



REGIONAL COMPUTER FORENSICS LABORATORY  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
FOR FISCAL YEAR  
**2017**



**RCFL**



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# FOREWORD

This report documents the accomplishments and progress of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Regional Computer Forensics Laboratory (RCFL) Program during fiscal year 2017 (FY17). The RCFL National Program Office continued work this year to complete the buildout of two new RCFLs in Boston, Massachusetts and Huntsville, Alabama. These two new laboratories will bring the total number of operational RCFLs to 17 and help meet a long-standing goal of the program to increase our national footprint in providing high quality digital forensics support to the broader state, local, and federal law enforcement community.

During FY17, our laboratories provided digital forensics services to 671 state, local, and federal law enforcement agencies. They examined thousands of digital evidence items including computers, removable media, and an ever-growing number of mobile devices. In response to the law enforcement community's need for more tools to combat mobile devices, many RCFLs have continued to make both their Cell Phone

Investigative Kiosks (CPIK) and Loose Media Kiosks (LMK) available to the law enforcement communities they serve. These devices are afforded to the law enforcement community at no cost.

As always, we extend our thanks and appreciation to the participating agencies that compose the RCFL Program and the continued support of the FBI management in the divisions and at headquarters who help bring the cutting-edge digital evidence technologies used at RCFLs each day. Our program's success is directly attributable to our partners and their dedication to strengthening law enforcement's ability to protect our nation.



Linda Grody

Unit Chief, Digital Evidence Field Operations/  
RCFL National Program Office



# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report chronicles the accomplishments and progress of the Regional Computer Forensics Laboratory (RCFL) Program during fiscal year 2017 (FY17), which covers October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017.

Each facility is entirely devoted to the processing of digital evidence in support of criminal investigations to include

- Terrorism
- Homicide
- National security
- Violent crimes
- Child pornography
- Theft or destruction of intellectual property
- Fraud

Now in its eighteenth year of operations, the FBI's RCFL Program is a world-class network of digital forensics laboratories and training centers. In this model, the FBI provides start-up and operational funding, training, staff, and equipment; while state, local, and other federal law enforcement agencies assign additional personnel to staff each laboratory.

During FY17, the RCFL Program, comprising 15 digital evidence laboratories, provided forensics services and expertise to all levels of government on a wide range of cases—from child pornography to terrorism, fraud, homicide, and more.

In addition to providing digital forensics services, the RCFL Program also offers state-of-the-art training facilities and classes to all agencies within their region at no-cost. This year, the RCFL Program provided training to over 3,000 law enforcement personnel.



## Map of RCFL Locations

RCFLs are located in the following locations:

- › Albuquerque, New Mexico
- › Buffalo, New York
- › Centennial, Colorado
- › Chicago, Illinois
- › Dallas, Texas
- › Hamilton, New Jersey
- › Houston, Texas
- › Kansas City, Missouri
- › Louisville, Kentucky
- › Menlo Park, California
- › Orange, California
- › Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- › Portland, Oregon
- › Salt Lake City, Utah
- › San Diego, California

New RCFLs:

- › Boston, Massachusetts (2019)
- › Huntsville, Alabama (May 2018)



# 2.0 FY17 PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Each year, the RCFL Program works to achieve new milestones in support of the state, local, and federal law enforcement communities they serve. During FY17 the RCFL Program experienced an increase in the number of law enforcement agencies served and the number of on-site searches it conducted for its customers.

## DIGITAL FORENSICS SERVICES



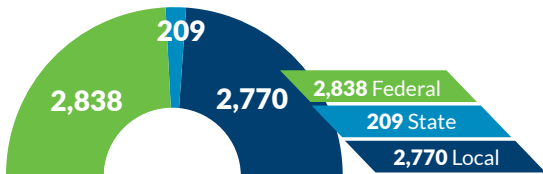
### 671 AGENCY REQUESTS

Number of agencies that requested RCFL assistance.



### 563 SEARCHES

Number of requests for RCFL assistance where a search was conducted by lab personnel on-site.



### 5,817 SERVICE REQUESTS RECEIVED

Number of requests for assistance received by all RCFLs.



### 50 EXAMINER COURT TESTIMONY\*

Number of times RCFL Examiners testified in court and/or at hearings. This does not include subpoenas to testify when testimony was not required.

## RCFL PROGRAM TRAINING FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY



### 3,375 TRAINING\*

Number of law enforcement personnel who received training in the use of digital forensic tools and techniques at RCFLs.

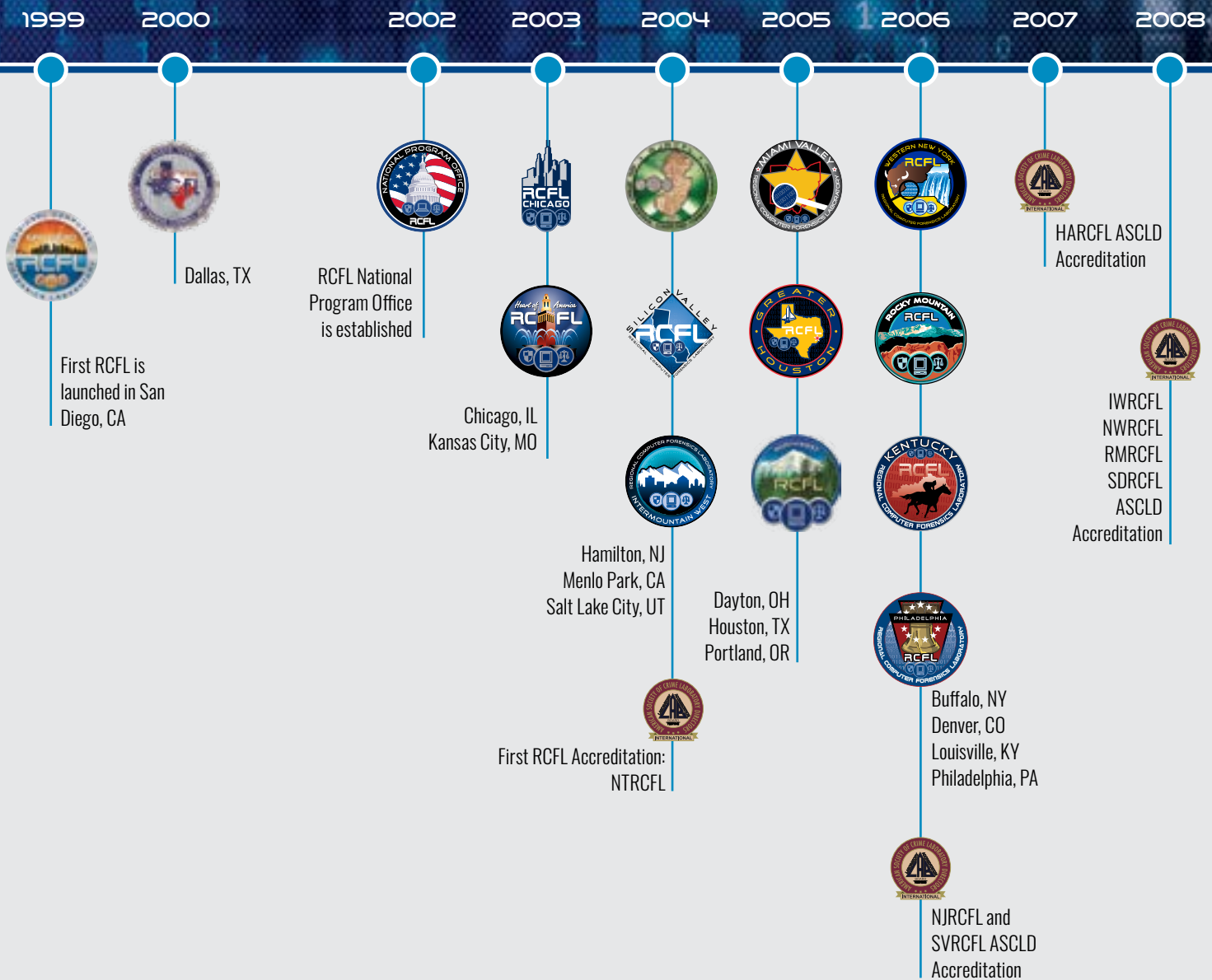
*\*Training and examiner testimony statistics are maintained locally by each RCFL.*







# RCFL ACCOMPLISHMENTS OVER TIME







2009                      2011                      2013                      2014                      2015                      2016                      2018-2019



CGRCFL  
GHRCL  
KRCFL  
PHRCFL  
ASCLD Accreditation



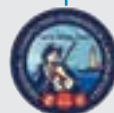
Albuquerque, NM  
Orange, CA



OCRCFL  
ASCLD Accreditation



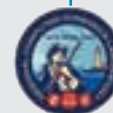
NMRCFL  
ASCLD Accreditation



MVRCL Laboratory  
reallocated to Boston (2019)



RCFL Announced for  
Huntsville, AL  
(2018)



Boston, MA  
Huntsville, AL



Accreditation  
Transition



American Society of Crime Lab Directors/  
Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB)



ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board  
(ANAB)

See section 5.0 for more information about our Quality Assurance Program and the transition to ANAB

## LABORATORY ACHIEVEMENTS

Below are some noteworthy FY17 accomplishments from select RCFLs.



### Chicago RCFL

In an effort to combat the rising homicide rate in Chicago, the CGRCFL provided critical digital forensics support in 166 homicide investigations. In these cases, RCFL personnel examined evidence recovered from cellular devices, vehicular infotainment systems, and other electronic devices. The RCFL also assisted by enhancing videos associated with the homicides.



GHRCFL: ITS FE Kevin Cohn performing ISP on a cell phone.



### Greater Houston RCFL

- All examiners at the GHRCFL achieved Basic Mobile Device Certification.
- The RCFL updated its infrastructure to include: upgraded archive/backup tape log system; developed and implemented a new digital visitor sign-in log with touch screen; and Operational Wide Area Network (OpWAN) firewall and switch upgrades.
- ITS FE Kevin Cohn obtained certification in Joint Test Action Group (JTAG)/ In-System Programming (ISP).



### Heart of America RCFL

- The HARCFL received ANAB/ASCLD/ LAB International accreditation with no findings.
- The Virtual Kiosk program continued to be extremely popular and successful. Dozens of new users were trained and the service continued to be heavily utilized by federal and local law enforcement agencies in the HARCFL service area.
- The RCFL installed Chip-off equipment and trained three examiners in this advanced technique to recover data from locked and/or damaged cell phones.





## Intermountain West RCFL

- › The IWRCFL maintained a minimal backlog each month during FY17.
- › Three FAVP examiners and the IWRCFL CART Mobile Lab were deployed to support the Las Vegas shooting.
- › OpWAN server and storage equipment was upgraded/refreshed at both the Boise and Billings Satellite Laboratory facilities.
- › Extensive research and analysis of an email platform was performed by an IWRCFL Forensic Examiner (FE). The FE will be presenting his research during the FY18 Digital Forensic Examiner course.



## Kentucky RCFL

- › Three Forensic Examiner Trainees (FET) received their Forensic Examiner certification during FY17, which more than doubled the number of FEs supporting the KRCFL.
- › Through grant funding, the University of Louisville provided new computers and monitors for the RCFL's training room.
- › ASCLD/LAB conducted an expanded surveillance assessment in May 2017 and reported no findings.



## North Texas RCFL

- › NTRCFL FE Aaron Skipper developed a program for cracking device passwords that has been approved and put to use by other lab members

and resulted in multiple successful entries into otherwise locked devices. This program has been sent to the FBI's Operational Technology Division (OTD) for distribution to the entire CART program. FE Skipper also developed a report writer/editor that has been adopted within the NTRCFL and sent to OTD for evaluation. Lastly, FE Skipper developed a series of tools that can be used to extract data from computers that have been forensically evaluated and transfer the data to an eDiscovery tool.

- › ITS-FE Syretha McLeod developed an innovative method for conducting examinations on a particular make of cell phone. This method allows processing of phones with contents that could not otherwise be accessed. She used her training and experience to combine techniques in new and innovative ways in creating a verifiable and repeatable technique that all examiners could use in future examinations of these types of phones. Her methodology was documented and accepted by quality control personnel at OTD.



