



SGFP Ethical Alignment Mapping

HOW ARGENT ALIGNS WITH THE SPECIALTY GUIDELINES FOR FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY

This mapping is offered as a professional education resource for forensic practitioners evaluating Argent Forensics for use in their practice. It addresses the Specialty Guidelines for Forensic Psychology (SGFP) principles most directly relevant to AI-assisted record review. It does not represent a comprehensive audit of every SGFP guideline. Practitioners are responsible for their own alignment with the SGFP in all aspects of their practice. This document is not legal or clinical advice.

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Introduction

Overview of the Specialty Guidelines for Forensic Psychology

The Specialty Guidelines for Forensic Psychology (APA, 2013) represent the field’s core framework for forensic practice. They set an aspirational standard for forensic practitioners in the conduct of their professional activities. Integrating artificial intelligence tools into forensic practice raises questions about whether and how such technologies can be used consistently with the SGFP. This document addresses those questions by mapping Argent's design, system policies, and professional resources against the SGFP principles most directly implicated. This mapping is organized by SGFP section. For each relevant principle, we identify the professional obligation, analyze what it requires in the context of AI tool use, and document how Argent's architecture and resources satisfy that requirement.

List of Guidelines Reviewed In This Document:

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SGFP 1.03

Avoiding Conflicts of Interest

Professional Responsibility: The SGFP requires forensic practitioners to identify, make known, and address potential conflicts of interest that could compromise the objectivity, fairness, and independence of their professional work and refrain from taking on roles where competing interests could reasonably impair impartiality.

What This Requires for AI Tool Use: The selection of an AI platform, just like the selection of any instrument, must be made solely on the basis of professional judgment about fitness for purpose. It must not be influenced by commercial incentives, financial relationships with technology vendors, or systemic "vendor-lock" that prevents independent review of your work. Furthermore, the expert must ensure that using the tool does not compromise their professional independence or intellectual agency.

How Argent Addresses It: Argent was founded by a practitioner with no financial ties to AI developers. Argent avoids proprietary vendor-lock by allowing practitioners to export all original documents, AI-generated summaries, and query information in standard, platform-agnostic formats (e.g. PDF, CSV, TXT). If your methodology is challenged, any independent third-party expert can easily audit and review your data foundation using standard, universally accessible software. This ensures complete transparency, objectivity, and absolute compliance with SGFP 1.03.

Argent is a proprietary tool designed with platform-agnostic exports and full practitioner access and control (even if subscriptions are cancelled), ensuring that your methodological section remains objective, transparent, and free from vendor-lock conflicts.

SGFP 2.01/2.02

Scope and Maintenance of Competence

Professional Responsibility: The SGFP requires forensic practitioners to practice within the boundaries of their competence and to develop and maintain competence in the methods, procedures, and tools they use. When using new or emerging technologies, competence includes understanding what the tool does, how it works at a conceptual level, and what its technical limitations are.

What This Requires for AI Tool Use: A forensic practitioner who uses an AI-assisted record review tool is expected to understand the tool sufficiently to use it appropriately, recognize its limitations, explain its function to relevant parties, and respond to challenges about its use with accuracy and confidence. Under this framework, a technological tool is viewed as a technological delegate. Just as an expert must actively supervise and remain responsible for the work product of a human clinical assistant, student, or psychometrist, they must maintain strict, active supervision over their technological delegate. Competence under SGFP section 2 does not require a computer science degree; it requires a clear, functional understanding of how the tool retrieves data, where its boundaries lie, and an active refusal to outsource clinical judgment to the software.

How Argent Addresses It: Argent provides a dedicated professional resource library specifically designed to build and document practitioner competence in AI tool use:

- **The AI Fundamentals Overview** (available at argentforensics.com/resources) provides a plain-language explanation of Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) architecture, the mechanisms of LLM hallucination, vector database search, and the strict division between machine-generated organization and human clinical judgment.

- **The Getting Started Guide** provides a step-by-step orientation to the platform's professional workflow, explicitly training practitioners on the ethical "Human-in-the-Loop" verification protocol.
- **The AI Testimony Prep Guide** prepares practitioners to explain their computer-assisted record review methodology accurately and confidently under cross-examination.

