# **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 (FY) 2020.

Despite an anomalous year where quarantine and face masks became the norm, our RCFL Program continued to provide digital forensics expertise and services to law enforcement agencies throughout the United States. The RCFLs had a total of 649 federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies that requested assistance and a total of 7,576 service requests, only decreasing by 10 percent from FY19. Thus, exemplifying the RCFLs persistence and dedication in supporting the RCFL mission, despite the difficulties and restrictions the pandemic caused.

We attribute our program's long-standing success to the dedication of our hundreds of certified Forensic Examiners representing the 134 partners of the RCFL Program. We are grateful for their continued support and will work to uphold the high standards they have grown to expect.

Linda Grody Unit Chief

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Digital Evidence Field Operations RCFL National Program Office



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# 1.0 Introduction

Digital forensics is the application of science and engineering to the recovery of digital evidence in a legally acceptable method. Digital Forensics Examiners use tested and validated tools, techniques and procedures to locate and analyze potential legal evidence in a variety of electronic devices, software programs, operating systems, removable media and other digital technologies capable of storing data.

This report chronicles the progress and accomplishments of the RCFL Program during FY20, which covers October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020.

#### **RCFL National Program Office**

The RCFL National Program Office (NPO) supports the RCFL program—a national network of FBI sponsored digital forensics laboratories and training centers devoted to the examination of digital evidence in support of all investigations ranging from criminal to counterterrorism.

There are 17 fully operational RCFLs. RCFLs provide coverage to 14 states throughout the country. RCFLs are located in the following cities: Albuquerque, New Mexico; Buffalo, New York; Centennial, Colorado; Chicago, Illinois; Dallas and Houston, Texas; Hamilton, New Jersey; Huntsville, Alabama; Kansas City, Missouri; Los Angeles, Menlo Park and San Diego, California; Louisville, Kentucky; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Portland, Oregon; Salt Lake City, Utah; and Chelsea, Massachusetts.

The RCFL program seeks accreditation through the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB) - formerly American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD); currently fourteen (14) RCFLs hold International accreditation and three (3) RCFLs are seeking accreditation. Collectively, the program is making expert digital forensics services and training available to approximately 4,800 law enforcement agencies. We estimate that a third of law enforcement agencies in the United States have participated in RCFL training.

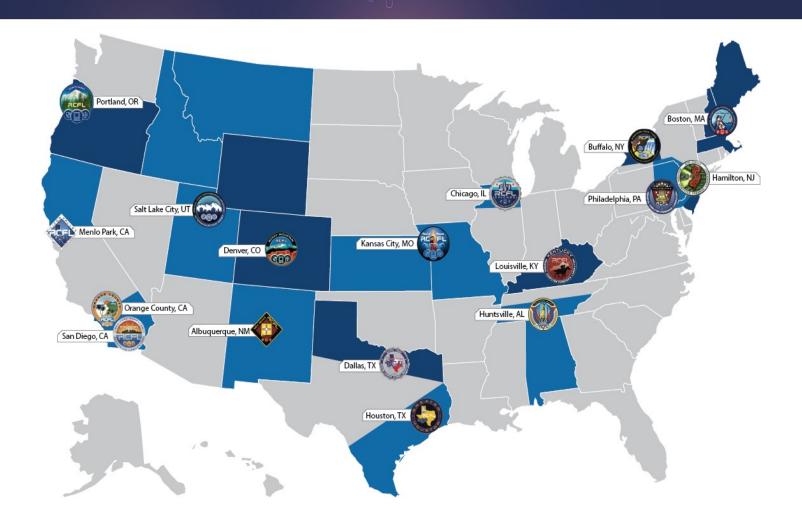
# **BREAKING NEWS**



# **RCFL Locations**

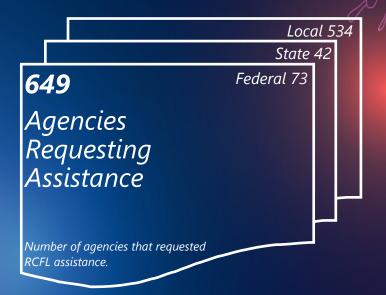
- ♦ Albuquerque, New Mexico
- ◆ Boston, Massachusetts
- ♦ Buffalo, New York
- Centennial, Colorado
- ♦ Chicago, Illinois
- ♦ Dallas, Texas
- ♦ Hamilton, New Jersey
- ♦ Houston, Texas
- ♦ Huntsville, Alabama

- ♦ Kansas City, Missouri
- ♦ Louisville, Kentucky
- ♦ Menlo Park, California
- ♦ Orange, California
- Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- ♦ Portland, Oregon
- ♦ Salt Lake City, Utah
- San Diego, California



# 2.0 Program Accomplishments

During FY20, the RCFL Program provided the following services to the local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies they support. The following statistics reflect work completed by the RCFLs.





# Digital Forensics Services

**646**Searches

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

**2612**Free RCFL Program
Training\*

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

**26**Examiner Court
Testimony\*

Number of times RCFL examiners testified in court and/or at hearings.

<sup>\*</sup>Training and examiner testimony statistics are maintained locally by each RCFL.

# Laboratory Achievements

#### **New England RCFL (NERCFL)**



# Tennessee Valley RCFL (TVRCFL)



- Milestone: The NERCFL achieved ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB) accreditation during this rating period.
- ◆ Case Related: The NERCFL doubled the number of examinations closed compared to the previous year.
- ♦ Other: The NERCFL adapted to the multiple challenges presented in FY20, and hosted, delivered, and/or coordinated the following training: 2 Cellebrite Reader courses; 6 Triage Toolkit sessions; 2 sessions of Social Media Exploitation for our law enforcement partners; 1 Linux Command Line course; and 1 CART Boot Disc course.
- ♦ **Technical:** Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) Deen Abbott re-wrote and taught a Mobile Forensics SQLite course via online training during the pandemic.

### Northwest RCFL (NWRCFL)



- Award: Lily Ho, Digital Forensic Examiner for Hillsboro Police Department, was awarded the Employee of the Year at Hillsboro—voted for by her fellow Hillsboro co-workers.
- ▶ **Technical:** Senior Forensic Examiner (SFE) Justin Lazenby created a highly complex system for tracking all Mobile Device Unlock Service (MDUS) requests, which originated from the Operational Technology Division (OTD). SFE Lazenby's macros in Microsoft Office takes a very administrative heavy paperwork procedure and streamlines it into a series of databases, where the user needs only to input some basic information. The macros create several different forms for use in case notes, final reports, and MDUS tracking. It has been deployed to several RCFLs across the FBI.