## Northwest RCFL

- › ITS-FE Justin Lazenby was awarded an exemplary service award from the FBI Portland office. The award is presented for continuous outstanding performance year after year.
- › A member of the NWRCFL completed a project that maps Google search URLs and defines each item within the URL. It provides helpful information such as the date/time the search was conducted, links to other times the same search was conducted, and which items appeared from Google, but not from the searcher. The information has been utilized by investigators to determine how often searches of the same nature were conducted by subjects.





Philadelphia Special Agent in Charge (SAC) Michael Harpster congratulates ITS-FE Donald Justin Price on receiving the SAC Award of Excellence.



## Philadelphia RCFL

PHRCFL Senior Examiner Donald Justin Price received the SAC Award of Excellence (Employee of the Year) for the Philadelphia Division in February 2017.



## Rocky Mountain RCFL

Two RMRCFL examiners participated in the Forensic Audio/Video & Image Analysis Unit's (FAVIAU) Forensic Audio/Video Program (FAVP) training curriculum and are anticipated to be certified during FY18. Additionally, two examiners received training and equipment for Joint Test Action Group (JTAG) and In-System Programming (ISP) data recovery.



## San Diego RCFL

- The SDRCLFL reduced the number of exams older than 120 days by approximately 25 percent while experiencing an increase in total requests.
- Three examiners were trained in the Chip-off advanced cell phone analysis technique. Additionally, all examiners became Macintosh certified during the fiscal year.

## CASE UPDATES



### Chicago RCFL

#### **FY15 Case Update–Sentencing for Attempt to Join ISIL**

Mohammed Hamzah Khan attempted to travel to Syria in an effort to join ISIL. CGRCFL examiners were waiting at the airport to exploit the digital media in his possession and subsequently processed several evidence items from which detailed plans and actionable intelligence were uncovered. Khan plead guilty and was sentenced to 40 months in prison followed by 20 years of supervised release.

#### **FY16 Case Update–Sentencing in Conspiracy to Commit Murder**

A case that was reported in our FY16 Annual Report has been fully adjudicated and the subject, Robert Ryan Justin Bibbs, was sentenced to eight years in federal prison. CGRCFL examiners were able to provide ample evidence that Bibbs was an active participant in the plot to kill Sheila Von-Wiese Mack. Examiners extracted text messages from several cellular devices that detailed the depth of Bibbs' involvement in the twisted plot. Faced with the evidence mounted against him, Bibbs plead guilty.



### Heart of America

#### **FY15 Case Update–Man Sentenced to 30 Years for ISIS Inspired Bomb Plot**

A federal jury sentenced John T. Booker to 30 years in federal prison for his attempt to detonate what he believed was a bomb outside Fort Riley, a United States Army Installation located in North Central Kansas. He plead guilty to attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction and attempted destruction of

government property by fire or explosives. He was arrested outside Fort Riley with a non-explosive device provided by undercover FBI agents, who had been in contact with Booker since he posted his intention “to commit jihad” and that he was not scared to die on social media. The HARCFL aided in preventing the attack through the examination and analysis of Booker’s digital media.



### Intermountain West RCFL

#### **FY16 Case Update–Additional Life Sentence for Murder**

Dereck (DJ) Harrison, who was featured in our FY16 report for kidnapping a mom and her four daughters, was sentenced to another life sentence for murder in Wyoming. He had previously received two life sentences for murder and kidnapping in Utah and for other federal charges.



### Rocky Mountain RCFL

#### **FY16 Case Update–Domestic Violence/ Murder Sentencing**

Forensic examination work performed by the RMRCFL was instrumental in a domestic violence-related murder conviction. James Gerald Wakefield plead guilty to manslaughter in September 2017 and was sentenced to 20 years in prison for the domestic violence murder of Sherry Lynn Mills.

# 3.0 PARTNERSHIP

Partnership is at the core of the RCFL Program and is the key to its success. Each RCFL operates under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the FBI and partner agencies. Personnel from 132 different state, local, and federal agencies, including

the FBI, were assigned to the RCFLs at the close of FY17.

This year, the RCFL Program welcomed the following six participating agencies to the program:

## CHICAGO RCFL



Carol Stream Police  
Department

## GREATER HOUSTON RCFL



Fort Bend County  
Sheriff's Office

## NORTHWEST RCFL



Gresham Police  
Department

## ORANGE COUNTY RCFL



Murrieta Police  
Department



Riverside Police  
Department

## SILICON VALLEY RCFL



Santa Clara Police  
Department

## LOCAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

Each RCFL has a corresponding Local Executive Board (LEB) that includes one department head representative from each participating agency. These boards oversee the operations of the individual RCFL with which they are affiliated, including the establishment of policies

and procedures. Each RCFL's MOU mandates boards meet on at least a biannual basis.

During FY17, LEBs met regularly at each RCFL location to discuss operations and various policy issues concerning their respective RCFLs.



# 4.0 ASSET FORFEITURE PROGRAM

One of the most significant benefits of participation in the RCFL Program continues to be the RCFL Program's partnership with the Department of Justice's (DOJ) Forfeiture and Seized Property Unit to receive Asset Forfeiture Fund (AFF) resources. The RCFL Program began partnering with DOJ AFF during FY06, and has continued this partnership for over a decade to provide benefits that have proven critical to supporting the task force officer detailees and the broader state and local law enforcement community. Each of the below mentioned AFF benefits contributes directly to the RCFL Program's success and accomplishments.

**Overtime Compensation**—AFF resources provide overtime compensation to sworn detailees assigned to RCFLs from state and local participating law enforcement agencies. Overtime reimbursement affords RCFL task force officers the ability to respond on-site to support operations, e.g., executing a search warrant or responding to an emergency situation, such as an active shooter. RCFL staff are also able to work longer hours to complete their assignments and reduce the laboratory's backlog.



**Leased Vehicles**—Due to AFF, the RCFL Program is able to provide leased motor vehicles to sworn state/local detailees. These vehicles were used for many of the more than 500 on-site search operations the RCFLs collectively took part in during the fiscal year. Having a vehicle at their disposal enables examiners to respond quickly to emergency situations and requests for digital evidence support and assistance.



# 5.0 ASSURING QUALITY SERVICES

In 2004, the North Texas RCFL (NTRCFL) was the first federal laboratory in the country to earn accreditation from the American Society of Crime Lab Directors/ Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/ LAB) in digital evidence and multimedia. In 2008, the Intermountain West RCFL (IWRCFL) became the first RCFL to earn international accreditation for the same disciplines. Following this trend, twelve additional RCFLs have since earned accreditation.

In April of 2016, ASCLD/LAB and the American National Standards Institute-American Society for Quality National Accreditation Board (ANAB) merged. The consolidation of ASCLD/LAB and ANAB began during 2017 and RCFLs will begin transitioning to ANAB accreditation beginning in FY18. In the meantime, laboratories will maintain their ASCLD/ LAB accreditation status.

The ANAB/ASCLD/LAB Program is a voluntary initiative in which any crime laboratory can participate to demonstrate that its management, operations, personnel, procedures, and safety protocols meet established standards.





## 6.0 TRAINING & OUTREACH

In FY17, RCFLs provided a range of digital forensics courses and periodic workshops to more than 3,300 federal, state, and local law enforcement personnel. Courses ranged from beginner to advanced and provided instruction on various digital forensics tools

and techniques. Although RCFLs contain state-of-the-art classrooms to facilitate hands-on learning, the program is not restricted to teaching students at RCFL facilities. Upon request, RCFLs can provide training to a large group at an off-site facility as well.





# 7.0 ON THE HORIZON FOR FY18

During FY18 the RCFL Program will be focused on expanding the program's services and impact by—

## Opening two New RCFLs

During FY18, two new RCFLs in Boston, Massachusetts and Huntsville, Alabama completed construction and were outfitted to begin accepting cases on a limited basis. The Tennessee Valley RCFL in Huntsville opened on May 2, 2018 and services the entire state of Alabama and Southern Tennessee. The New England RCFL in Boston is scheduled to open in 2019 and will provide digital evidence services to the New England region encompassing the states of Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island.

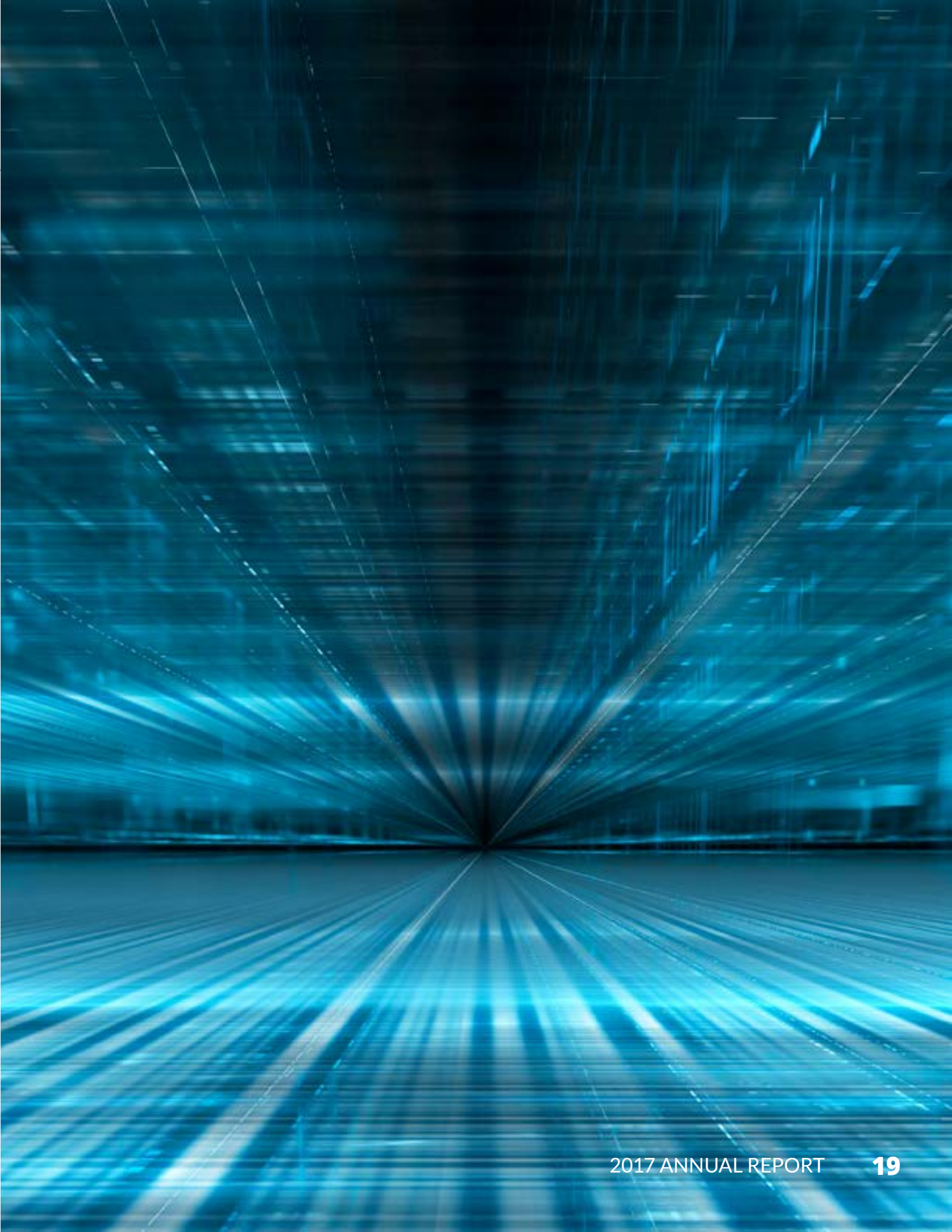
## Increase our Partnerships

The RCFL Program is working to recruit new participating agencies to expand upon the success of the current program by forming new partnerships.