Under SGFP 2.01/02, Argent supports practitioner competence by providing plain-language training resources that frame the AI as a clerical delegate under the expert's active supervision.

SGFP 2.05

Knowledge of Scientific Foundation for Opinions and Testimony

Professional Responsibility: The SGFP requires forensic practitioners to provide opinions and testimony that are sufficiently based on adequate scientific foundation, and reliable and valid principles and methods that have been applied appropriately to the facts of the case. When providing opinions based on novel or emerging methods, practitioners must make known the status and limitations of these principles.

What This Requires for AI Tool Use: Before introducing a new technology into their record review workflow, the expert must establish that the tool's underlying computer science is legally reliable and scientifically valid. Using experimental, unvalidated, or consumer-grade open-domain AI systems that are prone to factual fabrications ("hallucinations") violates SGFP 2.05 because the underlying methodology is scientifically unreliable.

How Argent Addresses It: Argent's citation-grounded architecture is built entirely on well-validated, peer-reviewed computer science standards:

- **Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG):** Unlike ungrounded consumer chatbots that rely on mathematical probability to guess answers from general memory, Argent operates on a strict RAG framework. RAG is universally peer-reviewed and recognized in computer science literature as the industry-standard methodology for secure, factual document analysis.
- **Closed-Domain Processing:** Argent is physically blocked from drawing on public web databases or general training memory. It is constrained to search *only* the specific, verified collateral records uploaded for that individual case.
- **Documentation of Limitations:** To satisfy the requirement of disclosing limitations, Argent provides practitioners with completed copy-ready templates, technical disclosures, and full admissibility briefs detailing the precise bounds and error mitigation protocols of Large Language Model (LLM) technology.

Argent satisfies SGFP 2.05 by utilizing a secure, closed-domain RAG architecture grounded entirely in peer-reviewed, industry standard information retrieval science.

SGFP 6.01/02/03

Informed Consent and Communication

Professional Responsibility: The SGFP requires forensic practitioners to inform service recipients (6.02) and examinees (6.03) about the nature,

purpose, and parameters of the services to be provided (6.01). This includes disclosing the specific methods, procedures, and instruments utilized during the evaluation.

What This Requires for AI Tool Use: Disclosing the use of AI-assisted tools as part of your evaluation methodology is consistent with SGFP 6.01-6.03 and is supported by the APA Ethics Code and other AI-specific guidance released by APA. The specific form, depth, and timing of this disclosure will vary by evaluation context—occurring via retainer agreements for retaining counsel, during the initial clinical interview for examinees (where appropriate), and within the methodology section of the final forensic report.

How Argent Addresses It: To simplify this disclosure process, Argent provides three professionally drafted, context-specific disclosure templates:

- **The Retainer Agreement Disclosure:** Designed to notify retaining counsel and establish agreement on the secure, HIPAA-compliant processing of records before the evaluation begins.
- **The Forensic Report Disclosure:** A formal methodology statement for your final report, outlining the AI's strictly clerical role and your human verification process.
- **The Court-Ordered Notification:** An abbreviated disclosure template for court-ordered evaluations where clinical consent is legally modified but professional transparency remains paramount.

These templates are available for free download for everyone (including non-subscribers) at argentforensics.com/resources, allowing practitioners to easily implement consistent, proportionate disclosures across all practice contexts.

Argent satisfies SGFP 6.01-6.03 by providing standard disclosure templates that integrate into retainer agreements, notification processes, and final reports, and emphasizing transparent disclosure in all marketing and guidance materials as well.

SGFP 8.02

Access to Information

Professional Responsibility: The SGFP outlines the importance of access of the retaining party to the examiner's file, upon reasonable request.

What This Requires for AI Tool Use: When proprietary software is introduced to index, analyze, or summarize a case file, the intermediate queries, prompt histories, and AI-generated materials become part of the digital case record. If this underlying data is locked inside a proprietary interface the practitioner cannot fulfill their ethical duty under SGFP 8.02 to provide full record access and a meaningful explanation of the data considered. To comply with this standard, the practitioner must utilize a tool that permits comprehensive, platform-agnostic data extraction while ensuring that the computational and factual information can be produced in accessible, secure formats upon request.

