portion of an Option, the Administrator may request such proof as it may consider necessary or appropriate of the person's right to exercise the Option.

ADJUSTMENTS
UPON CHANGES
IN CAPITAL STOCK

Subject to any required action by the Company (which it shall promptly take) or its stockholders, and subject to the provisions of applicable corporate law, if, after the Date of Grant of an Option,

the outstanding shares of Common Stock increase or decrease or change into or are exchanged for a different number or kind of security by reason of any recapitalization, reclassification, stock split, reverse stock split, combination of shares, exchange of shares, stock dividend, or other distribution payable in capital stock, or

some other increase or decrease in such Common Stock occurs without the Company's receiving consideration,

the Administrator will make a proportionate and appropriate adjustment in the number of shares of Common Stock underlying each Option, so that the proportionate interest of the optionee immediately following such event will, to the extent practicable, be the same as immediately before such event. Any such adjustment to an Option will not change the total price with respect to shares of Common Stock underlying the unexercised portion of the Option but will include a corresponding proportionate adjustment in the Option's Exercise Price.

The Administrator will make a commensurate change to the maximum number and kind of shares provided in the STOCK SUBJECT TO PLAN section.

Any issue by the Company of any class of preferred stock, or securities convertible into shares of common or preferred stock of any class, will not affect, and no adjustment by reason thereof will be made with respect to, the number of shares of Common Stock subject to any Option or the Exercise Price except as this ADJUSTMENTS section specifically provides. The grant of an option under the Plan will not affect in any way the right or power of the Company to make adjustments, reclassifications, reorganizations or changes of its capital or business structure, or to merge or to consolidate, or to dissolve, liquidate, sell, or transfer all or any part of its business or assets.

SUBSTANTIAL
CORPORATE
CHANGE

Upon a Substantial Corporate Change, the Plan and the Options will terminate unless provision is made in writing in connection with such transaction for

the assumption or continuation of outstanding Options, or

the substitution for such options or grants of any options or grants covering the stock or securities of a successor employer corporation, or a parent or subsidiary of such successor, with appropriate adjustments as to the number and kind of shares of stock and prices, in which event the Options will continue in the manner and under the terms so provided.

Unless the Board determines otherwise, if an Option would otherwise terminate pursuant to the preceding sentence, the optionee will have the right, at such time before the consummation of the transaction causing such termination as the Board reasonably designates, to exercise any unexercised portions of the Option, whether or not they had previously become exercisable. However, the acceleration will not occur if it would render unavailable "pooling of interest" accounting for any reorganization, merger, or consolidation of the Company.

A Substantial Corporate Change means the

dissolution or liquidation of the Company,

merger, consolidation, or reorganization of the Company with one or more corporations in which the Company is not the surviving corporation,

the sale of substantially all of the assets of the Company to another corporation, or

any transaction (including a merger or reorganization in which the Company survives) approved by the Board that results in any person or entity (other than any affiliate of the Company as defined in Rule 144(a)(1) under the Securities Act) owning 100% of the combined voting power of all classes of stock of the Company.

SUBSIDIARY
EMPLOYEES

Employees of Company Subsidiaries will be entitled to participate in the Plan, except as otherwise designated by the Board of Directors or the Committee.

Eligible Subsidiary means each of the Company's Subsidiaries, except as the Board otherwise specifies. For ISO grants, Subsidiary means any corporation (other than the Company) in an unbroken chain of corporations beginning with the Company if, at the time an ISO is granted to a Participant under the Plan, each of the corporations (other than the last corporation in the unbroken chain) owns stock possessing 50% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock in one of the other corporations in such chain. For NQSOs, the Board or the Committee can use a different definition of Subsidiary in its discretion.

LEGAL
COMPLIANCE

The Company will not issue any shares of Common Stock under an Option until all applicable requirements imposed by Federal and state securities and other laws, rules, and regulations, and by any applicable regulatory agencies or stock exchanges, have been fully met. To that end, the Company may require the optionee to take any reasonable action to comply with such requirements before issuing such shares. No provision in the Plan or action taken under it authorizes any action that is otherwise prohibited by Federal or state laws.

The Plan is intended to conform to the extent necessary with all provisions of the Securities Act of 1933 ("Securities Act") and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and all regulations and rules the Securities and Exchange Commission issues under those laws. Notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, the Administrator must administer the Plan, and Options may be granted and exercised, only in a way that conforms to such laws, rules, and regulations. To the extent permitted by applicable law, the Plan and any Options will be deemed amended to the extent necessary to conform to such laws, rules, and regulations.