## San Diego RCFL (SDRCFL)



 Award: The SDRCFL was honored with the Helene and Joseph Sherwood prize by the Anti-Defamation League for the work and support provided during the Synagogue shooting investigation in Poway.



# 3.0 Partnership

# Welcome

The first RCFL was established in San Diego, California, in 1999 and began as a cooperative effort between the FBI and other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to address digital evidence.

The most significant resource RCFLs possess is their talented staff of Digital Forensic Examiners. This year, the RCFL was fortunate enough to have 134 law enforcement partners from state, local, and federal agencies, including the following new participating agencies:



#### Greater Houston RCFL (GHRCFL)

- ♦ Montgomery County Sheriff's Office
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection

#### New England RCFL (NERCFL)

♦ U.S. Customs and Border Protection

#### Northwest RCFL (NWRCFL)

Multnomah County Sheriff's Office

#### Orange County RCFL (OCRCFL)

Palm Springs Police Department

#### San Diego RCFL (SDRCFL)

Homeland Security Investigations

#### Tennessee Valley RCFL (TVRCFL)

♦ Lincoln County, Tennessee, Sheriff's Department

# RCFL Benefits of Participation

A RCFL is a partnership between the FBI and other law enforcement agencies operating within a geographic region. Organizations that enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the FBI become participating agencies in the RCFL. In this capacity, participating agencies detail personnel to staff the laboratory, and in return, they and their personnel receive the following benefits of participation:

- Participating agencies receive priority service for analysis.
- Detailees from state and local agencies receive the same sophisticated technical training that is provided to FBI's certified digital forensics examiners.
- ◆ Detailees from state/local agencies have the potential to receive compensation of overtime worked and use of a government-leased automobile while on official duty.
- ◆ Detailees from state and local agencies are provided state-of-the-art forensic equipment for use at the RCFLs. The FBI invests significant funds on computer examination workstations and advanced software for all certified and forensic examiners in training.
- Participating agencies receive access to mobile device unlocking services and other advanced forensic techniques.
- Participating agencies receive immediate access to expert analysis and advance technology—not only the examiners at that particular RCFL, but nationwide due to the forensic network.
- Participating agencies receive a stake in the management of the RCFL.

# 4.0 Asset Forfeiture Program

# **Program Overview**

The Department of Justice (DOJ) Asset Forfeiture Program's (AFP) mission is to use asset forfeiture as a tool in order to deter, disrupt and dismantle criminal enterprises by depriving criminals of the instruments of illicit activity. The AFP touches federal, state, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies in the country. The AFP's primary goals are:

- To punish and deter criminal activity by depriving criminals of property used in or acquired through illegal activities.
- To promote and enhance cooperation among federal, state, local, tribal, and foreign law enforcement agencies.
- To recover assets that may be used to compensate victims when authorized under federal law.
- To ensure the AFP is administered professionally, lawfully, and in a manner consistent with sound public policy.

To achieve these goals, DOJ uses asset forfeiture to the fullest extent possible to investigate, identify, seize, and forfeit the assets of criminals and their organizations, while ensuring that due process rights of all property owners are protected. Asset forfeiture plays a critical role in disrupting and dismantling illegal enterprises, depriving criminals of the proceeds of illegal activity, deterring crime, and restoring property to victims. The effective use of both criminal and civil asset forfeiture is an essential component of the Department's efforts to combat the most sophisticated criminal actors and organizations—including terrorist financiers, cyber criminals, fraudsters, human traffickers, and transnational drug cartels.

Since 1994, DOJ has made funding available from the Asset Forfeiture Fund (AFF) for the payment of various costs incurred by sworn state and local law enforcement officers participating in joint law enforcement operations with federal agencies.

The FBI is partnered with DOJ in the AFF Program. This partnership allows the RCFL program to support reimbursement of overtime and training as well as providing leased vehicles to sworn officers assigned to the laboratories. The RCFL program has benefited from its ongoing partnership with AFF each year since 2006.

# How The Program Works

Each year, the RCFL National Program Office (NPO), as part of the annual request for allocation of resources from the AFF, submits a proposal for funding to allow the FBI to support the offsetting of costs to sworn state and local law enforcement officers.

Because AFF resources are awarded to the FBI on an annual basis, there is no guarantee that these benefits will be available from one year to the next.



# 5.0 Assuring Quality Services

The RCFL Program is deeply committed to providing the highest quality digital forensics services to the law enforcement community and is recognized by the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB). The accreditation is a formal demonstration of competence, reliability, and trusted results. Conforming to the international forensic community standards further enhances and strengthens public confidence in the laboratories. Recognizing the objective of the quality program to continuously improve, the accreditation is reviewed on a four-year cycle.

The ANAB/American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (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.

In April of 2016, ASCLD/LAB merged into the ANAB organization. The RCFLs began transitioning to the ANAB accreditation program beginning in FY18. The RCFL program is now fully transitioned to the ANAB banner under the ISO/IEC 17025:2017 standards.

# Benefits of Accreditation

Although RCFLs follow strict FBI protocols and quality assurance/quality control procedures, additional benefits of earning ANAB accreditation include:

- ♠ Improves Quality—Accreditation heightens the quality of RCFLs services because an independent, impartial, and objective team of experts review the laboratory's findings and operations. Accredited laboratories must follow appropriate quality controls and quality assurance procedures.
- Strengthens Operations—Accreditation ensures an RCFL is abiding by criteria that are designed to assess performance, while also strengthening operations.
- Promotes Standards—The general public and RCFL customers are assured that the laboratory is following established and widely accepted standards.
- ♦ Guarantees Examiner Qualifications—ANAB requires that laboratories have certified Examiners on staff. All RCFL Examiners undergo the FBI's Computer Analysis Response Team (CART) certification process and cannot perform examinations independently without successfully completing this process. Certification implies that an individual has a certain body of knowledge and counters a recent trend where an investigator takes a short course in computer forensics and is deemed an "expert."
- Protects Evidence—Accreditation will reinforce the program's already stringent evidence handling procedures.
- ◆ Ensures Accurate Results—Accreditation can enhance forensic results by requiring sufficient written protocols that serve as an empirical basis for the most basic and complex procedures.

# 6.0 On the Horizon for FY21

#### **Full ANAB Accreditation**

The Operational Technology Division (OTD), Digital Forensics and Analytics Section (DFAS), with the assistance of the RCFLs, will continue to move forward in obtaining authority for ANAB accreditation in Forensic Testing at the Headquarters CART office. This authority will provide ANAB accreditation for all 17 RCFLs under its guidance and responsibility.