How Argent Addresses It: Argent is architected directly around the data-access principles of SGFP 8.02, using robust extraction and export features to ensure complete professional transparency:

- **Case Archive Export:** Practitioners can easily extract original files, AI-Assisted Artifacts, and metadata (timestamp and model) to recreate the file data clearly and transparently.
- **Maintenance of Access (even upon cancellation):** To prevent the risk of data loss or lock-out, Argent's data policy ensures that practitioners retain access to their data. Even if a monthly subscription is cancelled or suspended, the practitioner retains full read-only access and complete extraction rights to their archived cases for ten (10) years (though they can also choose to delete it at any time).

- **Verifiable Explanations:** Argent's click-to-source mapping connects every clinical summary, chronology, or chat response directly to its original source. This allows the practitioner to provide immediate explanations to retaining counsel or the court of exactly how every clinical fact was located and verified.

SGFP 8.02 is satisfied because Argent's platform-agnostic case file export process ensures the expert can easily retrieve and produce the digital, cited file trail for legal review.

SGFP 9.01

Use of Appropriate Methods

Professional Responsibility: The SGFP requires forensic practitioners to use appropriate methods and procedures, maintain integrity by examining the issue or problem at hand from multiple potential perspectives, and to seek information to test competing hypotheses.

What This Requires for AI Tool Use: A major ethical risk of utilizing advanced semantic search engines is search-anchoring bias (a cognitive bias where an expert only reviews the facts or documents surfaced by their initial search queries, inadvertently missing critical clinical context hidden elsewhere in the un-queried record set). To satisfy SGFP 9.01, the practitioner must establish an active ethical safeguard: combining semantic AI queries with a systematic manual audit of the raw records to minimize or counteract confirmation or selection bias if introduced by the AI's search parameters, and actively query the database for exculpatory or contradictory facts to test alternative diagnostic theories.

How Argent Addresses It: Argent's system design and training protocols are engineered specifically to prevent search-anchoring bias and encourage multi-perspective analysis:

- **The Smart Chronology** automatically processes and indexes the full uploaded record set chronologically, ensuring that the expert has a comprehensive, case-wide view of the complete timeline rather than an exclusively query-anchored subset.
- **Rival Hypothesis Querying:** Argent's conversational AI assistant allows the expert to rapidly and systematically test alternative explanations by specifically querying the database for contradictory evidence (e.g., "*Identify all instances where the patient denied experiencing auditory hallucinations,*" or "*List all negative toxicology screens*").
- **The Manual Audit:** Our training materials and *Getting Started Guide* actively instruct practitioners on the audit standard—directing experts to read the raw files in conjunction with the AI's semantic search logs.

Argent supports SGFP 9.01 by providing comprehensive chronological indexing and advanced query tools that allow practitioners to easily search for contrary facts and aggressively test rival clinical hypotheses.

SGFP 9.02

Multiple Sources and Bases for Opinions

Professional Responsibility: The SGFP requires that forensic opinions be based on diverse information and reasoning sufficient to support the conclusions reached. Practitioners must rely on multiple sources of data, corroborate important data whenever feasible, and ensure they have sufficient data to form an adequate foundation for their opinions.

What This Requires for AI Tool Use: The use of AI-assisted record review does not change the fundamental requirement that opinions be grounded in verified, corroborated information. AI tools can expand the comprehensiveness of the record review—allowing you to easily identify when and where crucial clinical facts are duplicated or contradicted across different records—but they do not change your obligation to base opinions on verified facts. The verification requirement is the mechanism through which AI assistance is reconciled with the SGFP 9.02 standard.

How Argent Addresses It: Argent's design is built around the SGFP 9.02 requirement in two ways:

- **The Citation Architecture** ensures that every AI-generated fact can be traced to a specific source and verified before it informs the practitioner's opinion—providing a more rigorous, verifiable, and corroborated factual foundation than unverified manual notes.
- **Cross-Source Verification:** The platform makes it easy to compare and corroborate data across multiple files (e.g., verifying whether a defendant's self-reported medical history in a psychiatric intake matches their raw emergency room records), directly supporting your duty of data corroboration. This also encourages the use of as many data sources as possible given that the process for indexing, collating, summarizing, and integrating multiple collateral data sets has been streamlined by the Argent interface.