## Building a New and Improved Information Management System

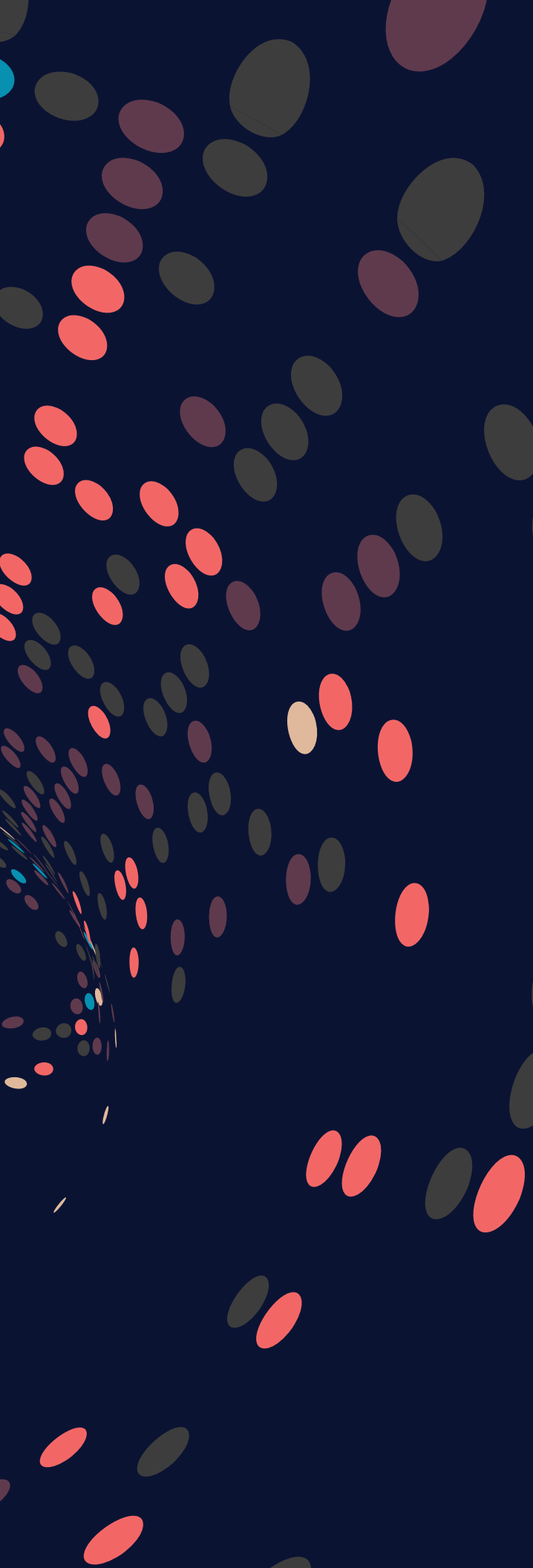
The RCFL National Program has been closely coordinating with the FBI's Operational Technology Division to create a new and improved information management system that will be utilized by the entire RCFL network of laboratories for both case management and evidence control.











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| Western New York RCFL.....   | 50 |



# CHICAGO RCFL

WEB: [WWW.RCFL.GOV/CHICAGO](http://WWW.RCFL.GOV/CHICAGO)

**YEAR OPENED:** 2003

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:** Director  
John T. Dziedzic, Cook County  
Sheriff's Office

**SERVICE AREA:** Northern Illinois

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES  
IN AREA:** 364

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2009



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- Aurora Police Department
- Berwyn Police Department
- Carol Stream Police Department **NEW**
- Chicago Police Department
- Cook County Sheriff's Office
- Cook County State's Attorney's Office
- FBI—Chicago Division
- Joliet Police Department
- Lombard Police Department
- Naperville Police Department
- Oak Park Police Department
- Palatine Police Department
- Romeoville Police Department
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- Will County Sheriff's Office

## PROGRESS REPORT

THE RCFL'S PROGRESS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY17:

**100**

Number of agencies that requested assistance (10 federal, 3 state, 87 local)

**232**

Number of law enforcement personnel who received training in the use of digital forensic tools and techniques

**872**

Number of service requests received (308 federal, 8 state, 556 local)

**9**

Number of times personnel testified in court

**52**

Number of requests for RCFL assistance where a search was conducted by lab personnel on-site

## TOP 5 CRIMES

1 • Homicide

2 • Sex Assault

3 • Obscenity

4 • Robbery

5 • Fraud



## NOTABLE NEWS

### Welcomed the Carol Stream Police Department

#### Solving the Homicide of a Former Professional Basketball Player:

While Jeffrey Keller claimed self-defense in the shooting death of a former professional basketball player, it was difficult to justify the Google Map searches that were recovered from his cellular device that took him to and from the location from which he retrieved then returned the murder weapon. A CGRCFL examiner testified to the critical evidence that ultimately lead to the defendant being found guilty and sentenced to 70 years in prison without the possibility of parole.

**Video Aids in Solving Homicide of a Judge:** CGRCFL examiners reviewed hundreds of hours of videos that led to the identification of a suspect in the homicide of Judge Raymond Myles, a sitting judge in Cook County, Illinois. Analysis of cellular devices led to the identification and location of the alleged shooter who was later arrested and charged.

**PROTECTING CHILDREN—Father and Sons Sentenced for Sex Trafficking:** Nathan Nicholson and his twin sons Myrelle and Tyrelle Lockett were sentenced to more than 16 years in prison for enslaving young girls and forcing them into a life of prostitution. CGRCFL examiners provided critical evidence that included client lists, additional victims, and incriminating digital data that lead to the convictions and sentencing.



## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY17 GOALS

- ✓ **Annual Audit:** The CGRCFL's annual audit was submitted to the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB) for evaluation.
- ✓ **Increase the Number of Certified Examiners at the CGRCFL:** Two CGRCFL examiners successfully completed moot court. Both examiners are in the process of completing their final search requirements and will be certified in FY18.
- ✓ **Training Center:** The CGRCFL worked with several vendors in an effort to host classes. Several commercial forensics training vendors agreed to utilize the CGRCFL training room and provided training to 20 students, including two from the CGRCFL. The RCFL is also hosting several classes in FY18 and working with other vendors in an effort to secure additional training.
- **Maintain Staffing Levels:** During FY17 the CGRCFL replaced two examiners who left the laboratory. A third backfill should be placed early in the next fiscal year.



Goal Met



Partially Met



Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY18

- 🎯 **Increase Availability:** Establishment of a satellite RCFL in the Rockford Residence Agency.
- 🎯 **Maintain Accreditation:** Successfully complete ANAB/ASCLD/LAB on-site audit to maintain accreditation.
- 🎯 **Maintain Staffing:** Replace departed Will County Sheriff's Office examiner to remain at full staffing level.
- 🎯 **Increase Number of Certified Examiners:** Increase the number of fully certified examiners at the CGRCFL.





# GREATER HOUSTON RCFL

WEB: [WWW.RCFL.GOV/HOUSTON](http://WWW.RCFL.GOV/HOUSTON)

**YEAR OPENED:** 2005

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:** SSA  
Scott Ma, FBI

**SERVICE AREA:** Southern Texas

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES  
IN AREA:** 327

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2009



## PROGRESS REPORT

THE RCFL'S PROGRESS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY17:

45

Number of agencies that requested assistance (1 federal, 2 state, 42 local)

159

Number of law enforcement personnel who received training in the use of digital forensic tools and techniques

295

Number of service requests received (131 federal, 12 state, 152 local)

1

Number of times personnel testified in court

8

Number of requests for RCFL assistance where a search was conducted by lab personnel on-site

## TOP 5 CRIMES

- 1 • Sexual Exploitation of Minor (Photograph)
- 2 • Sexual Exploitation of Minor (Exhibition)
- 3 • Sex Assault
- 4 • Obscene Material (Possession)
- 5 • Fraud

## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- FBI—Houston Division
- Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office **NEW**
- Harris County Sheriff's Office
- Pasadena Police Department
- Texas Department of Public Safety

## NOTABLE NEWS

**Welcomed the Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office**



### PROTECTING CHILDREN—

**Producer of Child Pornography Sentenced to 360 Months in Prison:** John Allen Chumley was a long-haul truck driver who transported child pornography across state lines and traveled with one of his victims, now a 10-year-old boy. Over a period of time, Chumley had access to this child and photographed him in lewd and lascivious poses in Houston and elsewhere. Chumley befriended a family member of the victim, gained the family's trust, and used his position to exploit the child. In addition, Chumley produced child pornography of another child who resided in the Houston area to whom Chumley had regular access and whom he sexually molested. Following the completion of his prison term, Chumley will have to register as a sex offender and serve life on supervised release. He will have to comply with numerous requirements designed to restrict his access to children and the Internet. GHRCFL performed the digital forensics analysis in this case.

**Deputy Sentenced to 27 Years:** GHRCFL personnel assisted in the seizure of digital evidence which lead to a former deputy of the Harris County Sheriff's Office,



Harris County Sheriff's Office Task Force Officer Lawrence Potier prepares a DVR for examination at the RCFL.

Andrew C. Sustaita, pleading guilty to the production and possession of child pornography. As part of his plea he admitted to publishing pornographic images of children, some as young as four years old, and commenting on similar images on the same website. The investigation also uncovered Sustaita was involved with bestiality. Added to his 27 year sentence is a lifetime of supervision and no contact with children without the expressed permission of a probation officer. The judge said the images found of Sustaita's electronic devices were "some of the most horrific" he'd seen.

#### **PROTECTING THE COMMUNITY—Murder Conviction:**

After at least eight robberies in southwest Houston in 2014, and a murder associated with one of those robberies, Sebastian Drayton was convicted of capital murder and sentenced to life in prison without parole. Drayton shot and killed a 22-year-old male who tried to run as he attempted to rob him. During the investigation, the GHRCFL was able to obtain an image from Drayton's cell phone of the murder weapon as well as incriminating text messages. GHRCFL also provided testimony during the trial.

#### **Digital Evidence Helps Solve Police Officer's Murder:**

A man who killed a police officer behind the courthouse annex in Harris County, Texas was identified through the help of the GHRCFL. William Francis Kenny began making complaints about members of law enforcement after a disagreement with his ex-wife over family photographs. After his complaints with the internal affairs department went nowhere, he made a list of law enforcement personnel who he accused of corruption, including Asst. Chief Deputy Clint Greenwood who headed Internal Affairs from 2013–2016. Kenny

## **PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY17 GOALS**

- ✓ **Promote Outreach and Training to Agencies Served by the GHRCFL:** GHRCFL hosted Case Agent Investigative Review (CAIR) training classes as well as cell phone forensics training classes for GHRCFL participating agencies and other state and local agencies as needed. GHRCFL sponsored CAIR and National White Collar Crime Center (NW3C) training courses as well.
- ✓ **Increase the Number of Examiner Certifications:** Three examiners obtained Basic Mobile Device Certification in FY17.
- ✓ **Maintain a Minimal Backlog:** GHRCFL closed the fiscal year with no backlog.
- ✓ **Enhance Laboratory Capabilities:** An examiner obtained Joint Test Action Group (JTAG)/ In-System Programming (ISP) certification during the fiscal year.

✓ Goal Met

⚪ Partially Met

⚪ Not Met

## **GOALS FOR FY18**

- 🎯 **Promote Outreach and Provide Training to Agencies Served by the GHRCFL.**
- 🎯 **Enhance Laboratory Capabilities:** Obtain CART certification training and advanced training for FE and FETs.
- 🎯 **Expand Training Opportunities:** Continue to work with local and national organizations to enhance training opportunities.
- 🎯 **Maintain ANAB/ASCLD/LAB Accreditation.**

shot and killed Greenwood on April 3, 2017 then killed himself a day later. Through the help of the GHRCFL conducting forensic examinations and submitting evidence, he was identified by investigators within a week.