#### **DCAP 2.0**

OTD's Multimedia Exploitation Unit (MXU) and the Operational Network Technologies Unit (ONTU) will continue their efforts with the build out of local stacks and network bandwidth increases for the Digital Content Analysis Platform (DCAP) 2.0 at all the RCFLs. DCAP 2.0 uses a combination of the commercial cloud, FBI on premise systems, and the public internet to give investigative teams the tools and services they need to do their jobs from anywhere at any time. Increased process automation from these efforts will continue to reduce the burden of data movement and processing while increasing adoption with many RCFL customers.

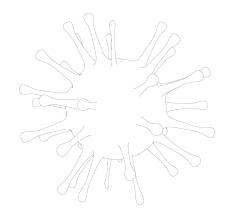


## Return to Normalcy

As the novel SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) pandemic disrupted all aspects of life, the RCFLs continued to provide support to our law enforcement partners as best they could, given the circumstances and without compromising their own health concerns. In FY21, the RCFLs will continue to evaluate and monitor this situation and look forward to returning to normal operations, or what resembles a new normalcy post COVID-19.







# **PART TWO**

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# **Chicago RCFL**

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



#### WWW.RCFL.GOV/CHICAGO



### **Progress Report**

The RCFL's Progress and Accomplishments for FY20:

- 94 Number of agencies that requested assistance: 80 Local, 2 State, 12 Federal
- 1,066 Number of service requests received: 691 Local, 4 State, 371 Federal
  - Number of cases supported by on-site operations
- Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensic tools and techniques
  - 4 Number of times personnel testified in court

# **Top 5 Crimes**

- 1 Homicide
- 2 Obscenity
- 3 Sexual Assault
- 4 Dangerous Drugs
- 5 Assault

# **Participating Agencies:**

- ♦ Berwyn Police Department
- ◆ Carol Stream Police Department
- ◆ 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
- ◆ Rockford Police Department
- ◆ Romeoville Police Department
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- ♦ Will County Sheriff's Office

#### **Notable News**

#### Netflix 'Cheer' Actor Arrested

A Naperville man was arrested today on a federal child pornography charge for allegedly enticing an underage boy to produce sexually explicit videos and photos of himself.

According to a criminal complaint filed in U.S. District Court in Chicago, Jeremiah Harris, 21, contacted the underage boy on a social media application and repeatedly enticed him to produce sexually explicit videos and photographs of himself and send them to Harris. The minor victim informed Harris during their initial online encounter that he was 13 years old, the complaint states.

#### A Billion Dollar Fraud Scheme

CGRCFL examiners are processing digital media utilized by executives and employees of Outcome Health whom stand accused in a \$1 billion fraud scheme. Evidence recovered thus far has led to charges against six individuals.

#### Material Support to ISIS

CGRCFL examiners are processing dozens of pieces of digital media in support of the investigation of Thomas Osadzinski. Osadzinski was developing applications and providing them to ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Sham) that assisted in disseminating their propaganda. CGRCFL examiners are also decrypting several applications and databases that were utilized in the commission of his acts.

#### **Exploitation of Minors**

CGRCFL examiners processed more than a dozen items that provided critical evidence leading to the guilty plea of the offender, Bryan Osborne. Evidence recovered included images, videos, and communications that showed the offender took videos and images, and engaged in sexual acts with the underage victims. The offender was subsequently sentenced to 22 years in prison.

#### Theft of Trade Secrets

A CGRCFL examiner testified against Robert O'Rourke in a case in which O'Rourke stole secrets from his former employer and accepted a job with a competitor in China. The defendant was sentenced to one-year and a day in prison.



#### Pulse Check: Status of FY20 Goals

**Expansion:** A fully functional satellite RCFL laboratory in the Rockford Resident Agency was in place in the fourth quarter.

Quality Assurance: Accreditation is being moved to under the headquarters authority. As such, there will be no ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB) on-site audit.

Increase the Number of Forensic Examiners (FEs): One Forensic Examiner in Training (FET) was certified as a Forensic Examiner (FE). Several other FETs were scheduled for the final moot court examination certification training, and their classes were cancelled due to the pandemic.

Staffing: Five new FETs were brought onboard in the third quarter, three from the Chicago Police Department, one from the Joliet Police Department, and one from the FBI.

Internal Audit: An extensive internal audit in anticipation of an ANAB on-site assessment was completed.



#### **Goals for FY21**

**Expansion:** Increase the number of participating agencies at the Rockford Satellite Office.

**Internal Audit:** Successfully complete an internal audit to maintain ANAB accreditation.

**Examiners:** Increase the number of fully certified examiners at the CGRCFL.

**Staff:** Increase staffing at the CGRCFL from current levels.

# **Greater Houston RCFL**



Year Opened: 2005 Laboratory Director: SSA Scott Ma, FBI **Service Area:** Southern Texas Number of Agencies in Area: 327 Accredited Since: 2009



WWW.RCFL.GOV/HOUSTON



# **Participating Agencies:**

- FBI—Houston Division
- Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office
- Harris County Sheriff's Office
- Montgomery County Sheriff's Office NEW



- Texas Department of Public Safety
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection **NEW**



### **Progress Report**

The RCFL's Progress and Accomplishments for FY20:

- Number of agencies that requested 33 assistance: 27 Local, 3 State, 3 Federal
- Number of service requests received: 378 167 Local, 34 State, 177 Federal
- Number of cases supported by on-site 18 operations
- Number of law enforcement officers trained 74 in various digital forensic tools and techniques

#### **Notable News**

#### Welcome



Montgomery County Sheriff's Office



U.S. Customs and Border Protection

# **Top 5 Crimes**

- 1 Homicide
- 2 Sexual Exploitation of Minor
- 3 Sexual Assault
- 4 **Dangerous Drugs**
- 5 **Smuggling Aliens**

#### Sex Trafficking of a Minor

Romello Lee, 24, of Houston has been convicted on one count of trafficking a minor for commercial sex and one count of trafficking a minor by force for commercial sex. During trial, the jury heard that Lee used Backpage.com, a defunct solicitation website, to advertise the sexual services of two minor victims, ages 14 and 16.

Law enforcement ultimately arrested Lee in a sting operation with one of the minors at a hotel in northwest Houston. At sentencing, Lee faces a mandatory minimum of 10 years and up to life in prison for the sex trafficking of a minor and 15 years and up to life for the trafficking of minor by force. Lee has been and will remain in custody pending hearing. The GHRCFL conducted an examination on the submitted cell phone, which included having to remove the main Printed Circuit Board (PCB).