Argent satisfies SGFP 9.02 by providing a page-level audit trail that makes it fast and seamless for the expert to corroborate facts across multiple conflicting document sources.

SGFP 10.02

Selection and Use of Assessment Procedures

Professional Responsibility: The SGFP addresses the use of psychological tests, procedures, and techniques in forensic examinations, requiring that practitioners select and use methods that are reliable, valid, and appropriate to the forensic context. Practitioners must also make efforts to maintain the integrity and security of psychometric testing. While Argent is not a testing platform, it is important to scrutinize the digital structure to ensure it meets these same standards, especially when interacting with collateral data sets that might discuss testing results or scores.

What This Requires for AI Tool Use: The selection of AI tools must be governed by the same rigorous clinical standards that guide selection of psychometric instruments. SGFP 10.02 cautions against relying on automated interpretations without clinical integration. The AI must be restricted to a document-indexing and retrieval assistant, leaving all interpretation, synthesis, and diagnostic formulation to the human expert. Practitioners must only use tools for which the reliability and validity has been established, which might rule out certain uses of public AI models given the introduction of hallucinated material and the inability to replicate results.

How Argent Addresses It: Argent is designed from the ground up to prevent the outsourcing of clinical interpretation:

- The platform does not interpret clinical scales, perform automated diagnostic scoring, or write psychological formulations. It is hardcoded to act as a semantic search, chronological organization, and citation-extraction assistant.
- By design, Argent separates *data organization* (which the AI performs) from *data evaluation* (which the expert performs).
- To document your compliance under SGFP 10.02, Argent provides a completed *APA AI Tool Evaluation Checklist* demonstrating the

platform's professional reliability, technical validity, and specific fitness for forensic record review.

Argent complies with SGFP 10.02 by explicitly restricting its software boundaries to document organization and citation-extraction, leaving all clinical assessment and diagnostic formulation entirely to the human expert.

SGFP 10.06/10.07/10.08

Documentation and Compilation of Data Considered

Professional Responsibility: The SGFP requires forensic practitioners to maintain records of their work in sufficient detail to allow for a reasonable, independent review of the basis for their opinions and conclusions. Forensic documentation standards are exceptionally high because the entire file is subject to adversarial scrutiny, formal review, and legal discovery. Practitioners must also consider the length of record retention requirements and potentially extend file maintenance to adjust to the potentially lengthy appeals process

What This Requires for AI Tool Use: When an AI-assisted tool contributes to record review, the computational trail must be documented and discoverable. You cannot ethically omit the steps you took to locate your facts. The data compilation must include a record of what files were uploaded, what specific queries you ran, what summaries were produced, and how you verified them. Without this audit trail, your methodology may represent a "black box" that violates SGFP 10.06/10.07 because an independent expert cannot reasonably review or replicate the basis of your opinions. Additionally, practitioners must ensure that AI systems allow for extended storage timelines that can potentially accompany a lengthy legal

proceeding, and/or ensure that digital file material can be transferred to longer-term storage solutions.

How Argent Addresses It: Argent’s metadata and export architecture is built specifically to satisfy the documentation standards of SGFP 10.06, 10.07, and 10.08:

- Every summary, timeline entry, or AI response is accompanied by a provenance record (date and time of generation, specific model version used, and the user query that triggered it).
- Argent allows for export to allow practitioners to most easily provide documentation in response to discovery requests.
- Argent provides a generous 10-year storage guarantee, even post-cancellation. This meets or exceeds most case timelines as well as licensing retention expectations. In the event that more time is needed, practitioners have the option to either renew their subscription and re-activate case for indefinite storage (for the length of the service’s existence), or else extract all material and transfer to another static storage option.

Argent satisfies SGFP 10.06 and 10.07 by replacing as much of the “black box” computation with clear architectural processes, and extractable metadata to help document the queries, model versions and timestamps, and model provenance used to produce material. It satisfies 10.08 by constructing a record keeping system that is flexible and responsive to extended case timelines and allows practitioners several options to ensure that data is retained for the length of time necessary in proceedings.