# HEART OF AMERICA RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/HEART-OF-AMERICA

**YEAR OPENED:** 2003

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

SSA Sarah Lucas, FBI

**SERVICE AREA:** Kansas and the Western two-thirds of Missouri

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES  
IN AREA:** 867

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2007



## PROGRESS REPORT

THE RCFL'S PROGRESS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY17:

**80**

Number of agencies that requested assistance (8 federal, 3 state, 69 local)

**188**

Number of law enforcement personnel who received training in the use of digital forensic tools and techniques

**445**

Number of service requests received (144 federal, 16 state, 285 local)

**4**

Number of times personnel testified in court

**16**

Number of requests for RCFL assistance where a search was conducted by lab personnel on-site

## TOP 5 CRIMES

1 • Homicide

2 • Exploitation/ Enticement

3 • Assault

4 • Sex Assault

5 • Dangerous Drugs

## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- › Clay County, Missouri Sheriff's Office
- › FBI—Kansas City Division
- › Gladstone, Missouri Police Department
- › Independence, Missouri Police Department
- › Johnson County, Kansas Sheriff's Office
- › Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI)
- › Kansas City, Kansas Police Department
- › Kansas City, Missouri Police Department
- › Lawrence, Kansas Police Department
- › Lee's Summit, Missouri Police Department
- › Missouri State Highway Patrol
- › North Kansas City, Missouri Police Department
- › Olathe, Kansas Police Department
- › Overland Park, Kansas Police Department
- › Platte County, Missouri Sheriff's Office
- › Shawnee County, Kansas Sheriff's Office
- › U.S. Attorney's Office—District of Kansas
- › U.S. Attorney's Office—Western District of Missouri
- › U.S. Department of Agriculture—Office of Inspector General



## NOTABLE NEWS

### PROTECTING THE COMMUNITY—





**Brutal Assault Leads to 20-Year Sentence:** On September 7, 2017, Clifford Currie walked into Fort Leavenworth military hospital where he worked as a civilian in an administrative capacity and brutally attacked his supervisor, Army Lt. Katie Blanchard. He walked into her office, doused her in gasoline, and set her on fire. He then attempted to attack her with scissors but was stopped by a witness on the scene. Currie was convicted of assault with attempt to commit murder, and was sentenced to 20 years in prison. The HARCFL was able to uncover evidence from Currie's cell phone and computer which greatly assisted in proving premeditation (including searching for "How long does it take to die after a jugular vein has been cut?"). The Assistant United States Attorney who prosecuted the case specifically thanked the HARCFL examiner for his attention to detail verbally and in writing.

**Bank Robber Identified through Surveillance Video:** Hunter Lee Pruitt, a 28-year-old from Missouri plead guilty to one count of bank robbery and faces up to 20 years in federal prison and a fine of up to \$250,000. After robbing Landmark National Bank in Osage City, KS, investigators were able to track down Pruitt by following the evidence starting with a description of his truck. A HARCFL examiner identified the correct license plate from Pruitt's vehicle through video surveillance surrounding the bank, and with that information Pruitt was found and arrested a month later in Springfield, Missouri.

**Digital Evidence Provides Clues in Mysterious Death:** The HARCFL was instrumental in providing answers to the family of 20-year-old Toni Anderson who had been missing for two months. She was on her way home from work and after a routine traffic stop Toni was not heard from again until two months later when her car was found in the Missouri River where she accidentally drove off a boat ramp and drown. Despite being submerged for almost two months, examiners at the HARCFL were able to recover the memory chip from the phone and get a full extraction of the data. Included in that data was a text message to a friend about the car stop and other critical data in the hours leading up to Anderson's disappearance. "There was no foul play. I'm so grateful for that," said her mother Liz Anderson.

**PROTECTING CHILDREN:** After finding more than 18,000 images and 135 videos of child pornography, the FBI also discovered that 26-year-old Bradley Hilt was responsible for the production of two videos of a girl between the ages of five and seven. Hilt plead guilty to one count of producing child pornography and one count of distributing child pornography, which hold penalties of a minimum of 15 years and maximum 30 years.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY17 GOALS

-  **Select a Laboratory Director:** The HARCFL LEB met in March 2017 and selected Director SSA Sarah Lucas.
-  **Transition the HARCFL Satellite Laboratory in Topeka, Kansas to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI):** The HARCFL Satellite Laboratory in Topeka, Kansas was successfully transitioned over to the KBI on February 7, 2017.
-  **Maintain ASCLD/LAB International Accreditation:** The Quality Assurance Program Manager conducted an internal audit of the HARCFL's quality system in July 2017. ANAB's ASCLD/LAB-International program conducted their assessment of the HARCFL in September 2017. The HARCFL received accreditation with no findings.
-  **Promote Outreach and Training:** The HARCFL Director met with local jurisdictions to discuss becoming/continuing as participating agencies on six occasions. The RCFL also hosted a variety of cell phone forensics training courses during the fiscal year. The HARCFL hosted its annual Digital Forensics for Investigators Conference where presenters from as far away as Washington, D.C. and Chicago gave presentations to over 150 investigators on topics varying from Digital Currency to Dark Web investigations.



Goal Met






Partially Met



Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY18

-  **Increase Staffing and Participation:** Replace at least two of the five full-time FEs lost in 2017 due to retirements and the closing of the satellite lab.
-  **Promote Outreach and Training:** Further develop the HARCFL as an instructional center for computer forensics and law enforcement training.
-  **Increase Audio/Video Capabilities:** Obtain certification for at least one HARCFL examiner.



# INTERMOUNTAIN WEST RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/INTERMOUNTAIN-WEST

**YEAR OPENED:** 2004

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

SSA Cheney Eng-Tow, FBI

**SERVICE AREA:** Utah, Idaho  
and Montana

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES**

**IN AREA:** 430

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2008



## PROGRESS REPORT

THE RCFL'S PROGRESS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY17:

98

Number of agencies that requested  
assistance (10 federal, 13 state, 75 local)

235

Number of law enforcement personnel  
who received training in the use of  
digital forensic tools and techniques

389

Number of service requests received  
(118 federal, 48 state, 223 local)

4

Number of times personnel  
testified in court

33

Number of requests for RCFL  
assistance where a search was  
conducted by lab personnel on-site

## TOP 5 CRIMES

1 • Exploitation/Enticement

2 • Fraud

3 • Sexual Exploitation of a Minor

4 • Homicide

5 • Dangerous Drugs

## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- Ada County, Idaho Sheriff's Office
- Billings, Montana Police Department
- Boise City, Idaho Police Department
- Davis County, Utah Sheriff's Office
- FBI—Salt Lake City Division
- Salt Lake City, Utah Police Department
- Sandy City, Utah Police Department
- Utah Attorney General's Office
- Utah Department of Public Safety
- West Valley City, Utah Police Department

## NOTABLE NEWS

**Former Polygamous Church Leader Sentenced to Prison for Fraud:** Former leader of polygamous Fundamental Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Lyle Jeffs, was sentenced to 57 months in federal prison for defrauding a government assistance program and then fleeing. He had plead guilty to conspiracy to commit Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) fraud and failed to appear. In addition to the jail time, a U.S. District Judge ordered Jeffs to serve three years of probation and pay \$1 million in restitution. The IWRCLF participated in the large-scale search warrant which






involved multiple businesses in southern Utah and processed and examined a large amount of digital evidence seized during the search warrants, including surveillance video of the food stamp scheme in action inside a FLDS Church-run store.

### PROTECTING THE COMMUNITY—

**Attempted Murder:** Two sixteen-year-old boys, Colter Peterson and Jayzon Decker, plotted to kill fourteen-year-old Deserae Turner because they were tired of her texting them and messaging them on Snapchat. The two boys lured Turner to Smithfield Canal and had initially planned to slit her throat, but Decker encouraged Peterson to shoot her in the back of the head. The boys then took her money and left her at the canal. She was found alive hours later and was able to testify in both Peterson and Decker's cases, both of whom received the maximum sentencing of 15 years to life. The IWRCFL processed and examined the digital evidence that was used to determine some of the subjects' activities the day of the attempted murder.

**Stalking/Harassment:** Leslie Dean Ernst was sentenced to 25 years in prison with no possibility of parole after pleading guilty to five felony counts of privacy in communications. After being charged in 2013 for sexual intercourse without consent, stalking, and privacy in communications, he was again arrested in May 2017 for contacting a woman who had previously accused him of stalking and raping her. After his initial charges, multiple women came forward and accused Ernst of inappropriate and aggressive behavior over a 30-year period. The IWRCFL processed and examined the digital evidence in this matter which was used to help prosecute the subject for harassing the victims via social media and other electronic means.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY17 GOALS

-  **Upgrade Networks:** Both Boise and Billings IWRCFL Satellite facilities had their examination equipment upgraded and refreshed during the second quarter of the fiscal year. The IWRCFL System Administrator traveled to both satellite facilities and worked with Forensic Network Program personnel to complete the upgrade/refresh.
-  **Certify Forensic Examiner in Training (FET):** An FET completed all required training courses and became a certified Forensic Examiner in early FY18.
-  **Increase Advanced Certifications:** Two examiners attended Mobile Device First Responder training, one examiner attended Advanced Forensic Cell Phone training, four examiners who did not have Mobile Device certification attended CART Mobile Device training and became Mobile Device Certified, and one examiner attended and became certified as a CART Tactical Examiner. Additionally, one examiner took their two remaining Forensic Audio Video courses and will become a certified FAVP examiner during the next fiscal year.
-  **Maintain Minimal Backlog and Aging Requests:** The IWRCFL maintained a backlog of one or less during each month of FY17. In addition aging requests over one year were minimal as well.
-  **Increase Staffing:** Worked with two agencies to fill a vacancy at the IWRCFL. Due to budgetary and personnel constraints, a full commitment was not obtained from either agency by the end of FY17.



Goal Met







Partially Met



Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY18

-  **Infrastructure Updates:** Upgrade/replace phone system.
-  **Enhance Staffing:** Bring one new FET on board.
-  **Enhance Capabilities:** Increase advanced certifications for examiners on additional platforms to include mobile devices, Macintosh, Linux, and audio/video.
-  **Maintain Minimal Backlog and Aging Requests.**





# KENTUCKY RCFL

[WWW.RCFL.GOV/KENTUCKY](http://WWW.RCFL.GOV/KENTUCKY)

**YEAR OPENED:** 2006

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

SSA Mark Dallas, FBI

**SERVICE AREA:** State of Kentucky

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES**

**IN AREA:** 420

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2009



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- › FBI—Louisville Division
- › Jefferson County Sheriff's Office
- › Kentucky State Police
- › Louisville Metro Police Department
- › University of Louisville

## PROGRESS REPORT

THE RCFL'S PROGRESS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY17:

22 

Number of agencies that requested assistance (2 federal, 3 state, 17 local)

26 

Number of law enforcement personnel who received training in the use of digital forensic tools and techniques

172 

Number of service requests received (98 federal, 15 state, 59 local)

2 

Number of times personnel testified in court

6 

Number of requests for RCFL assistance where a search was conducted by lab personnel on-site

## TOP 5 CRIMES

1 • Exploitation/Enticement

2 • Dangerous Drugs

3 • Homicide

4 • Fraud

5 • Assault



## NOTABLE NEWS

**Fraud:** Eric Conn plead guilty to two (2) felonies and was sentenced to 12 years in federal prison. Additionally, he was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$5.7 million to the U.S. Department of Justice and \$46.5 million to the Social Security Administration. The KRCFL assisted during the execution of two (2) search warrants, providing on-site preview and triage of multiple digital evidence items. After pleading guilty to defrauding the Social Security disability benefit system in March 2017 Conn disappeared, eventually making his way to Honduras where he sent emails while hiding from the FBI. Digital evidence examinations conducted by members of the KRCFL lead to Conn's capture.

**PROTECTING THE COMMUNITY—Home Invasion:** Perry Jack Probus, Jr. and an accomplice were arrested in connection with a violent home invasion in which a woman and her infant child were present. The men were charged with burglary, robbery, wanton endangerment, and unlawful imprisonment. A mistrial was declared during the initial trial due to issues regarding cell phone evidence. During the retrial, a member of the KRCFL provided expert witness testimony regarding the data contained within the cell phone which led to the conviction of Probus and a 20-year prison term.

**PROTECTING CHILDREN:** Jeffrey Desmond Carter, an offender who video recorded his encounters with underage girls, entered an open plea to 23 counts of possession, receipt, and production of child pornography, as well as sex trafficking of a minor. Carter faces 15 years to life in prison. KRCFL conducted the digital evidence examination.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY17 GOALS

- ✓ **Enhance Training Opportunities:** Two KRCFL FETs successfully completed Moot Court and became certified FEs. Four examiners completed Mobile Device Training.
- ✓ **Implement Case Management System:** Successfully merged data and completed consolidation of Digital Evidence Management System (DEMS) onto one network.
- **Promote Outreach and Training:** Discussed potential to offer RCFL services to four adjacent counties in southern Indiana after additional examiners obtain certification.
- **Reduce Case Aging:** Continued working on reducing the number of aging exams.