PURCHASE FOR
INVESTMENT
AND OTHER
RESTRICTIONS

Unless a registration statement under the Securities Act covers the shares of Common Stock an optionee receives upon exercise of his Option, the Administrator may require, at the time of such exercise, that the optionee agree in writing to acquire such shares for investment and not for public resale or distribution, unless and until the shares subject to the Option are registered under the Securities Act. Unless the shares are registered under the Securities Act, the optionee must acknowledge:

that the shares purchased on exercise of the Option are not so registered,

that the optionee may not sell or otherwise transfer the shares unless

the shares have been registered under the Securities Act in connection with the sale or transfer thereof, or counsel satisfactory to the Company has issued an opinion satisfactory to the Company that the sale or other transfer of such shares is exempt from registration under the Securities Act, and

such sale or transfer complies with all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations, including all applicable Federal and state securities laws, rules, and regulations.

Additionally, the Common Stock, when issued upon the exercise of an Option, will be subject to any other transfer restrictions, rights of first refusal, and rights of repurchase set forth in or incorporated by reference into other applicable documents, including the Company's articles or certificate of incorporation, by-laws, or generally applicable stockholders' agreements.

The Administrator may, in its sole discretion, take whatever additional actions it deems appropriate to comply with such restrictions and applicable laws, including placing legends on certificates and issuing stop-transfer orders to transfer agents and registrars.

TAX WITHHOLDING

The optionee must satisfy all applicable Federal, state, and local income and employment tax withholding requirements before the Company will deliver stock certificates upon the exercise of an Option. The Company may decide to satisfy the withholding obligations through additional withholding on salary or wages. If the Company does not or cannot withhold from other compensation, the optionee must pay the Company, with a cashier's check or certified check, the full amounts required by withholding. Payment of withholding obligations is due at the same time as is payment of the Exercise Price. If the Committee so determines, the optionee may instead satisfy the withholding obligations by directing the Company to retain shares from the Option exercise, by tendering previously owned shares, or by attesting to his ownership of shares (with the distribution of net shares).

TRANSFERS,
ASSIGNMENTS,
AND PLEDGES

Unless the Administrator otherwise approves in advance in writing, an Option may not be assigned, pledged, or otherwise transferred in any way, whether by operation of law or otherwise or through any legal or equitable proceedings (including bankruptcy), by the optionee to any person, except by will or by operation of applicable laws of descent and distribution. If Rule 16b-3 then applies to an Option, the optionee may not transfer or pledge shares of Common Stock acquired upon exercise of an Option until at least six (6) months have elapsed from (but excluding) the Date of Grant, unless the Administrator approves otherwise in advance in writing.

AMENDMENT OR
TERMINATION
OF PLAN AND
OPTIONS

The Board may amend, suspend, or terminate the Plan at any time, without the consent of the optionees or their beneficiaries; provided, however, that no amendment will deprive any optionee or beneficiary of any previously declared Option. Except as required by law or by the CORPORATE CHANGES section, the Administrator may not, without the optionee's or beneficiary's consent, modify the terms and conditions of an Option so as to adversely affect the optionee. No amendment, suspension, or termination of the Plan will, without the optionee's or beneficiary's consent, terminate or adversely affect any right or obligations under any outstanding Options.

PRIVILEGES OF
STOCK OWNERSHIP

No optionee and no beneficiary or other person claiming under or through such optionee will have any right, title, or interest in or to any shares of Common Stock allocated or reserved under the Plan or subject to any Option except as to such shares of Common Stock, if any, that have been issued to such optionee.

EFFECT ON 1992 OPTION PLAN	If and when the stockholders approve this Plan, no additional options will be granted under the Forensic Technologies International Corporation 1992 Stock Option Plan.
EFFECT ON OTHER PLANS	Whether exercising an Option causes the optionee to accrue or PLANS receive additional benefits under any pension or other plan is governed solely by the terms of such other plan.
LIMITATIONS ON LIABILITY	Notwithstanding any other provisions of the Plan, no individual acting as a director, employee, or agent of the Company shall be liable to any optionee, former optionee, spouse, beneficiary, or any other person for any claim, loss, liability, or expense incurred in connection with the Plan, nor shall such individual be personally liable because of any contract or other instrument he executes in such other capacity. The Company will indemnify and hold harmless each director, employee, or agent of the Company to whom any duty or power relating to the administration or interpretation of the Plan has been or will be delegated, against any cost or expense (including attorneys' fees) or liability (including any sum paid in settlement of a claim with the FTI Board's approval) arising out of any act or omission to act concerning this Plan unless arising out of such person's own fraud or bad faith.
NO EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT	Nothing contained in this Plan constitutes an employment contract between the Company and the optionee. The Plan does not give the optionee any right to be retained in the Company's employ, nor does it enlarge or diminish the Company's right to terminate the optionee's employment.
APPLICABLE LAW	The laws of the State of Maryland (other than its choice of law provisions) govern this Plan and its interpretation.
DURATION OF PLAN	Unless the FTI Board extends the Plan's term, the Administrator may not grant Options after March 25, 2007. The Plan will then terminate but will continue to govern unexercised and unexpired Options.
APPROVAL OF SHAREHOLDERS	The Plan must be submitted to the shareholders of the Company for their approval within 12 months after the Board of Directors of the Company adopts the Plan. The adoption of the Plan is conditioned upon the approval of the shareholders of the Company, and failure to receive their approval will render the Plan and any outstanding options thereunder void and of no effect.