SGFP 11.01

Accuracy, Fairness, and Avoidance of Deception

Professional Responsibility: The SGFP requires that forensic practitioners' communications, including reports, testimony, and professional statements be accurate, fair, and not deceptive. Practitioners must not misrepresent their methods, data sources, or the bases of their opinions.

What This Requires for AI Tool Use: Accurate representation of your methodology is an ethical mandate. You must neither minimize the AI's role (by passing off AI-generated summaries as if you wrote them completely from scratch) nor overstate it (by implying the AI completed a record review without you). Deception occurs when the division of labor between the software and the psychologist is obscured.

How Argent Addresses It: Every resource, disclosure template, and training guide produced by Argent enforces a clear, honest, and non-deceptive division of labor: The AI organized the records; the expert evaluated the facts and formed the opinion. This consistent framing is maintained across your retainer agreements, report disclaimers, and cross-examination prep guides. By using this balanced language, you demonstrate professional transparency, proving to the court that you used a sophisticated search instrument to make your review more comprehensive while retaining 100% of your intellectual agency and clinical sovereignty.

Argent limits risk of ethical deception under SGFP 11.01 by providing a transparent, non-deceptive framework that clearly defines the AI's clerical role and the sovereign clinical role of the human expert.

SGFP 11.03/11.04

Disclosing Sources and Presenting Opinions Accurately and Comprehensively

Professional Responsibility: The SGFP requires forensic practitioners to disclose the methods, procedures, and data sources underlying their opinions in their forensic reports (11.03). Transparency is paramount, and disclosures must allow for a meaningful review and challenge of the expert's foundation and clear understanding of the reasoning and salient data supporting opinions while focusing on relevancy and excluding information that does not bear directly upon the legal purpose (11.04).

What This Requires for AI Tool Use: Using an AI-assisted record review tool and failing to disclose it violates SGFP 11.03. The disclosure must be transparent, accurate, and proportionate, meaning it must clearly explain the AI's role as a clerical assistant, the expert's human verification process, and the platform's architectural limits. It must neither hide the tool's use nor mislead the Court as to its power or authority. The AI tool must also be properly calibrated to recognize legally relevant information and exclude unnecessarily detailed or overly-inclusive facts from the output. This tends to require specialization and intentional tuning because public AI models tend to favor comprehensive inclusive over careful curation.

How Argent Addresses It: Argent provides several disclosure options:

- **Report Disclosure Samples:** A series of sample language for disclosing in reports.
- **Informed Consent Samples:** A series of options for disclosing to retaining parties as well as court administrators.
- **Source List Extraction:** Allowing practitioners an option to extract the list of sources clearly and easily in a .docx file for easy import to the forensic evaluation.

This suite of options ensure that your SGFP disclosures are highly professional, transparent, and proportioned to the demands of your specific case.

Argent's prompting architecture as well as the foundational layers programmed into the build involved the founder, a board-certified forensic psychologist, from its first initiation and all the way through the design and implementation process. The iterative feedback loop regarding relevant output, and the ongoing calibration of producing comprehensive, but not overly-inclusive outputs remains a core mission of Argent's ongoing commitment to development and improvement of the platform.

Argent's downloadable resources as well as administrative workbench functions satisfy SGFP 11.03/11.04 by providing practitioners with transparent, balanced, and court-tested language to document their methodology.