✓ Goal Met      ○ Partially Met      ○ Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY18

- 🎯 **Increase the Number of Certified Forensic Examiners:** Add at least one additional FE to the current staffing level.
- 🎯 **Provide Training:** Host and provide computer forensics training for law enforcement.
- 🎯 **Maintain Minimal Backlog.**
- 🎯 **Increase Collaboration:** Work more closely with investigators and prosecutors to assist in search warrant execution and evidence collection.



# NEW JERSEY RCFL

[WWW.RCFL.GOV/NEW-JERSEY](http://WWW.RCFL.GOV/NEW-JERSEY)

**YEAR OPENED:** 2004

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

SSA Steve Newman, FBI

**SERVICE AREA:** State of New Jersey

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES  
IN AREA:** 526

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2006



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- Essex County Prosecutor's Office
- FBI—Newark Division
- Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office
- New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice
- New Jersey Office of the Attorney General
- New Jersey State Police
- Somerset County Prosecutor's Office

## PROGRESS REPORT

THE RCFL'S PROGRESS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY17:

47

Number of agencies that requested assistance (2 federal, 6 state, 39 local)

354

Number of law enforcement personnel who received training in the use of digital forensic tools and techniques

345

Number of service requests received (191 federal, 46 state, 108 local)

3

Number of times personnel testified in court

76

Number of requests for RCFL assistance where a search was conducted by lab personnel on-site

## TOP 5 CRIMES

1 • Exploitation/Enticement

2 • Homicide

3 • Sex Assault

4 • Crimes Against Persons

5 • Fraud





## NOTABLE NEWS

**TRADE SECRET THEFT:** A former DuPont employee was arrested and charged with a single count of theft of trade secrets and is facing up to 10 years in jail after stealing trade secrets from the company's advanced printing division. A forensic review of the employee's personal computer revealed more than 20,000 stolen DuPont files related to the company's technology. The case is pending adjudication.

**PROTECTING THE COMMUNITY—Seaside Bomber Sentenced to Life:** Ahmad Khan Rahimi was sentenced to life in prison after detonating a bomb in Manhattan in 2016. He was convicted in a federal court on the eight counts against him, including use of a weapon of mass destruction and bombing a public place. He placed two pressure cooker bombs along the route of the Marine Corps charity race in Seaside Heights, New Jersey; however no one was hurt due to a change in the race schedule and the failure of one of the bombs to detonate. The NJRCFL assisted in the execution of multiple searches and examinations, including acquiring 14 DVRs and performing 13 laboratory examinations.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY17 GOALS

- ✓ **Maintain Staffing:** The NJRCFL exceeded this goal with 22 Forensic Examiners and/or Forensic Examiners in Training (FET) including the Acting Director and Deputy Director.
- ✓ **Increase the Number of Certified Examiners:** One FET completed Moot Court in September and obtained certification.
- ✓ **Develop One New Technique to Process Forensic Evidence:** This goal was met in early FY17. The RCFL continues to develop microtraining to train others on this new technique.



Goal Met



Partially Met



Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY18

- 🎯 **Increase the Number of Certified Examiners.**
- 🎯 **Increase Audio/Video Capabilities within the RCFL.**
- 🎯 **Promote Outreach and Training by NJRCFL Personnel.**
- 🎯 **Enhance Staffing.**
- 🎯 **Maintain Minimal Backlog.**





# NEW MEXICO RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/NEW-MEXICO

**YEAR OPENED:** 2011

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

SSA Susan Ellis, FBI (During FY17, SSA Mary Adkins, FBI)

**SERVICE AREA:** State of New Mexico

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES  
IN AREA:** 135

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2014



## PROGRESS REPORT

THE RCFL'S PROGRESS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY17:

27

Number of agencies that requested assistance (5 federal, 2 state, 20 local)

127

Number of law enforcement personnel who received training in the use of digital forensic tools and techniques

278

Number of service requests received (112 federal, 11 state, 155 local)

2

Number of times personnel testified in court

54

Number of requests for RCFL assistance where a search was conducted by lab personnel on-site

## TOP 5 CRIMES

1 • Exploitation/Enticement

2 • Homicide

3 • Assault

4 • Fraud

5 • Embezzlement

## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- > Albuquerque Police Department
- > Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office
- > FBI—Albuquerque Division
- > Homeland Security Investigations
- > New Mexico State Police Department
- > Rio Rancho Police Department
- > U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement
- > University of New Mexico

## NOTABLE NEWS

**Computer Intrusion & Child Pornography:** During an FBI investigation into the hijacking of Governor Susana Martinez's emails, two men were sentenced to prison for separate charges. Jamie Estrada, who plead guilty to intercepting the governor's emails and lying to the FBI, was sentenced to nine months in prison, a \$10,000 fine, and community service. Additionally, during the investigation it was found that Jason Loera had received visual depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct. He plead guilty to the charge and was sentenced to 97 months in prison followed by 10 years of supervised release. The NMRCFL examined the computers, external hard drives, cell phones and tablets of the subjects and located the intercepted communications of the





victims, as well as evidence of leaking email messages to the news media.

**PROTECTING THE COMMUNITY—20 Year Sentence for Fire and Explosives:** David Hickman was sentenced to federal prison for using fire and explosives to damage and destroy buildings. Hickman used mason jars to start multiple fires at locations throughout the area, including Starbucks, Barnes & Noble, Shred It, and Old Navy. The NMRCFL examined Hickman's iPhone, which contained evidence of the planning of the crimes, and assisted in the collection and dissemination of surveillance footage which recorded the subject purchasing arson materials, discharging a firearm, igniting fires, and detonating explosive devices.

**PROTECTING CHILDREN—Registered Offender Sentenced to 25 Years:** After being reported by Skype for uploading an image of child pornography, David Abriz, a registered sex offender who had already spent almost 11 years in prison, was sentenced to 25 years in prison for one count of distributing child pornography and three counts of possessing child pornography. Acting U.S. Attorney James D. Tierney and Bernalillo County Sheriff Manual Gonzales III, said that Abriz was prosecuted under a federal anti-violence initiative that targets "the worst of the worst" offenders for federal prosecution. The NMRCFL assisted in the search of the Abriz's residence and located child pornography during a preview which lead to his immediate arrest. The NMRCFL subsequently conducted the examination of digital media which located evidence of possession and distribution of child pornography.





**Counterfeit Native American Goods:** An art gallery and jewelry supplier, Nael Ali, plead guilty to fraudulently selling imported Philippine items as Native American made. Ali's sentencing was the first of a federal investigation and is the most extensive conducted into Native American art fraud. Ali plead guilty to the Indian Arts and Crafts Act (IACA) which is designed to protect and provide economic benefits for Native American cultural development, and recommends up to 18 months of imprisonment followed by a term of supervised release. The NMRCFL assisted in the execution of federal search warrants at multiple

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY17 GOALS

-  **Maintain Minimal Backlog:** The NMRCFL continues to maintain no backlog.
-  **Promote Outreach and Training:** Two NMRCFL examiners are Digital Imaging & Video Recovery Team (DIVRT) certified. They hosted DIVRT Training for federal, state, and local law enforcement. The NMRCFL hosted the University of New Mexico High School Cyber Camp. Examiners provided instruction on computer forensics and tours of the NMRCFL.
-  **Obtain CART Certifications:** One NMRCFL FET became fully certified in June. The second FET did not become certified by the end of FY17. However, it is expected that he will become certified in FY18. Two new FETs are progressing towards certification.
-  **Increase Staffing:** A new hire has accepted a position at the RCFL and will begin work in FY18.

 Goal Met       Partially Met       Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY18

-  **Maintain Minimal Backlog.**
-  **Fill Vacancies from Participating Agencies.**
-  **Increase the Number of Certified FEs.**
-  **Promote Community Outreach.**

businesses and residences, with on-site imaging and cell phone extractions being completed. In addition, the NMRCFL examined a large quantity of digital evidence in coordination with U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service agents from across the country. The digital evidence contained documents, financial files, emails, and other data pertinent to the investigation.





# NORTH TEXAS RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/NORTH-TEXAS

**YEAR OPENED:** 2000

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

SSA Allyn Lynd, FBI

**SERVICE AREA:** All of North Texas, including Dallas-Fort Worth

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES**

**IN AREA:** 573

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2004



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- › Dallas Police Department
- › FBI—Dallas Division
- › Frisco Police Department
- › Garland Police Department
- › Grand Prairie Police Department
- › Plano Police Department
- › Richardson Police Department

## NOTABLE NEWS

### PROTECTING CHILDREN—

#### Five Life Sentences for Molestation:

Dennis Ray Avery was sentenced to five life sentences in prison and five \$10,000 fines for molesting children. Avery plead guilty to four charges of aggravated sexual assault of a child and one charge of continuous sexual abuse of a child under 14 years old. He sexually abused children under six-years-old at his wife's daycare over the course of two years. The NTRCFL performed forensic analysis on the subject's phone and computer. Information discovered on the subject's phone was used at the hearing.

#### Evidence Leads to Guilty Plea:

Kelly Neil Black was sentenced to 20 years in prison and 15 years of supervised release for one count of transportation of child pornography. A forensic examination revealed items seized at Black's residence contained approximately 2,300 images identified as known images containing child pornography. The NTRCFL processed the computers

## PROGRESS REPORT

THE RCFL'S PROGRESS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY17:

35

Number of agencies that requested assistance (2 federal, 4 state, 29 local)

238

Number of law enforcement personnel who received training in the use of digital forensic tools and techniques

484

Number of service requests received (279 federal, 5 state, 200 local)

7

Number of times personnel testified in court

24

Number of requests for RCFL assistance where a search was conducted by lab personnel on-site

## TOP 5 CRIMES

1 • Obscenity

2 • Homicide

3 • Sex Assault

4 • Exploitation/Enticement

5 • Fraud

and cell phones in this case and identified the images. The plea was entered within a week of the defense expert coming to the laboratory and seeing evidence the NTRCFL recovered from the subject's devices.





#### **Victim Identified and Assisted through Casework:**

Former Texas Education worker, Neal Edmond Brown, was sentenced to more than 11 years in prison for possession of child pornography. A forensic examination conducted by the NTRCFL revealed that the electronic devices contained over 900 images of child pornography and over 200 videos of child pornography. The NTRCFL examination was able to recover images that a prior examination by a local police department was unable to locate. In addition, data recovered by the NTRCFL allowed the case agent to identify potential subject(s) and assist a victim who was in continued danger of abuse.

**PROTECTING THE COMMUNITY—Murder:** Following the discovery of digital evidence, James Hightower was convicted of murdering fellow methamphetamine user, Joshua Harewood. A previous trial resulted in a hung jury because the jury did not find the witnesses convincing and because the witnesses were drug users. However, during the retrial, an NTRCFL examiner testified to a cell phone examination which corroborated the witnesses' testimony. The prosecutor said the examiner's ability to explain the results of the digital forensics examination was very helpful.





**Real Estate Fraud:** Wade Blackburn was sentenced to one year and one day in prison and a \$1 million restitution, and his partner, Kevin Bollman was sentenced to 15 months in prison and \$1.5 million in restitution to Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for defrauding the TxDOT out of \$12.9 million in sales from the state of Texas by fraudulently flipping land at inflated prices. The men began buying land and then worked with a contact inside TxDOT who helped them sell the land to the state. Key evidence included emails which were discovered on computers processed by the NTRCFL.

## **PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY17 GOALS**

-  **Increase Staffing:** A new FET was hired and began working at the NTRCFL in February 2017.
-  **Expand Outreach Efforts:** The NTRCFL invited state and local law enforcement officers to attend cell phone training in December 2016 and scheduled training with state and local officers for previewing computers at search sites at the NTRCFL. RCFL representatives also taught a class at an annual law enforcement training event and scheduled evidence collection classes for local law enforcement officers.
-  **Enhance Services:** The NTRCFL is offering and has conducted multiple Joint Test Action Group (JTAG) exams. The RCFL purchased Chip-off equipment in August 2017 and began offering examination in October 2017. The RCFL received vehicle forensics kits in September 2017 and began offering vehicle exams in October 2017. The RCFL also earned authorization for two examiners in all three disciplines.
-  **Obtain Advanced Training:** The NTRCFL held cell phone training in December 2016 and sent five examiners to Macintosh training. The RCFL also sent eight examiners to Macintosh Certification in July and eleven examiners to Advanced Mobile Forensics training in July and August. Additionally, one examiner attended JTAG training in August and achieved certification.

