365 ALTERAM

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL DEFENCE

Before you trust the file, test it.

Independent forensic review and counter-investigations for defence counsel worldwide.

Audiatur et altera pars.

Let the other side be heard.



THE CASE FOR INDEPENDENT REVIEW

Three reports. One original source.

A witness statement appears in a police summary. An expert cites the summary. By the time the case reaches counsel, three documents appear to support the allegation. All three may rest on the word of one witness.

365Alteram is a London-based independent forensic research firm. We help criminal defence teams worldwide trace decisive claims back to their sources. We test the prosecution and defence accounts against the same material and report findings even when they weaken the client's position.

When to bring us in

Before a hearing	When one disputed fact could change which witness or expert you need to question.
On review or appeal	When a material conclusion still depends on an untested assumption or newly available records.

A QUESTION FOR THE CASE CONFERENCE

Which exhibit independently corroborates the witness?

FORENSIC CAPABILITIES

What does the evidence show?

The disputed fact determines the expertise we bring in. Counsel can instruct us on a single exhibit or ask us to reconstruct events across the entire file.

Case reconstruction

Compare interviews, exhibits and contemporaneous records. Identify where witnesses agree independently and where they repeat a common source.

Digital evidence

Examine the original extraction, metadata and export history. Establish which material was available when an analyst reached a conclusion.

Telecommunications

Compare call records, device activity and network information. Assess how precisely the records locate a handset and what links it to a user.

Financial and corporate

Trace payments through bank records, contracts and invoices. Separate the movement of funds from evidence of who authorised it and why.

Laboratory evidence

Coordinate qualified specialists in DNA, toxicology, ballistics and trace evidence. Review sample handling, methods and the limits of an expert opinion.

Data analytics

Reconcile large collections of messages, transactions and location records. Retain the exhibit reference behind each event in the combined timeline.



THE BALANCE-7 METHOD

How we test a case

Counsel defines the question. Seven stages take it from the first instruction to a conclusion another examiner can check.

B **Brief & Boundaries**
Agree the disputed question, authorised sources, deadline and scope.

A **Acquire & Authenticate**
Record where each exhibit came from and how it was preserved.

L **Link the Record**
Build a chronology and link each material event to its source.

A **Alternative Hypotheses**
Set out competing explanations and what would distinguish them.

N **Neutral Validation**
Look for records that could support or undermine each explanation.

C **Challenge & Peer Review**
Have the reasoning, assumptions and evidential gaps challenged.

E **Evidentiary Reporting**
Give counsel the findings, exhibit references and limits of the analysis.

Counsel retains conduct of the case.



FICTIONAL CASE STUDY / CROSS-BORDER NARCOTICS

Who controlled the container?

The prosecution alleges that a driver collected a container, replaced its seal and carried a concealed consignment. Counsel asks us to test the sequence behind the allegation.

08:10 **Terminal gate entry**
A tractor registered to the driver's employer enters the terminal.

08:24 **Customs inspection log**
An officer records removing the original seal and fitting a numbered replacement.

08:41 **Signed handover**
The driver takes custody. The handover sheet records the replacement seal number.

The question for the terminal operator

Who had access to the load before 08:41? The matching seal numbers place the recorded change before the signed handover. The driver's knowledge remains unresolved. Counsel can now request the earlier custody log and the footage covering that interval.

INTERNATIONAL MANDATES

When the record crosses borders

INTERPOL notices and diffusions

Reconcile identities, dates and underlying judicial records for counsel preparing a request to the Commission for the Control of INTERPOL's Files (CCF).

Narcotics and arms trafficking

Compare seizure records, custody transfers, messages and transport documents to test each alleged participant's role.

Fraud, extortion and cryptoassets

Trace transactions and test who exercised control over an account or wallet. Assess the commercial records behind a disputed transfer.

Aviation, maritime and energy

Reconstruct events from flight logs, vessel movements, cargo manifests and operational records in oil, gas and offshore matters.

War crimes investigations

Cross-check witness accounts, imagery and location records to assess the alleged sequence of events and the attribution of individual acts.





DELIVERABLES FOR COUNSEL

What reaches your desk

We agree the format around your next decision. A hearing on one disputed timestamp calls for a different brief from a review of the entire prosecution file.

A findings memorandum	Each material conclusion sits beside its exhibit reference, the reasoning behind it and any evidence pointing the other way.
An annotated chronology	Events from separate sources appear on one timeline. Dates, time zones and uncertain intervals remain visible.
A schedule of disputed issues	For each disputed claim, see what supports it, what qualifies it and which missing record could resolve the issue.
A hearing brief	Focused questions for a witness or expert, with the record that gives each question its purpose.

AN EXAMPLE OF A FOCUSED INSTRUCTION

“Identify the first record that names our client as the user of the handset. Trace every later attribution back to its source.”

365 ALTERAM

CONFIDENTIAL CASE ENQUIRIES

Bring us the question your case turns on.

Tell us which fact is disputed, the jurisdictions involved and your next deadline. Start with a short, non-sensitive summary. We will agree a secure channel with you before you share case materials.

DISCUSS A CASE

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