**Forensic Glass Analysis Key Terms**

**Amorphous** –Without shape or form; applied to glass, it refers to having particles that arearranged randomly instead of in a definite pattern

**Becke line** –The line created as refracted light becomes concentrated around the edges of aglass fragment

**Concentric fracture** –A crack in the glass from a rough circle around the point of impact

**Density** – **T**he ratio of the mass of an object to its volume, expressed by the equation, density =mass/volume

**Glass** –A hard, amorphous, transparent material made by heating a mixture of sand and otheradditives

**Laminated glass** –Two sheets of ordinary glass bonded together with a plastic film

**Leaded glass** –Glass containing lead oxide

**Normal line** –A line drawn perpendicular to the interface surface of two different media

**Obsidian** –Volcanic glass

**Radial fracture** –A crack in the glass that extends outward like the spoke of a wheel from thepoint at which the glass was struck

**Refraction** –The change in the direction of light as it changes speed when moving from onesubstance into another

**Refraction index** –A measure of how light bends as it passes from one substance to another

**Silicon dioxide (SiO2)** –The chemical name for silica

**Soda-lime glass** – **T**he most common and inexpensive glass, easy to melt and shape

**Tempered glass** –Glass which is strengthened by introducing stress through rapid heating andcooling of its surface