#### Conspiracy to Steal Trade Secrets

Shan Shi, 55, previously found guilty by a jury of Conspiracy to Steal Trade Secrets, was sentenced to sixteen months in prison and ordered to forfeit \$342,424. Evidence presented established that Shi had entered into an agreement with Taizhou CBM Future New Material Science and Technology Co. Ltd (CBMF) to develop the manufacture of syntactic foam, which is a buoyancy material that aids in offshore oil and gas drilling. The defendant set up a U.S. based corporation, CBM International, Inc. (CBMI), in Houston, Texas, and hired ex-employees of a victim company that manufactured syntactic foam. The former employees of the victim company then transferred proprietary information to CBMI and the defendant, who used the information to create a syntactic foam manufacturing process in China.

The government entered into evidence that the defendant intended to benefit People's Republic of China (PRC) by developing the technology, and after the technology was stolen, the defendant attempted to sell syntactic foam, based on the stolen proprietary information, to the China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC) and the People's Liberation Army (PLA) of the PRC.

Shi, another defendant Gang Liu, CBMI, and CBMF were subsequently charged in a superseding indictment with Conspiracy to Commit Economic Espionage, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1831. Shi, CBMI, and CBMF were additionally charged in the superseding indictment with Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(h). The jury found the defendant guilty of Conspiracy to Steal Trade Secrets and acquitted on the remaining counts.

The GHRCRL assisted with on-site searches at two businesses and seized over 500 evidence items. Subsequently, the GHRCFL imaged/extracted 319 evidence items in 57 days. The remainder of the items were triaged by the case agent. Information Technology Specialist-Forensic Examiner (ITS-FE) Kevin Cohn provided expert testimony during the trial.



#### Pulse Check: Status of FY20 Goals

Promote Outreach and Provide Training: The GHRCFL hosted NW3C courses and provided Case Agent Investigative Review (CAIR) training throughout FY20.

Strengthen Examiner Capabilities: One Forensic Examiner in Training (FET) successfully completed Digital Forensic Examiner 1 (DFE1) course, and a Senior Forensic Examiner (SFE) successfully completed the SQL Mobile Device course.

Enhance Laboratory Capabilities: The GHRCFL acquired equipment for cell phone repair and advanced cell phone analysis in addition to upgrading their server room to 30 amp plugs.



#### **Goals for FY21**

**Strengthen Examiner Capabilities:** Enhance training opportunities for examiners and trainees through online and in-person courses and certifications.

**Enhance Laboratory Capabilities:** Enhance laboratory capability and practices through the acquisition of additional technology and hardware.

Maintain ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB) accreditation.

**Provide Training:** Provide CAIR and other training classes to investigators when needed.



# **Heart of America RCFL**

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

#### WWW.RCFL.GOV/HEART-OF-AMERICA



### **Progress Report**

The RCFL's Progress and Accomplishments for FY20:

- Number of agencies that requested assistance: 48 Local, 3 State, 6 Federal
- Number of service requests received: 403 Local, 15 State, 228 Federal
- Number of cases supported by on-site operations
- Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensic tools and techniques
  - 5 Number of times personnel testified in court

# **Top 5 Crimes**

- 1 Homicide
- 2 Assault
- 3 Dangerous Drugs
- 4 Exploitation/Enticement
- 5 Sex Offense

## **Participating Agencies:**

- ♦ Clay County, Missouri, Sheriff's Office
- ◆ FBI—Kansas City Division
- ♦ Gladstone, Missouri, Police Department
- ♦ Independence, Missouri, Police Department
- ♦ Kansas Bureau of Investigation
- ♦ Kansas City, Kansas, Police Department
- ♦ Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department
- ◆ Lawrence, Kansas, Police Department
- ◆ Lee's Summit, Missouri, Police Department
- ♦ 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

#### **Notable News**

#### Material Support for ISIS

Robert Hester pleaded guilty to attempting to provide material support to ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Sham). Hester actively attempted to plot a mass casualty attack with others that he believed were acting on behalf of ISIS.

HARCFL provided several instances of on-site assistance as well as a cell phone extraction that was used as a major part of the prosecution.

#### Threats Over The Internet

David Dorsett, 37, pleaded guilty to two counts of making extortionate threats via the internet against two web sites that posted criticism of a Wichita lawyer.

Information Technology Specialist-Forensic Examiner (ITS-FE) Amy Corrigan's examination of emails, files, code, and key word searches as they related to extortion resulted in a comprehensive report used for the prosecution.

# Racially Motivated Violent Extremist

Army infantry soldier, Jarrett William Smith, pleaded guilty to distributing instructions for making explosive devices. Smith was



accused of discussing killing members of Antifa and attacking a major news outlet with a vehicle bomb.

Task Force Officer (TFO) Forensic Examiner (FE) Josh Clevenger processed several pieces of evidence and worked with case agents through Case Agent Investigative Review (CAIR).



# Crimes by School Resource Officer

Ex-Kansas City, Kansas, School Resource Officer, Michael Eugene English, Sr., pleaded guilty to rape,

aggravated criminal sodomy, and sexual exploitation of a minor.

HARCFL provided on-site assistance, then paired witness/victim statements with email, chat, and video evidence from the school.

#### **Money Laundering**

Henry Asomani pleaded guilty to wire fraud in a romance scheme of nearly \$900,000.

SA/FE Stephen Schmidt worked with the case agent via CAIR.

#### **Pulse Check: Status of FY20 Goals**

**Increase Staffing:** One Forensic Examiner in Training (FET) onboarded during the fourth quarter of FY20.

Decrease Backlog: The backlog at the end of the fiscal year was 67, which all were in Mobile Device Unlock Service (MDUS) status. HARCFL did not have the ability to assign MDUS cases, so all unassigned cases in backlog status were at least being worked in the process of MDUS.

Promote Outreach and Training: While training numbers were down significantly due to COVID, HARCFL continued outreach and brought on one new Task Force Officer (TFO) and identified a potential new participating agency and is in the process of recruitment.



#### **Goals for FY21**

Staffing: Increase staffing.