 Goal Met       Partially Met       Not Met

## **GOALS FOR FY18**

-  **Maintain Staffing:** Hire and train replacement for retired examiner.
-  **Expand Outreach:** Include courts and prosecutors in outreach efforts to increase awareness and understanding of capabilities and limitations.
-  **Promote New Technical Capabilities to state, local, and federal law enforcement within the NTRCFL region.**
-  **Modernize Internal Network.**



# NORTHWEST RCFL

[WWW.RCFL.GOV/NORTHWEST](http://WWW.RCFL.GOV/NORTHWEST)

**YEAR OPENED:** 2005

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

SSA Matthew Schlegel, FBI

**SERVICE AREA:** Oregon and  
Southwest Washington

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES  
IN AREA:** 109

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2008



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- FBI—Portland Division
- Gresham Police Department  
**NEW**
- Hillsboro Police Department
- Multnomah County  
Department of Community  
Justice
- Oregon State Police
- Portland Police Bureau
- Washington County Sheriff's  
Office

## PROGRESS REPORT

THE RCFL'S PROGRESS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY17:

**25**

Number of agencies that requested  
assistance (2 federal, 2 state, 21 local)

**93**

Number of law enforcement personnel  
who received training in the use of  
digital forensic tools and techniques

**166**

Number of service requests received  
(87 federal, 13 state, 66 local)

**3**

Number of times personnel  
testified in court

**25**

Number of requests for RCFL  
assistance where a search was  
conducted by lab personnel on-site

## TOP 5 CRIMES

1 • Exploitation/Enticement

2 • Sex Assault

3 • Homicide

4 • Assault

5 • Sex Offense





## NOTABLE NEWS

**Welcomed Gresham Police Department.**



### PROTECTING CHILDREN—

**Child Exploitation:** Sergio Zambrano was convicted of a number of child exploitation charges and sentenced to 25 years in prison after traveling to Oregon to meet with a 12-year-old girl who he met online. The NWRCFL processed digital evidence in the case including communications between Zambrano and the 12-year-old girl. Explicit pictures were located and chat information was relayed to investigators.

**Child Sex Abuse:** Douglas James Young Jr., a former Boy Scout leader, was arrested after police investigated a complaint he had in inappropriate contact with a boy. The NWRCFL provided on-site search assistance where a local forensic examiner encountered a Linux computer. A Linux expert from the RCFL responded after hours to help collect the evidence and later processed the computer at the RCFL. The examination assisted in identifying additional victims. Court records listed initials of 10 victims over a 15-year period. Images of child pornography and abuse were captured during the examination. Young has been sentenced to more than two decades in prison after pleading no contest to sex-abuse chargers.

**Art Crime:** Ryan Gerad Griffin was sentenced to 41 months in prison for stealing the Tom Wesselmann painting called "Study for Monica with Tulips" and devising a scheme to sell it. The painting was worth \$100,000 according court records. Information gleaned from mobile phones the NWRCFL examined included evidence of mail fraud. An examiner conducted a thorough search of location information on the phones which placed the subject at local hotels during the fraudulent transactions with a gallery in New York. This information was later used to obtain hotel records which verified Griffin was at the locations providing further evidence against him.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY17 GOALS

- ✓ **Increase Training Capability:** An RCFL ITS-FE is a certified instructor and another ITS-FE has been accepted into the CART Program.
- ✓ **Enhance Recruiting:** Gresham Police Department joined the NWRCFL in September 2017.
- ✓ **Foster Collaboration:** The NWRCFL completed 25 on-site searches during the fiscal year which is an increase from the prior year.
- ⚡ **Leadership:** The RCFL Director continues to review materials for certification. The Director was unable to acquire funding for attendance at assessor training, but continues to complete self-study materials.



Goal Met



Partially Met

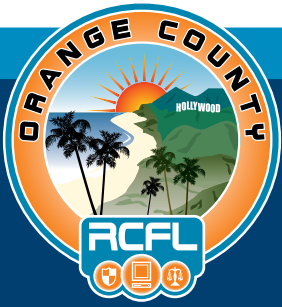


Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY18

- 🎯 **Increase the NWRCFL Technical Proficiency:** Two Forensic Examiners will become Chip-off certified.
- 🎯 **Promote Training:** Increase the number of training classes offered to the local and federal law enforcement community. Increase the number of personnel trained by 10 percent.
- 🎯 **Increase the NWRCFL staff:** Add an additional examiner.
- 🎯 **Maintain Quality of Service:** Continue to provide quality service and increase productivity by increasing the frequency of CAIR use by case agents.

**Attempted Rape:** Jose Rivera-Cardona was sentenced to 11 years in prison for the attempted rape of his stepdaughter. Investigators later learned the suspect was videotaping the victim prior to the attempted rape. All electronic evidence in the home was submitted to the NWRCFL. Examiners located evidence of Rivera-Cardona photographing the victim in secret. Videos of the victim were also recovered by examiners.



# ORANGE COUNTY RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/ORANGE-COUNTY

**YEAR OPENED:** 2011

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

SSA Christopher Pluhar, FBI

**SERVICE AREA:** Central District of California

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES**

**IN AREA:** 252

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2013



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- › Anaheim Police Department
- › Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
- › FBI—Los Angeles Division
- › Fontana Police Department
- › Fullerton Police Department
- › Irvine Police Department
- › Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
- › Los Angeles Police Department
- › Murrieta Police Department **NEW**
- › Newport Beach Police Department
- › Ontario Police Department
- › Orange County District Attorney's Office
- › Orange County Sheriff's Office
- › Riverside County District Attorney's Office
- › Riverside Police Department **NEW**
- › San Bernardino District Attorney's Office
- › Santa Ana Police Department

## PROGRESS REPORT

THE RCFL'S PROGRESS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY17:

**43**

Number of agencies that requested assistance (6 federal, 6 state, 31 local)

**274**

Number of law enforcement personnel who received training in the use of digital forensic tools and techniques

**611**

Number of service requests received (245 federal, 9 state, 357 local)

**3**

Number of times personnel testified in court

**50**

Number of requests for RCFL assistance where a search was conducted by lab personnel on-site

## TOP 5 CRIMES

1 • Homicide

2 • Fraud

3 • Exploitation/Enticement

4 • Sex Assault

5 • Property Crimes



## NOTABLE NEWS

**Welcomed the Murrieta Police Department and Riverside Police Department.**



### **Five Year Sentence for Pandering:**

Nga Tran was found guilty of four counts pimping and one count of pandering by procuring. Tran was pimping four women out of three brothels disguised as massage parlors. She posted advertisements on websites known for prostitution and communicated with sex purchasers via email and text messages in order to arrange dates for the victims. Tran had been operating the business for three years. The OCRCFL assisted with the digital forensic examinations of Tran's devices. The evidence recovered from those devices helped solidify the case against her.

**Ponzi Scheme Results in 35 Year Sentence:** Gerard Cellette pled guilty to 27 felony counts of using an untrue statement in the purchase and sale of a security, 46 felony counts of selling unregistered securities, 382 felony counts of money laundering and allegations of property damage over \$3.2 million, and money laundering transactions in excess of \$2.5 million. In addition to Cellette's 35 year sentence in State prison, he was ordered to repay \$21 million restitution back to over 55 victims and a fine of \$42 million for an investment fraud Ponzi scheme. The OCRCFL assisted with the forensic examinations of several devices. The evidence recovered from those devices led to Cellette pleading guilty.

**PROTECTING CHILDREN—Former Deputy Convicted of Lewd Conduct with a Child:** Giovanni Argueta, a former LA Sheriff's deputy, was charged with committing a lewd act with a minor. Argueta claimed lack of knowledge of the minor's true age, minimizing his culpability. Prior to accepting a plea deal, the District Attorney's (DA) Office requested an additional

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY17 GOALS

- ✓ **Enhance Inland Empire (IE) Presence—Complete**  
**Phase 1:** Phase 1 build out is complete as of May, 2017. Relocation from Riverside RA to Ontario Phase 1 is complete.
- ✓ **IE—Phase 2:** Phase 2 planning, funding, and space discussions with Ontario Police Department are continuing. The Phase 2 MOU addendum will be started in FY18.
- **Enhance Capabilities:** OCRCFL resources joined with a nationwide decryption initiative.

✓ Goal Met      ○ Partially Met      ○ Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY18

- 🎯 **Initiate and Complete Ontario Police Department Phase 2 Satellite Laboratory Construction in FY18.**
- 🎯 **Continue Program Growth:** Add new agencies at both Orange and Ontario locations.
- 🎯 **Enhance Outreach:** Provide digital evidence training to state/local judges and District Attorneys.

review of Argueta's computer. An OCRCFL Forensic Examiner's in-depth search of the computer files and internet sites revealed an extensive search of questionable sites and photographs of young females. With this revelation, the DA's office increased the terms of the guilty plea agreement to include lifetime sex offender registration.





# PHILADELPHIA RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/PHILADELPHIA

**YEAR OPENED:** 2006

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

SSA John K. Martinelli, FBI

**SERVICE AREA:** Philadelphia and  
Eastern Pennsylvania

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES  
IN AREA:** 500

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2009



## PROGRESS REPORT

THE RCFL'S PROGRESS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY17:

33

Number of agencies that requested  
assistance (2 federal, 3 state, 28 local)

216

Number of law enforcement personnel  
who received training in the use of  
digital forensic tools and techniques

497

Number of service requests received  
(323 federal, 7 state, 167 local)

9

Number of times personnel  
testified in court

21

Number of requests for RCFL  
assistance where a search was  
conducted by lab personnel on-site

## TOP 5 CRIMES

1 • Dangerous Drugs

2 • Exploitation/Enticement

3 • Homicide

4 • Fraud

5 • Sex Assault

## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- Bucks County District Attorney's Office
- Chester County District Attorney's Office
- Delaware County District Attorney's Office
- FBI—Philadelphia Division
- Montgomery County District Attorney's Office
- Philadelphia Police Department

## NOTABLE NEWS

### Public Corruption and Labor

**Racketeering:** In an investigation of public corruption and labor racketeering of IBEW Philadelphia Local 98, an electrical industry union, and its leadership, searches related to this investigation became a major news story in the greater Philadelphia area. In addition, the sitting Philadelphia District Attorney was indicted on charges of public corruption based on efforts by the PHRCFL who assisted in the searches of over 20 locations. The investigation included the on-site imaging and seizure of various types of digital evidence and servers that resulted in over 34 TB of collected data. The processing and analysis of the data required careful planning and collaboration with the case agent and forensic examiners. By continuing to work with case agents, the end result has been the successful analysis of the data and the examination results.

**PROTECTING THE COMMUNITY—Bank Robberies:** After being arrested for a bank robbery in 2015, a subject plead guilty and advised that his girlfriend, a teller in the bank, was involved in the conspiracy to commit bank robberies. She denied the accusations. During the trial, a PHRCFL Senior Examiner testified and was able to establish that although incriminating texts on his girlfriend's cellular telephone had been deleted, there was a clear pattern of communication between the robber and the girlfriend during the exact time and date of the robbery. The Senior Examiner was also able to testify to the validity of the text messages. The teller was convicted, based in large part on the testimony of the Senior Examiner with regards to the text messages.

**RCFL Critical in Uncovering Damaged Video of Hazing Incident:** The PHRCFL provided forensic support in an investigation that garnered national attention about a hazing incident that led to a Penn State student's death. A PHRCFL examiner along with examiners in Quantico, VA were able to recover deleted surveillance video, which provided additional information for the investigation. As a result of the findings, the State College Police Department and the District Attorney's Office for Centre County sent letters of appreciation to the RCFL and the individual examiner. The case has been taken over by the Attorney General for the State of Pennsylvania and is proceeding to trial at a date in the future. The fraternity and 16 individual fraternity members remain as the defendants in the matter.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY17 GOALS

- ✓ **Maintain Minimal Backlog:** The PHRCFL achieved this goal with average case completions within 30 days.
- ✓ **Enhance Staffing:** The PHRCFL gained an FET from Bucks County DA's Office in June, 2017. The new FET successfully completed CART Tech and DExt Tech training.
- ✓ **Enhance Audio/Video Training:** Four PHRCFL Field Instructor Program (FIP) staff provided Digital Imaging & Video Recovery Team (DIVRT) training classes which were held at the PHRCFL during the fiscal year. In addition, PHRCFL FIPs conducted DIVRT classes in Quantico and at the Indianapolis Division during FY17.
- ✓ **Accreditation:** The RCFL hosted an ASCLD inspector/surveillance team in December 2016 for a successful review.