Summary Table

Putting it Together

SGFP Guideline	Core Ethical Obligation	Argent's Structural Mapping
1.03 <i>Conflicts of Interest</i>	Avoid relationships or interests that compromise professional objectivity.	Features Platform-Agnostic Exports (PDF, CSV) to avoid proprietary vendor-lock and protect expert independence.
2.01 & 2.02 <i>Competence</i>	Practice within boundaries; actively develop and maintain skills.	AI Fundamentals Overview and Getting Started Guide build clinical competence in AI search mechanics; Argent's founder remains involved in ongoing education and training in this area.
2.05 <i>Scientific Foundation</i>	Ensure opinions are based on valid, reliable, and appropriate methods.	Closed-domain RAG architecture restricts AI processing to your case files, limiting ungrounded model hallucinations.
6.01 & 6.03 <i>Consent</i>	Proactively disclose methods and procedures to relevant parties.	Provides tiered, professional disclosure templates for retainer agreements, report methodology sections, and court administration agreements.
8.02 <i>Access to Information</i>	Provide access and meaningful explanations of all considered records and retain files for the reasonable duration of proceedings	Case export processes allow for extraction of AI-Assisted Artifacts that include the queries and outputs as well as metadata (date, time, model); 10-year retention contract continues to facilitate extraction rights even post-cancellation.

9.01 <i>Appropriate Methods</i>	Maintain integrity; examine all perspectives; test rival hypotheses.	Smart chronology, case-wide summaries, and case-wide chat features index the entire record volume, mitigating narrow, query-anchored selection/confirmation bias and allowing examiners to consider widespread patterns, contradictory data points, or changes over time.
9.02 & 9.03 <i>Factual Bases</i>	Corroborate data across multiple sources; avoid unexamined assertions.	Citation architecture links all outputs directly to original source for fast, intuitive human verification.
10.02 <i>Assessment Procedures</i>	Use procedures and tools appropriately; maintain test security.	Platform is restricted solely to a clerical record-indexing aid, leaving 100% of clinical integration to the human expert.
10.06, 10.07, & 10.08 <i>Documentation</i>	Produce and maintain case files that are comprehensive, well organized, and contain sufficient detail to allow judicial scrutiny.	Citation structure draws clear lines between documents in the file that underly foundational conclusions, while export process allows for the easy extraction of this data for provision to the legal parties.
11.01 <i>Avoid Deception</i>	Communicate professional methods accurately, fairly, and non-deceptively.	Enforces a standard, honest framing that purports that the AI organized the records, while the expert evaluated them, actively interacted with them, and formed the opinions independently.
11.03 & 11.04 <i>Disclosures</i>	Disclose all data sources and reasoning underlying opinions in reports.	Provides balanced, court-tested disclosure to allow for transparent communication regarding the use of AI-assisted software. Also provides a source list extraction for the automatic and organized collation (either chronologically or alphabetically) of all source documents in the case file.

PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES REFERENCED IN THIS DOCUMENT

All of the following resources are available for immediate download at www.argentforensics.com/resources

Admissibility & Law

- AI in the Courtroom
 - An overview of the Federal Rules of Evidence, including the proposed Rule 707 governing AI use
- Sample Admissibility Brief
 - *Daubert & Frye* analysis, and analysis of *Poluka* case precedent related to exclusion of AI following admissibility challenge
- AI Testimony Prep Guide
 - Courtroom cross-examination frameworks

Ethical Practice

- AI Fundamentals Overview
 - Plain-language Artificial Intelligence, RAG, & vector database primer
- APA Companion AI Tool Evaluation Checklist
 - Completed by the founder, as applied to the Argent platform
- Specialty Guidelines for Forensic Psychology (SGFP) Alignment Mapping
 - An overview of every SGFP principle that applies to Argent, and the ways that Argent satisfies them

Practice Tools

- Getting Started Guide
 - Standardized clinical-legal onboarding workflow to help orient users to the platform and ensure appropriate use from the first case forward

- Argent Technology Disclosure
 - Standalone technical, compliance, and security spec sheet
 - Sample Informed Consent Language
 - Retainer & intake disclosure templates
 - Sample Report Disclaimer
 - Tiered report methodology statements
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CONTACT AND FURTHER INFORMATION

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Additional professional resources, including Sample Informed Consent and Report Disclaimers, APA AI Tool Evaluation Checklist, and Admissibility Analysis, are available for free download at argentforensics.com/resources.

This guide was prepared by Argent Forensics LLC for the professional use of licensed forensic practitioners. It is not legal advice. The responses provided are frameworks – your testimony should always reflect your own professional judgment, voice, and the specific facts of the case at hand. Argent Forensics LLC assumes no responsibility for the outcomes of its use in any specific professional or legal context.

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