**Exam Results:** Provide USB based or remote accessible results for at least 50% of exams.

**Promote Outreach and Training:** Increase training and outreach.



# **Intermountain West RCFL**



Year Opened: 2005
Laboratory Director: SSA Randy Kim, FBI
Service Area: Utah, Idaho, and Montana
Number of Agencies in Area: 432
Accredited Since: 2008



#### WWW.RCFL.GOV/INTERMOUNTAIN-WEST



# **Progress Report**

The RCFL's Progress and Accomplishments for FY20:

- Number of agencies that requested assistance: 85 Local, 10 State, 9 Federal
- Number of service requests received: 332 Local, 54 State, 121 Federal
- Number of cases supported by on-site operations
- Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensic tools and techniques
- 2 Number of times personnel testified in court

## **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

#### **Notable News**

#### **Double Murder**

The subjects, Chad Daybell and Lori Vallow, were indicted on murder charges in connection with the deaths of Vallow's two children, Tylee Ryan and JJ Vallow, whose remains were discovered on Chad Daybell's property. IWRCFL is examining digital evidence in this matter, and the FBI and a local Idaho law enforcement agency are investigating the case.

# **Top 5 Crimes**

- 1 Exploitation/Enticement
- 2 Homicide
- 3 Dangerous Drugs
- 4 Fraud
- 5 Rape





#### Aggravated Murder

Subject, Shaun French, pleaded guilty to aggravated murder in exchange for prosecutors not seeking the death penalty. Subject had a sexual relationship with the victim, who was 14. To prevent her from testifying and providing evidence, the subject brutally murdered the victim by stabbing her and slitting her throat in her house. The subject was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

#### A Family Murdered

Subject, 16-year-old Colin Haynie, ambushed, shot, and killed his mother and three siblings as they arrived home during the course of a day. Subject also shot and injured his father. Subject was charged with four counts of aggravated murder. The IWRCFL is examining all of the digital devices and working with a local law enforcement agency case agent to determine motive and any evidence related to the homicides.

#### Forensic Tools Recover Key Evidence

Subject, Mark Burns, is a rapist charged with multiple sexual assaults and rapes, spanning two states in the early 2000s. Burns was charged with multiple counts of aggravated sexual assault, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated burglary, and aggravated robbery. Subject was also charged with murder on another case. Burns pleaded guilty to the sexual assault charges and was recently sentenced to 242 years in prison. The IWRCFL examined the digital evidence in this matter.

#### Pulse Check: Status of FY20 Goals

Enhance Staffing: IWRCFL successfully certified 2 Forensic Examiner Trainees (FETs) as FEs. IWRCFL also successfully converted an Agent Digital Evidence Laboratory (DEL) Tech to an Agent FET.

Advanced Training: IWRCFL FEs and FETs have participated in online advanced training courses in order to increase knowledge base and maintain/increase advanced certifications.

Minimize Backlog: Backlog for the 3 months in the fourth quarter of FY20 were 43, 44, and 48 cases. Aging requests, those older than one year, were 19, 25, and 32. All participating agency cases were being worked in a timely basis. For FY20, IWRCFL set a new record for the number of cases being opened. IWRCFL opened 507 cases, but closed 506 cases.

Maintain ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB) accreditation: The IWRCFL completed its required annual internal Audit Management Review.



#### **Goals for FY21**

**Enhance Staffing.** 

**Advanced Certification:** Maintain/increase examiner advanced certification.

**Minimize Backlog:** Maintain/reduce backlog and aging requests.

**Maintain ANAB Certification.** 



# **Kentucky RCFL**

Year Opened: 2006
Laboratory Director: SSA Jeffrey T. Hester, FBI
Service Area: State of Kentucky
Number of Agencies in Area: 420
Accredited Since: 2009



#### WWW.RCFL.GOV/KENTUCKY



### **Progress Report**

The RCFL's Progress and Accomplishments for FY20:

- Number of agencies that requested assistance: 22 Local, 1 State, 3 Federal
- Number of service requests received: 80 Local, 10 State, 149 Federal
  - 7 Number of cases supported by on-site operations
- Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensic tools and techniques

# **Top 5 Crimes**

- 1 Exploitation/Enticement
- 2 Dangerous Drugs (3-way tie)
- 3 Homicide (3-way tie)
- 4 Sexual Assault (3-way tie)
- 5 Robbery

# **Participating Agencies:**

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

#### **Notable News**



#### Police Officers Charged with Wire Fraud

On February 6, 2020, United States Attorney Russell Coleman announced the sentencing of three Louisville Metro Police Department (LMPD) Officers, charged with wire fraud for their part in a scheme to defraud the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the federal government, and their own department. Defendants, Brian Stanfield, Todd Roadhouse, and Mark Final, were sentenced to three years' probation with eight months on curfew, ordered to pay restitution in their individual amounts, and ordered to pay a Special Assessment of \$100.

The defendants took part in a scheme that ran from at least 2014 to August 2017 to defraud LMPD, the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and the federal government for monetary gains by submitting overtime requests for time not worked and failing to work during their assigned shifts. The three also submitted overtime requests claiming to have worked hours for the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) on Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) matters. All three defendants waived indictment by the grand jury and pleaded guilty to a felony Information before the Court in October 2019.

#### Kidnapping and Murder-for-Hire

On February 7, 2020, John Sadiqullah was convicted by a federal jury of conspiring to commit kidnapping and murder-for-hire, targeting a victim and his minor son. Sadiqullah believed that the victim owed him tens of thousands of dollars. After repeated attempts to try to get his money back, through persistent visits to the victim's place of business, Sadiqullah contacted co-defendant Imam Mahmoud Shalash to help him get his money back.

Shalash had been working with a confidential source, for whom Shalash had laundered approximately \$100,000. Shalash introduced the confidential source to Sadiqullah as an individual who could collect debts, by any means necessary.

Evidence at trial demonstrated that Sadiqullah and the confidential source proceeded to agree to kidnap the victim or his son, attempt to retrieve the money, and then, if necessary, kill the victim.

The confidential source, who had been working for the FBI during this entire period of time, reported the incident to the FBI, which then took the victim and his son into protective custody.

Sadiqullah was sentenced to 106 months for one count of Title 18 USC § 1958 - Use of Interstate Commerce Facilities in the Commission of Murderfor-Hire and another 106 months for one count Title 18 USC § 1201(c) - Conspiracy to Kidnapping, to run concurrently. Sadiqullah also received five years of supervised probation upon release.

Co-defendant Shalash was sentenced to a total of 36 months (24 months prison and 12 months home incarceration) and five years of supervised release. Shalash pleaded guilty to violating Title 18 USC § 1201(c) - Conspiracy to Kidnapping and Title 18 USC § 1956(a)(3)(B) - Money Laundering.



#### **Pulse Check: Status of FY20 Goals**

Increase Participation: The KRCFL has identified a potential new participating agency and is in the process of recruitment.

**Provide Training:** The KRCFL hosted digital evidence training and ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB) Assessor training in FY20.

**Staffing:** A Jefferson County Task Force Officer (TFO) started working full-time in the Kentucky RCFL in June of 2020.