Goal Met



Partially Met



Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY18

- 🎯 **Complete All Cases with no Backlog:** Cases completed within 30 days (unless under case agent review or other circumstances prevent the completion).
- 🎯 **Enhance Staffing:** Backfill vacant FBI ITS-FE/FET position.
- 🎯 **Enhance Audio/Video Support:** Continue to enhance audio/video support by offering DIVRT training at PHRCFL and at off-site locations for PHRCFL participating agencies in FY18.



# ROCKY MOUNTAIN RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/ROCKY-MOUNTAIN

**YEAR OPENED:** 2006

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

SSA Douglas Oliver, FBI

**SERVICE AREA:** Colorado and Wyoming

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES**

**IN AREA:** 269

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2008



## PROGRESS REPORT

THE RCFL'S PROGRESS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY17:

49

Number of agencies that requested assistance (1 federal, 3 state, 45 local)

26

Number of requests for RCFL assistance where a search was conducted by lab personnel on-site

202

Number of service requests received (67 federal, 7 state, 128 local)

71

Number of law enforcement personnel who received training in the use of digital forensic tools and techniques

## TOP 5 CRIMES

1 • Obscenity

2 • Homicide

3 • Sex Assault

4 • Fraud

5 • Assault

## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- Adams County Sheriff's Office
- Colorado Bureau of Investigation
- Commerce City Police Department
- Denver District Attorney's Office
- Denver Police Department
- Douglas County Sheriff's Office
- FBI—Denver Division
- Jefferson County Sheriff's Office
- Lakewood Police Department
- Littleton Police Department
- Thornton Police Department

## NOTABLE NEWS

### PROTECTING CHILDREN—

**Three Thousand Year Sentence for Child Sexual Assault:** The RMRCFL was instrumental in identifying key evidence in the case against Garland Root Sr. who plead guilty to 53 counts, including multiple counts of sexual assault on a child by a person in a position of trust, sexual assault on a child to form a pattern of abuse, sexual exploitation of a child, invasion of privacy for sexual gratification, and promotion of obscenity to a minor. The RCFL identified evidence of the subject recording himself touching and having sexual intercourse with a 13-year-old victim, as well as touching an even younger victim. Root, who was previously convicted for "lewd and lascivious acts" in 1984, was sentenced to 3,180 years in prison.

**27 Year Prison Sentence for Crimes Against Children:** Todd Alan Ledbetter pled guilty to sexual exploitation of a child, distribution, and three counts of sexual exploitation of a child. Arvada





ITS-FE Mike Schneider being interviewed for a PBS documentary that aired on Rocky Mountain PBS in February 2018 titled, "Kids Unwittingly Trapped in Exploding Child Porn Epidemic."

police, working with other law enforcement agencies, including the RMRCFL, recovered more than 40,000 images and videos of sexually exploitative material, many depicting children of infant and toddler age. Images in Ledbetter's possession included children all over the world and two in Colorado. The RMRCFL provided the forensic examination of the subject's digital media and was instrumental in securing evidence.

### PROTECTING THE COMMUNITY—

**Guilty Plea in Bomb Plot:** David Ansberry was arrested by the FBI for using an explosive device in an attempt to blow up the Nederland Police Department in Nederland, Colorado. A week after the device was discovered, the FBI identified and arrested Ansberry at Chicago's Midway Airport. He plead guilty to use of a weapon of mass destruction and is facing life in prison. The RMRCFL provided the forensic examination of the subject's digital media.

**Man Who Claimed Association with The Islamic State, Sentenced to Life in Prison for Murder:** Joshua Cummings was convicted of shooting and killing an armed transit security officer in an unprovoked attack. Days after the shooting, he pledged his allegiance to the Islamic State. Due to the terrorism nexus, every type of digital media related to the subject needed a fast and thorough forensic examination by the RMRCFL. In all, 12 devices were brought to the RCFL, amounting to approximately three terabytes of data. In addition, the RCFL assisted with search warrants served at the subject's place of residence and storage trailer.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY17 GOALS

- ✓ **Provide Training to the State/Local Law Enforcement Community:** RMRCFL provided three CAIR classes and two cell phone classes to local law enforcement personnel.
- ✓ **Community Outreach:** RMRCFL gave a presentation and provided a tour to congressional staffers representing Senator Mikulski and Senator Shelby. In addition, RMRCFL provided a presentation/tour to students from a local Colorado University, and members of Denver's FBI Citizen's Academy, which has various representatives from the private sector. Finally, RMRCFL made presentations at the Denver Metro Chiefs/Sheriff's monthly meeting, the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) monthly meeting, and provided four forensics-related classes to local and federal law enforcement during the year.
- **Increase Certifications:** It is anticipated an examiner will achieve certification after attending CART Training Moot Court in FY18.
- **Increase Audio/Video Support:** Two RMRCFL examiners are participating in the current FAVIAU training curriculum. These examiners have completed a majority of the required trainings, and are awaiting scheduling for the final Digital Imaging & Video Recovery Team (DIVRT) training (pending funding). It is anticipated they will be certified during FY18.

✓ Goal Met      ○ Partially Met      ○ Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY18

- 🎯 **RCFL Services:** Enhance laboratory capabilities.
- 🎯 **Quality Assurance:** Conduct a pre-assessment audit in preparation for ANAB/ASCLD/LAB Assessment.
- 🎯 **Increase staffing:** Replace one full-time FE.
- 🎯 **Community Outreach:** Promote community outreach.



# SAN DIEGO RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/SAN-DIEGO

**YEAR OPENED:** 1999

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

SSA Hans Frank, FBI

**SERVICE AREA:** San Diego and Imperial Counties

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES**

**IN AREA:** 80

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2008



## PROGRESS REPORT

THE RCFL'S PROGRESS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY17:

22 

Number of agencies that requested assistance (8 federal, 14 local)

624 

Number of law enforcement personnel who received training in the use of digital forensic tools and techniques

542 

Number of service requests received (421 federal, 121 local)

2 

Number of times personnel testified in court

44 

Number of requests for RCFL assistance where a search was conducted by lab personnel on-site

## TOP 5 CRIMES

1 • Homicide

2 • Exploitation/Enticement

3 • Fraud

4 • Dangerous Drugs

5 • Sex Offense

## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- › California Highway Patrol
- › Carlsbad Police Department
- › Chula Vista Police Department
- › Coronado Police Department
- › El Cajon Police Department
- › Escondido Police Department
- › FBI—San Diego Division
- › La Mesa Police Department
- › National City Police Department
- › Naval Criminal Investigative Service
- › Oceanside Police Department
- › San Diego County District Attorney's Office
- › San Diego Harbor Police Department
- › San Diego Police Department
- › San Diego Sheriff's Department
- › U.S. Attorney's Office—Southern District of California

## NOTABLE NEWS

### PUBLIC CORRUPTION—Illegal

**Campaign Contributions:** Ravneet Singh was sentenced to 15 months in prison and ordered to pay a \$10,000 fine for his role in funneling more than \$600,000 in illegal foreign campaign contributions from Mexican citizen Jose Susumo Azano Matsura to candidates in the 2012 San Diego mayoral election. Also indicted in relation to illegal campaign contributions in the San Diego mayor's race, Marco Polo Cortes plead guilty to conspiracy, making a campaign contribution in the name of another, and obstruction of a federal agent. Among other things, Cortes admitted to intentionally obstructing, resisting and opposing the efforts of an FBI Special Agent by refusing to open

his door, leave his apartment, or present himself to the FBI. The SDRCL received 38 requests; 11 examiners processed evidence totaling approximately 729 man-hours worth of work.





### **RACKETEERING—**

**CPA Pleads guilty in International Scheme:** Luke Fairfield, a San Diego CPA, plead guilty to racketeering conspiracy in connection with his role with the violent “ODOG Enterprise,” an international drug trafficking, gambling, and money laundering enterprise in the United States, Central and South America, and Australia that operated from 2012 to 2016. The case arose out of a joint investigation by the FBI, IRS, and the New South Wales (Australia) Police Force in conjunction with the New South Wales Crime Commission. The SDRCL provided on-site digital forensics support during the execution of multiple search warrants. Additionally, the RCFL provided traditional digital forensic support on the devices that were seized.

**Violent Gangs:** During a six-month investigation into violent gangs, agents intercepted more than 70,000 communications concerning various illegal activities, including murder and drug dealing. Electronic evidence—corroborated by surveillance and confidential source information—tied the subjects to five murders, one attempted murder, several conspiracies to commit murder, the destruction of evidence, and an armed robbery. Over the course of the investigation, agents seized 20 firearms, more than 4.5 pounds of methamphetamine, approximately a pound of cocaine, over 4,000 pounds of marijuana, and approximately \$16,000 in cash; disrupted six imminent acts of violence and arrested 45 subjects; and most importantly, significantly disrupted the gang’s ability to finance and support its illegal activities. The SDRCL provided on-site digital forensics support during the execution of multiple search warrants and traditional digital forensics support on the devices that were seized. Six SDRCL Forensic Examiners assisted with on-site services while the FBI conducted search warrants.

**FRAUD—Lending Firm Sentenced to Eight Years:** Jeffrey Spanier, former owner of Amerifund Capital Finance, LLC located in Boca Raton, Florida, was sentenced to serve eight years in federal prison and pay approximately \$20 million in restitution for his role in a \$100 million elaborate stock-loan fraud scheme. Spanier was also ordered to

## **PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY17 GOALS**

-  **Forensic Services:** Requests were completed with a timely turn around and backlog cases were kept to a minimum. In addition, the SDRCL sought to expand its forensic capabilities by training three examiners in the Chip-off advanced cell phone analysis technique. Additionally, all examiners in the laboratory received basic Macintosh Certification this year.
-  **Instruction:** The SDRCL trained 624 total students in 43 classes during the fiscal year.
-  **Examiner Training:** There are currently five FETs at various stages in the training program.
-  **Audio/Video:** One SDRCL candidate was selected for the Audio/Video program. The SDRCL plans for this examiner to become fully certified in audio/video analysis.



Goal Met






Partially Met



Not Met

## **GOALS FOR FY18**

-  **Examiner Training:** Certify additional examiners to better support member agencies.
-  **Productivity:** Continue to maintain the forensic services of the lab, timeliness, and productivity of the forensic examination process.
-  **Instruction:** Further develop the San Diego RCFL as an instructional center for computer forensics and law enforcement training.

forfeit several million dollars in assets that were the proceeds of the fraud, including cash and securities held in brokerage accounts, and a luxury home in Florida. The case was investigated by the FBI over an extended period of time. The SDRCL provided on-site services during the execution of multiple search warrants. The data from the devices recovered during these searches was processed and analyzed in the RCFL. Additionally, the RCFL provided court testimony when this case went to trial.





# SILICON VALLEY RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/SILICON-VALLEY

**YEAR OPENED:** 2005

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

SSA Sherman Kwok, FBI

**SERVICE AREA:** Northern District of California

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES**

**IN AREA:** 125

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2006



## PROGRESS REPORT

THE RCFL'S PROGRESS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY17:

12

Number of agencies that requested assistance (1 federal, 11 local)

132

Number of law enforcement personnel who received training in the use of digital forensic tools and techniques

360

Number of service requests received (231 federal, 129 local)

1

Number of times personnel testified in court

103

Number of requests for RCFL assistance where a search was conducted by lab personnel on-site

## TOP 5 CRIMES

1 • Obscenity

2 • Homicide

3 • Robbery

4 • Burglary

5 • Sex Assault



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- › Alameda County Sheriff's Office
  - › FBI—San Francisco Division
  - › Fremont Police Department
  - › Newark Police Department
  - › Palo Alto Police Department
  - › San Francisco Police Department
  - › Santa Clara Police Department
- NEW**



## NOTABLE NEWS

**Welcomed the Santa Clara Police Department.**



**Tech Company Employee Sentenced for Insider Trading:**

Jonathan Ly, a computer support technician who was formerly employed at Expedia was sentenced to 15 months in prison for securities fraud. Ly admitted he used his position to access emails of Expedia executives so that he could use that non-public information to make well-timed trades of Expedia stocks. The SVRCFL participated in the searches of three separate locations and obtained 16 pieces of evidence for examination, including two VMWare vSphere virtual machines.

