

Purple-handed and red-faced

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Loomis has succeeded in bringing about convictions utilising the security and identification qualities of its SigNature DNA Cash Box; following their capture by the Metropolitan Police, two men have been sentenced to prison for stealing thousands of pounds from a shop in London. The botanical purple dye in the cash box contains a unique DNA signature developed and supplied by Applied DNA Sciences, which is embedded and released when the box is disturbed. The box was being used at a clothing store in London, where the men became indelibly marked by the DNA ink while stealing the takings from the shop.

The SigNature DNA was successfully used in a UK Court as forensic evidence by the prosecution. The DNA evidence submitted to the Metropolitan Police linked the criminals to the crime, and left no room for reasonable doubt. The two suspects pled guilty and were sentenced to prison - five years for one and eighteen months for the other. The criminals were found with SigNature DNA-marked notes and the identical taggants marked their clothing, skin and mobile phones. The men were caught when they attempted to spend the cash; the stained notes were picked up by the bank, removed from circulation and traced back to the suspect.

Official police reports confirm that the cash was washed to remove the dye, with no impact on the DNA markers. Even after washing, the stains were detectable on multiple notes, providing crucial and court admissible evidence against the accused.