**Efficiency:** The KRCFL closed 37 requests per examiner in FY20.



#### **Goals for FY21**

**Increase: Participation:** The KRCFL will attempt to add another participating partner agency from the agencies that have submitted evidence to the KRCFL.

**Maintain Staffing:** The KRCFL will increase the number of certified Forensic Examiners (FEs) by adding at least one certified FE to the current staffing level.

**Provide Training:** The KRCFL will train state and local agencies on obtaining and exploiting digital evidence.

**Efficiency:** The KRCFL will close 35 requests per FF

**Education:** The KRCFL will educate FBI employees on new digital capabilities, procedures, and processes of the KRCFL.



# **New England RCFL**

Year Opened: 2019 Laboratory Director: SSA Bruce Hartung, FBI Service Area: States of Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island Number of Agencies in Area: 759



WWW.RCFL.GOV/NEW-ENGLAND



### **Progress Report**

The RCFL's Progress and Accomplishments for FY20:

- Number of agencies that requested 18 assistance: 14 Local, 2 State, 2 Federal
- Number of service requests received: 419 40 Local, 3 State, 376 Federal
- Number of cases supported by on-site 65 operations
- Number of law enforcement officers trained 100 in various digital forensic tools and techniques
  - 2 Number of times personnel testified in court

# **Top 5 Crimes**

- 1 Weapons Offense
- 2 Sexual Exploitation of Minor
- 3 Intelligence
- 4 Fraud (2-way tie)
- 5 Homicide (2-way tie)

# **Participating Agencies:**

- Boston Police Department
- Brookline Police Department
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
- FBI—Boston Division
- Framingham Police Department
- Massachusetts State Police
- Middlesex Sheriff's Office
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection **NEW**



#### **Notable News**

#### Welcome



U.S. Customs and Border Protection

#### Threats to Collegiate Athletes

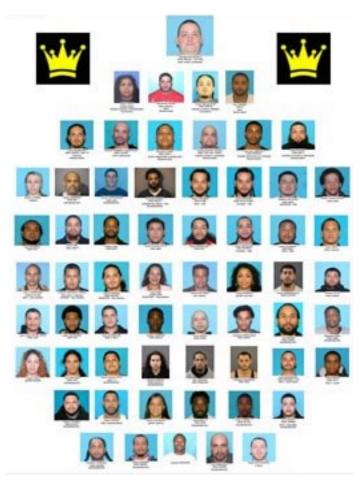
A former varsity soccer player at Babson College in Wellesley was sentenced to one and one-half years in prison and ordered to pay a fine of \$5,500 for sending death threats in 2017 to at least 45 professional and collegiate athletes, whose on field performances he blamed for his gambling debts.

Addison Choi, 23, of Fullerton, California, pleaded quilty in July to one count of transmitting in interstate and foreign commerce a threat to injure the person of another. Choi posted the racist and murderous threats anonymously via Instagram between July and December 2017. NERCFL assisted with the seizure, extraction, and analysis of the subject's digital devices and media.

#### **Drug Trafficking**

A five-year investigation into the criminal activities of the Eastern Region of the Almighty King and Queen Nation (Latin Kings') by the North Shore Gang Task Force, culminated in racketeering and drug trafficking charges against 62 leaders and members of the gang in four states, and two additional probable cause arrests.

This investigation surpassed the dismantling of Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13) in 2016 as the biggest takedown in Division's history. The campaign amassed key evidence of the Latin Kings' involvement in the unsolved murder of a teenager in Boston 10 years ago and thwarted plots by the gang to kill at least eight people in Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Florida. In a fortuitous twist, two juvenile boys, who had been reported missing, were returned to their homes in Fall River and New Bedford. The execution of 24 search warrants yielded multiple weapons, including an MP-5 submachine gun with silencer, an AR-15, machetes, and knives. The investigation was carried out by more than 650 special agents and law enforcement officers, 10 SWAT teams, five aircraft and three K-9 units. The NERCFL assisted throughout the investigation. On the day of the takedown, NERCFL examiners supported on-site searches, seizure, and analysis of the gang's IT infrastructure and de facto system administrator.



#### Pulse Check: Status of FY20 Goals

**Training:** The NERCFL delivered two sections of Cellebrite Reader training for Investigators, Social Media Exploitation, Linux Command Line, and CART Boot Disc.

Advanced Training: As part of the performance plans, Forensic Examiners (FEs) have been assigned specialties and received at least one class in their designated specialty.

**Advanced Capabilities:** During a recent large scale investigation, Boston NERCFL facilitated the use of advanced tools provided by Operational Technology Division (OTD), Multimedia Exploitation Unit (MXU), for the rapid, collaborative multi-agency review of a large volume of video evidence submitted by the public. NERCFL created documentation to assist each user with the initial use of the system, coordinated training, and assisted users with their review. NERCFL collaborated with MXU and multiple local agencies to assist them in the use of Digital Content Analysis Platform (DCAP) to analyze a large amount of evidence. This is the first instance of non-FBI partners using DCAP to perform such analysis.

**Funding:** Participating agency Brookline Police Department has offered to be the General Treasurer and grant writing agency. The Local Executive Board (LEB) voted and approved this request.



#### **Goals for FY21**

**Outreach:** Recruit at least one more partner agency.

**Quality Assurance and Efficiency:** Increase output by closing at least 350 requests while maintaining NERCFL's high level of quality.

**Certification:** Certify at least two more examiners.



# **New Jersey RCFL**

Year Opened: 2004
Laboratory Director: SSA Steven J. Newman, FBI
Service Area: State of New Jersey
Number of Agencies in Area: 526
Accredited Since: 2006



#### WWW.RCFL.GOV/NEW-JERSEY



### **Progress Report**

The RCFL's Progress and Accomplishments for FY20:

- Number of agencies that requested assistance: 30 Local, 3 State, 2 Federal
- Number of service requests received: 96 Local, 98 State, 115 Federal
- Number of cases supported by on-site operations
- Number of law enforcement officers trained 551 in various digital forensic tools and techniques
  - 1 Number of times personnel testified in court

# **Top 5 Crimes**

- 1 Homicide
- 2 Exploitation/Enticement
- 3 Assault
- 4 Attempted Murder
- 5 Burglary, Dangerous Drugs (2-way tie)

## **Participating Agencies:**

- ♦ FBI—Newark Division
- Hudson County Prosecutor's Office
- ♦ Mercer County Prosecutor's Office
- Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office
- New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice
- New Jersey Office of the Attorney General
- ◆ New Jersey State Police

#### **Notable News**

#### Computer Hacking Scheme

Ankur Agarwal, 45, of Montville, New Jersey, was sentenced to 94 months in prison, three years of supervised release, and was ordered to pay a fine of \$25,000 for perpetrating a sophisticated computer hacking scheme against two New Jersey companies and stealing their data.