**PROTECTING THE COMMUNITY—Violent Street**

**Gang Netted in Operation Scrapbook:** Following a months-long investigation into one of the most violent criminal street gangs in Merced County, a collaborative operation including over 600 federal, state, and local law enforcement officers from over fifteen different agencies served 100 warrants and concluded with 56 arrests and seizure of over 100 weapons, drugs, cash, and over 21,000 rounds of ammunition. The SVRCFL supported this massive investigation with a team of examiners to assist in extracting information from cell phones for possible rollover warrants.

**Sextortion Case:** A man was arrested after trying to extort two former roommates by threatening to post a video he secretly took of them having sex. The couple received an anonymous email threatening to post the

video to social media unless the two paid him \$2,000. The SVRCFL examined the laptop and cell phone and discovered the video in question and relevant emails.

**PROTECTING CHILDREN—University Psychiatrist**

**Arrested:** SVRCFL examiners participated in a search with the San Francisco Police Department at the residence of a psychiatrist employed by the University of California San Francisco. During the search, SVRCFL examiners located hundreds of child pornography videos and images on numerous devices belonging to the psychiatrist. Examiners also located hundreds of child pornography images on media devices belonging to the subject's roommate. Both subjects were arrested on-scene.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY17 GOALS

- ✓ **Enhance Productivity:** Backlog cases have been reduced from 20 cases at the end of FY16 to 10 cases at the end of FY17.
- **Increase Participation:** The Silicon Valley RCFL added the first of two new participating agencies—the Santa Clara Police Department.
- **Increase Capabilities:** Two TFOs were certified during the fiscal year. Three new FETs, including one TFO and two ITS-FEs joined the RCFL.

✓ Goal Met      ○ Partially Met      ○ Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY18

- 🎯 **Increase Staffing:** Increase staffing from current levels. Currently, SVRCFL has 15 FE/FETs.
- 🎯 **Community Outreach:** Increase Training Center usage; promote services to existing participating agencies; and promote the RCFL's kiosk program.
- 🎯 **Enhance Lab Capabilities:** Provide additional offerings such as: Chip-off, full audio and video capability, vehicle forensics, and drone forensics.



# WESTERN NEW YORK RCFL

[WWW.RCFL.GOV/WESTERN-NEW-YORK](http://WWW.RCFL.GOV/WESTERN-NEW-YORK)

**YEAR OPENED:** 2006

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

Acting Laboratory Director, SSA  
Matthew Giacobbi, FBI (during FY17,  
SSA Greg Winsor, FBI)

**SERVICE AREA:** 17 Counties in  
Western New York

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES**

**IN AREA:** 137

## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- Buffalo Police Department
- Erie County Sheriff's Office
- FBI—Buffalo Division
- Monroe County Department of Public Safety
- New York State Taxation and Finance
- Niagara County Sheriff's Office

## NOTABLE NEWS

### PUBLIC CORRUPTION—Bribery

**Conviction:** Joseph Percoco, a former top aide to Gov. Andrew Cuomo, was convicted of soliciting and accepting more than \$315,000 in bribes in return for taking official state action to benefit an energy company and real estate developer. The RCFL examined multiple computers and mobile devices to

## PROGRESS REPORT

THE RCFL'S PROGRESS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY17:

33

Number of agencies that requested assistance (3 federal, 2 state, 28 local)

25

Number of requests for RCFL assistance where a search was conducted by lab personnel on-site

159

Number of service requests received (83 federal, 12 state, 64 local)

406

Number of law enforcement personnel who received training in the use of digital forensic tools and techniques

## TOP 5 CRIMES

1 • Sex Assault

2 • Exploitation/ Enticement

3 • Dangerous Drugs

4 • Homicide

5 • Obscenity





uncover communications between the co-conspirators and evidence of the corruption scheme.

### PROTECTING CHILDREN—

#### **30 Year Sentence for Production of Child Pornography:**

Robert Pritchett used popular messaging sites to coerce four teenage girls, aged 14 to 17, into sending him inappropriate photos which he then used to coerce them into engaging in sexual activities and prostitution. Pritchett plead guilty to producing child pornography, and as part of his agreement with federal prosecutors, he also admitted to forcing one of the girls, a 17-year-old from New Jersey, into prostitution. Pritchett's sentence includes lifetime supervised release. Mobile device forensic tools were critical in finding the evidence necessary to secure his confession and prosecution.

**188 month Sentence for Child Pornography:** Three teenaged girls were victimized by Joseph Lombardo over a three year period. Lombardo met the teens on social media websites and via messaging services. One of the victims reported she was 12 or 13 years old when Lombardo first contacted her. Examination of the subject's personal

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY17 GOALS

- ✓ **Increase FBI Staffing:** The RCFL added a new FBI employee to backfill a promotion.
- ✓ **Satellite Laboratory:** The Monroe County Satellite Laboratory was brought online in November 2017.
- ✓ **Enhance Task Force Officer (TFO) Staffing:** A TFO vacancy was filled by the Monroe County Crime Lab.

✓ Goal Met      ⚪ Partially Met      ⚪ Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY18

- 🎯 **Achieve Accreditation:** The WNYRCFL will achieve ANAB/ASCLD/LAB accreditation in FY18.
- 🎯 **Fill two TFO Vacancies at the RCFL.**
- 🎯 **Increase Capabilities:** The WNYRCFL will add Linux as a forensic capability.

computer and mobile devices by the WNYRCFL revealed evidence of production of child pornography. Lombardo was subsequently convicted of possession and receipt of child pornography and was sentenced to 188 months in prison and lifetime supervised release.

**PROTECTING THE COMMUNITY—Day Care Owner Sentenced for Stealing Funds Intended for Lower-Income Families:** Tariq Butt has been convicted and is awaiting sentencing of up to 30 months after admitting that he stole federal funds intended for daycare to be provided to lower-income working families. He will be required to pay \$305,000 in restitution to the government as a part of his guilty plea. Butt's wife was previously sentenced. The RCFL examined multiple computers to uncover communications between the co-conspirators and evidence of the corruption scheme.

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Each success the RCFL Program achieves is due to the hard work and dedication of its state, local, and federal partners, as well as our partnership with the Asset Forfeiture Fund Program.

We are sincerely grateful for our 132 participating agencies nationwide, including—

## CALIFORNIA

### Orange County RCFL

- › Anaheim Police Department
- › Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
- › FBI—Los Angeles Division
- › Fontana Police Department
- › Fullerton Police Department
- › Irvine Police Department
- › Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
- › Los Angeles Police Department
- › Murrieta Police Department NEW
- › Newport Beach Police Department
- › Ontario Police Department
- › Orange County District Attorney's Office
- › Orange County Sheriff's Office

- › Riverside County District Attorney's Office
- › Riverside Police Department NEW
- › San Bernardino District Attorney's Office
- › Santa Ana Police Department

### San Diego RCFL

- › California Highway Patrol
- › Carlsbad Police Department
- › Chula Vista Police Department
- › Coronado Police Department
- › El Cajon Police Department
- › Escondido Police Department
- › FBI—San Diego Division
- › La Mesa Police Department
- › National City Police Department
- › Naval Criminal Investigative Service
- › Oceanside Police Department
- › San Diego County District Attorney's Office
- › San Diego Harbor Police Department
- › San Diego Police Department
- › San Diego Sheriff's Department

- › U.S. Attorney's Office—Southern District of California

### Silicon Valley RCFL

- › Alameda County Sheriff's Office
- › FBI—San Francisco Division
- › Fremont Police Department
- › Newark Police Department
- › Palo Alto Police Department
- › San Francisco Police Department
- › Santa Clara Police Department NEW

## COLORADO

### Rocky Mountain RCFL

- › Adams County Sheriff's Office
- › Colorado Bureau of Investigation
- › Commerce City Police Department
- › Denver District Attorney's Office
- › Denver Police Department
- › Douglas County Sheriff's Office
- › FBI—Denver Division
- › Jefferson County Sheriff's Office

- › Lakewood Police Department
- › Littleton Police Department
- › Thornton Police Department

## IDAHO

### Intermountain West RCFL

- › Ada County Sheriff's Office
- › Boise City Police Department

## ILLINOIS

### Chicago RCFL

- › Aurora Police Department
- › Berwyn Police Department
- › Carol Stream Police Department **NEW**
- › Chicago Police Department
- › Cook County Sheriff's Office
- › Cook County State's Attorney's Office
- › FBI—Chicago Division
- › Joliet Police Department
- › Lombard Police Department
- › Naperville Police Department
- › Oak Park Police Department
- › Palatine Police Department
- › Romeoville Police Department
- › U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- › Will County Sheriff's Office

## KANSAS

### Heart of America RCFL

- › Johnson County Sheriff's Office
- › Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI)
- › Kansas City Police Department
- › Lawrence Police Department
- › Olathe Police Department
- › Overland Park Police Department
- › Shawnee County Sheriff's Office
- › U.S. Attorney's Office—District of Kansas

## KENTUCKY

### Kentucky RCFL

- › FBI—Louisville Division
- › Jefferson County Sheriff's Office
- › Kentucky State Police
- › Louisville Metro Police Department
- › University of Louisville

## MISSOURI

### Heart of America RCFL

- › Clay County Sheriff's Office
- › FBI—Kansas City Division
- › Gladstone Police Department
- › Independence Police Department

- › Kansas City Police Department
- › Lee's Summit Police Department
- › Missouri State Highway Patrol
- › North Kansas City Police Department
- › Platte County Sheriff's Office
- › U.S. Attorney's Office—Western District of Missouri
- › U.S. Department of Agriculture—Office of Inspector General

## MONTANA

### Intermountain West RCFL

- › Billings Police Department

## NEW JERSEY

### New Jersey RCFL

- › Essex County Prosecutor's Office
- › FBI—Newark Division
- › Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office
- › New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice
- › New Jersey Office of the Attorney General
- › New Jersey State Police
- › Somerset County Prosecutor's Office



## NEW MEXICO

### New Mexico RCFL

- › Albuquerque Police Department
- › Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office
- › FBI—Albuquerque Division
- › Homeland Security Investigations
- › New Mexico State Police Department
- › Rio Rancho Police Department
- › U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement
- › University of New Mexico

## NEW YORK

### Western New York RCFL

- › Buffalo Police Department
- › Erie County Sheriff's Office
- › FBI—Buffalo Division
- › Monroe County Department of Public Safety
- › New York State Taxation and Finance
- › Niagara County Sheriff's Office

## OREGON

### Northwest RCFL

- › FBI—Portland Division
- › Gresham Police Department  
**NEW**
- › Hillsboro Police Department

- › Multnomah County Department of Community Justice
- › Oregon State Police
- › Portland Police Bureau
- › Washington County Sheriff's Office

## PENNSYLVANIA

### Philadelphia RCFL

- › Bucks County District Attorney's Office
- › Chester County District Attorney's Office
- › Delaware County District Attorney's Office
- › FBI—Philadelphia Division
- › Montgomery County District Attorney's Office
- › Philadelphia Police Department

## TEXAS

### Greater Houston RCFL

- › FBI—Houston Division
- › Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office **NEW**
- › Harris County Sheriff's Office
- › Pasadena Police Department
- › Texas Department of Public Safety

## North Texas RCFL

- › Dallas Police Department
- › FBI—Dallas Division
- › Frisco Police Department
- › Garland Police Department
- › Grand Prairie Police Department
- › Plano Police Department
- › Richardson Police Department

## UTAH

### Intermountain West RCFL

- › Davis County Sheriff's Office
- › FBI—Salt Lake City Division
- › Salt Lake City Police Department
- › Sandy City Police Department
- › Utah Attorney General's Office
- › Utah Department of Public Safety
- › West Valley City Police Department





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