

Digital Forensics & Evidence Handling™

A Law Enforcement Perspective

Course Overview

This course provides law enforcement officers, investigators and managers with a basic understanding of digital forensics. Attendees will leave with an understanding of what is possible in digital forensics, how the basic process works, how to handle digital evidence, what NOT to do, and an idea of what the future might hold.

Attendees need only a very basic understanding of computers and cell phones. This course is intended for law enforcement professionals who need to understand the basics of digital forensics and evidence handling. No technical background is needed. Attendees may choose to progress to the Digital Forensics Technician or Analyst Course, which is oriented toward those who are starting to practice digital forensics or are setting up an in-house lab.

Day One

Students will acquire a basic understanding of digital forensics including:

- The history of digital and media forensics (anyone remember Watergate?)
- The forensic process
- Digital forensics vs. Data recovery vs. e-Discovery
- Tools and skills of the trade (vendor neutral)
- The correct collection and handling of digital evidence
- Common mistakes and how to avoid them
- How digital evidence is attacked in court

Day Two

Students will apply their understanding of digital forensics:

- The types of devices which may be processed (some may surprise you!)
- The contexts or 'real world' environments in which digital forensics is used
- The legal and societal implications of digital forensics
- Professional issues including licensing and certification
- Future trends for digital forensics
- A survey of specialties such as audio & video analysis, photogrammetry, steganography and decryption
- Counter-forensics: How the bad guys fight back
- How to develop an in-house digital forensics capability

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Andrew E Neal is a licensed private investigator and security consultant specializing in digital, audio and video forensics, and technology and trade related security. Mr. Neal has over 25 years of professional experience serving clients in the Southwestern United States and throughout North America. He holds multiple certifications in forensics and security, and is an active member of several professional and community organizations including ASIS and the American Board for Information Security and Computer Forensics. He has published articles in regional and national magazines including Inside Homeland Security and Managing Security Today, and is a frequent speaker at national and international conferences and seminars. Mr. Neal works full time as a digital forensics investigator, security consultant, and professional instructor. He is also a Lecturer at the University of Texas at El Paso, teaching digital forensics for the Computer Science Department. Mr. Neal lives in El Paso, Texas with his wife and three children.

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