Agarwal admitted he physically trespassed onto the companies' premises and illegally installed hardware key-logger devices onto the company's computers. The key-logger devices covertly recorded the keystrokes of the company's employees and provided Agarwal with their usernames and passwords. Agarwal also created a computer malicious code, which he installed on the company's computer systems and used to steal and transfer the data to himself. Agarwal also obtained unauthorized access into an employee's computer system and then fraudulently created an access badge for himself.

Multiple examiners assisted in the execution of several search warrants. The examination consisted of processing over 50 items totaling 32 terabytes.

# Multiple Charges Against Doctor

A doctor, who once led the skin cancer treatment program at Rutgers Cancer Institute, pleaded guilty to a range of charges, including official misconduct and computer theft. Dr. James Goydos, 58, who lives in East Brunswick and was a leading surgeon at the Rutgers Cancer Institute, was originally charged with a 160-count indictment in 2019.

The indictment charged him with secretly photographing as many as 30 women as they used a second-floor bathroom at the Cancer Institute in New Brunswick. These charges were dropped as part of a plea agreement. Dr. Goydos pleaded guilty to six burglary charges, in addition to impersonation, official misconduct, possession of an assault weapon, and computer theft. Prosecutors state he broke into the offices of four of his colleagues at the Cancer Institute and hacked into their computers. Dr. Goydos stole personal information from them and later tried to impersonate them.

Dr. Goydos was sentenced to four years of probation with 300 days in the county jail and will also have to do community service and pay fines. The NJRCFL assisted the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office with the execution of several search warrants.

Numerous laboratory examinations were performed on 17 computers and several other pieces of media.

#### Jersey City Shooting

On December 10, 2019, a shooting was perpetrated at a kosher grocery store located in the Greenville section of Jersey City, New Jersey. Five people were killed at the store, including the two assailants. Additionally, the assailants wounded one customer and two police officers. A Jersey City Police Department Detective was shot and killed by the assailants at a nearby cemetery just before the grocery store attack.

Multiple examiners deployed to the field to assist in video retrieval from Digital Video Recorders (DVRs) located in identified areas. Assistance in extracting four cell phones and one laptop was also performed by the NJRCFL.

#### **Police Shooting**

A New Jersey State Trooper was shot in Pittsgrove, New Jersey, while investigating a home invasion that happened earlier in the day. According to investigators, a woman had been beaten and robbed by a group of women during the robbery, and the trooper was conducting interviews with witnesses. As the trooper was investigating the earlier crime, authorities said, five vehicles approached the scene. After the plain clothed officer identified himself as law enforcement, the group opened fire on the officer. The officer returned fire after being struck in the leg.

The NJRCFL performed video retrieval at six locations and 25 on-site cell phone extractions. The video extracted was a key factor in identifying some of the suspects.

#### Pulse Check: Status of FY20 Goals

Increase Staffing Certifications: Three Forensic Examiner Trainees (FETs) received their certification. All remaining FETs continue to complete required training and are moving closer toward certification.

Promote Outreach and Training by NJRCFL Personnel: Laboratory Director and Deputy Director presented an overview of the NJRCFL to the annual New Jersey Prosecutor's College. NJRCFL personnel delivered National Domestic Communications Center (NDCAC) Mobile Device Seizure Best Practices to state and local Detectives. NJRCFL presented Case Agent Investigative Review (CAIR) and NJRCFL overview to New Agents in the Newark Division.

Maintain Minimal Backlog: NJRCFL continued to maintain a minimal backlog with only three cases in backlog at the end of FY20.

Maintain Laboratory Accreditation:
Performed internal audits in preparation for ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB) audit.

Maintain Staffing: Candidates were interviewed, selected, and sent to background to fill an open FBI Information Technology Specialist (ITS)-FET position. One open FBI ITS-FET position was filled with a transfer from the Boston Division.

**Archival:** The NJRCFL has returned archived results for over 4200 cases to the originating agency.



#### **Goals for FY21**

**Enhance Laboratory Capabilities:** Increase certifications by current examiners and/or bring in a new technology previously unavailable to the NJRCFL.

Promote Outreach and Training by NJRCFL Personnel.

Maintain Minimal Backlog.

**Increase Participation:** Attempt to add participating agencies and/or increase staffing from active agencies.

**Implement Review Platform:** Work towards the implementation of a statewide review platform.

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# **New Mexico RCFL**

Year Opened: 2011
Laboratory Director: SSA Andrew Young, FBI
Service Area: State of New Mexico
Number of Agencies in Area: 135
Accredited Since: 2014



#### WWW.RCFL.GOV/NEW-MEXICO



### **Progress Report**

The RCFL's Progress and Accomplishments for FY20:

- Number of agencies that requested assistance: 23 Local, 5 State, 7 Federal
- Number of service requests received: 122 Local, 30 State, 124 Federal
- Number of cases supported by on-site operations
- Number of law enforcement officers trained 91 in various digital forensic tools and techniques

# **Top 5 Crimes**

- 1 Exploitation/Enticement
- 2 Homicide
- 3 Assault
- 4 Dangerous Drugs
- 5 Fraud

## **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 and Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement
- ♦ University of New Mexico

#### **Notable News**

#### Involvement with Chinese Government

Turab Lookman, a former Los Alamos Laboratory Scientist, pleaded guilty in federal court on January 24, 2020, to making a false statement to a government investigator about his involvement in the Thousand Talents Program, an initiative by the Chinese government to recruit people with knowledge of, and access to, intellectual property.

A grand jury previously indicted Lookman on May 22, 2019, on three counts of making false statements to the federal government. Lookman faces up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. Special Agent Forensic Examiner (SA/FE) Brian Nishida was able to successfully extract chat, SMS, and MMS messages containing photos and information regarding foreign travel. Wireless network information was also extracted providing additional international location information. Additional files were also bookmarked and extracted for the case agent to assist with the investigation.

#### Man Pleaded Guilty Facing Death Penalty

Chase Smotherman took a plea deal on January 24, 2020, of 40 to 60 years in prison for the crimes of kidnapping, homicide, weapons violations, drugs, and child pornography. Facing the possibility of the death penalty in a Federal Court trial, Chase Smotherman pleaded guilty Friday to two kidnapping related charges in the torture and death of John Soyka.