WILMER, CUTLER & PICKERING
100 LIGHT STREET
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

TELEPHONE (410) 986-2800
FACSIMILE (410) 986-2828

WASHINGTON
BALTIMORE
LONDON
BRUSSELS
BERLIN

June 24, 1997

Forensic Technologies International Corporation
2021 Research Drive
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Forensic Technologies International Corporation
1997 Stock Option Plan

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as counsel to Forensic Technologies International Corporation, a Maryland corporation (the "Company"), in connection with the preparation by the Company of a registration statement on Form S-8 to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 26, 1997 (the "Registration Statement") under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, for the registration of stock options (the "Options") covering 1,000,000 shares of Common Stock, \$.01 par value per share (the "Shares"), of the Company and 1,000,000 Shares issuable upon the exercise of Options pursuant to the 1997 Stock Option Plan of the Company (the "Plan").

For purposes of this opinion letter, we have examined copies of the following documents:

1. An executed copy of the Registration Statement;
2. A copy of the document disclosing material information to Plan participants prepared in connection with the Registration Statement;
3. A copy of the Plan, as certified on June 24, 1997 by the Secretary of the Company as then being complete, accurate and in effect;
4. A copy of the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Company, as certified on June 24, 1997 by the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation ("SDAT");
5. A copy of the By-Laws of the Company, as certified on June 24, 1997 by the Secretary of the Company as then being complete, accurate and in effect;

Forensic Technologies International Corporation
June 24, 1997
Page 2

6. Resolutions of the Board of Directors of the Company adopted at a special meeting held May 21, 1997, as certified by the Secretary of the Company on June 24, 1997 as then being complete, accurate and in effect;
7. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Company held May 21, 1997, as certified by the Secretary of the Company on June 24, 1997 as then being complete, accurate and in effect;
8. A Certificate of Good Standing of the Company in the State of Maryland as certified on June 24, 1997 by SDAT; and
9. A certificate of the Secretary of the Company as to certain factual matters dated June 24, 1997.

In our examination of the aforesaid documents, we have assumed the genuineness of all signatures, the legal capacity of natural persons, the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals, and the conformity with the original documents of all documents submitted to us as certified, telecopied, photostatic or reproduced copies. We have assumed the accuracy of the foregoing certifications, on which we are relying, and have made no independent investigation or verification thereof. We have assumed that there will be no amendments, modifications, additions, deletions or changes to the

form of Registration Statement as filed on June 26, 1997 from the form of Registration Statement reviewed for this opinion letter.

We are members of the Bar of the State of Maryland and do not hold ourselves out as being experts in the law of any other state. This opinion letter is limited to the laws of the United States and the Maryland General Corporation Law. Our opinions in this letter are rendered only with respect to the laws and the rules, regulations and orders thereunder that are currently in effect.

Based upon, subject to, and limited by the foregoing, we are of the opinion that:

1. The issuance of the Options in accordance with the terms of the Plan has been lawfully and duly authorized by the Board of Directors and Stockholders of the Company.
2. The issuance of the Shares upon the exercise of Options granted, when issued and exercised in accordance with the terms of the Plan, has been

lawfully and duly authorized by the Board of Directors and Stockholders of the Company.

3. When the Options have been exercised, the exercise price has been paid in full and the Shares have been issued and delivered in accordance with the terms of the Plan, the Shares will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable under the Maryland General Corporation Law.

We assume no obligation to advise you of any changes in the foregoing subsequent to the delivery of this opinion letter. This opinion letter has been prepared solely for your use in connection with the filing of the Registration Statement, and shall not be quoted in whole or in part or otherwise be referred to, nor otherwise be filed with or furnished to any governmental agency or other person or entity, without our prior written consent.

We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion letter as an exhibit to the Registration Statement. Nothing herein shall be construed to cause us to be considered "experts" within the meaning of Section 11 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Very truly yours,

WILMER, CUTLER & PICKERING

By: /s/ John B. Watkins

John B. Watkins, a partner

Consent of Ernst & Young, LLP, Independent Auditors

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statements (Form S-8 No. 333-_____) pertaining to the 1997 Stock Option Plan of our report dated January 31, 1997, with respect to the consolidated financial statements of Forensic Technologies International Corporation included in its Annual Report (Form 10-KSB) for the year ended December 31, 1996, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

/s/ Ernst & Young, LLP

Baltimore, Maryland
June 25, 1997