Soyka went missing in August 2017. His body was later found dismembered in a shallow grave in a rural area outside of Albuquerque. The murder represents one of the most graphic cases of homicide in Albuquerque in recent years. According to Smotherman's federal plea agreement, Smotherman and his then 19-year-old girlfriend, Mariah Ferry, kidnapped Soyka from an Albuquerque home in August 2017. Court documents indicate that Smotherman participated in beating, killing and dismembering Soyka. Smotherman and Ferry's crimes were captured in detail on cell phone video recordings.

FE Byron French was instrumental in locating digital evidence to support prosecution for each of the violations.

#### Manufacturing and Possession

Mark Vallejos was charged with one count of manufacturing and one count of possession (of child pornography) following a peer-to-peer investigation by David Gonzalez. Detective Kyle Woods took over the investigation and served a search warrant at Vallejos' residence back in 2017. FEs Bradley Streiff and Jeremey Guilmette participated in the search warrant and identified the child pornography location on the digital evidence media.

In January 2020, Vallejos pleaded guilty to possession with a sentencing range of 0-10 years. A sentencing memo was filed arguing for the full 10 years of incarceration due to Vallejos' repeated offenses. Judge Jacqueline Flores sentenced him to five years in Department of Corrections followed by five years of supervised probation.

#### **Child Pornography**

Alex Raab was charged with distribution of child pornography via Peer-to-Peer Bit Torrent. Special Agent Forensic Examiner (SA/FE) Durham examined nine separate evidence items and prepared them for investigative review. The review resulted in the eventual successful prosecution of the subject. Subject pleaded guilty to possession and received three years incarceration.

#### Pulse Check: Status of FY20 Goals

Maintain High Customer Satisfaction: The highest level of customer service was achieved through hard work, availability, listening to the customer, and providing solid, timely, and quality results. Any/all feedback items were addressed.

Increase Forensic Examiner Certification: A Task Force Officer (TFO) was certified by the end of FY20, even with COVID-19 setbacks.

Maintain Staffing: A TFO signed on full-time with the NMRCFL as an Information Technology Specialist-Forensic Examiner (ITS-FE). Interviews were conducted to fill the other positions. Candidates were selected, and they are currently undergoing background investigations.

Maintain and Foster Partnerships: After COVID-19 restrictions lifted, the LEB meeting occurred in August as scheduled last quarter. An FBI/RCFL/Cyber/Digital Forensics presentation was made to University of New Mexico (UNM) students. Tours were given to UNM students and FBI interns as well.

**Maintain Minimal Backlog:** The NMRCFL continued to maintain zero backlog throughout the fiscal year.

**Accreditation:** All audits, proficiency tests, and required training needed to maintain accreditation were completed.



#### **Goals for FY21**

Maintain High Customer Satisfaction: Ensure 100% of any negative feedback is addressed.

**Certifications:** Once COVID scheduling ends and discounting current COVID time, ensure all FETs are certified within 18 months of full-time onboarding.

**Staffing:** Fill vacant ITS-FE position(s).

**Maintain and Foster Partnerships.** 

Maintain Minimal Backlog.

**Accreditation:** Maintain requirements for accreditation, and complete annual audits and training.



# **North Texas RCFL**

Year Opened: 2000 Laboratory Director: SSA Thomas Tedder, FBI Service Area: All of North Texas, including Dallas-Fort Worth



Number of Agencies in Area: 573
Accredited Since: 2004

WWW.RCFL.GOV/NORTH-TEXAS



### **Participating Agencies:**

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

# **Progress Report**

The RCFL's Progress and Accomplishments for FY20:

- Number of agencies that requested assistance: 30 Local, 1 State, 2 Federal
- Number of service requests received: 234 Local, 6 State, 254 Federal
- Number of cases supported by on-site operations
- Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensic tools and techniques
- 1 Number of times personnel testified in court

#### **Notable News**



#### **Domestic Terrorism**

On December 29, 2019, a suspect entered White Settlement Church of Christ during a service and killed one parishioner, before being shot and killed. Two Forensic Examiners (FEs) completed the search and processing of evidence for the domestic terrorism case. Forensic examination of suspect's digital evidence helped determine he was acting alone and had a long history of mental illness.

# **Top 5 Crimes**

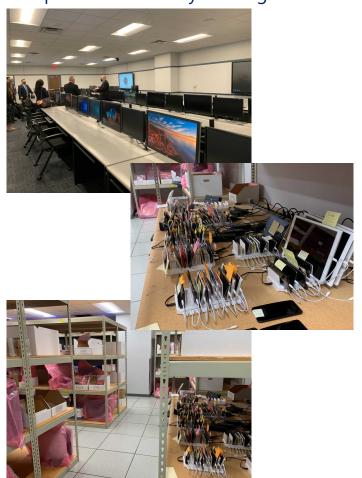
- 1 Homicide
- 2 Robbery
- 3 Sexual Assault
- 4 Assault
- 5 Dangerous Drugs, Obscenity (2-way tie)



Crimes of Violence and Carjacking

Four FEs responded to Midland Odessa for a shooting and carjacking of several people by subject. FEs collected video showing only one shooter. FEs also went to morgue and opened dead suspect's phone using fingerprint of suspect. The cellphone was of significant value as it contained both audio and video of several of the victims that the suspect shot and killed. Reviewing collected video throughout the county, FEs were able to quickly determine only one shooter involved ,calming fears of local population. Additionally, using alternative techniques, the deceased subject's phone was extracted showing video he filmed himself shooting victims.

#### Glimpse of New Facility Coming in FY21



#### 2020 Annual Report

#### **Pulse Check: Status of FY20 Goals**

New Facility: New NTRCFL space is completed. Waiting for signoff from Security Division, which will happen the week of November 9. Expected move-in date is December 15, 2020.

**Maintain Staffing:** The NTRCFL onboarded three new employees and one Task Force Officer (TFO) in FY20.

Customer Satisfaction: The NTRCFL worked with both external and internal customers to provide timely responses to requests. Most member agency cases are being worked inside of 45 days from receiving the request.

**Support Partnerships:** The NTRCFL has provided assistance to the U.S. Attorney's Office Northern District of Texas for two cases that have gone to court.



#### **Goals for FY21**

**New Facility:** Complete move to new NTRCFL space and have laboratory back up and running by end of second quarter.

**Maintain Staffing:** Replace retiring and departing examiners.

**Promote Outreach:** Increase member agencies at the NTRCFL.

Support Partnerships: Work with the Assistant United States Attorney's and District Attorney's Offices and customers to better meet their needs.

**Advanced Capabilities:** Update NTRCFL capabilities with new forensic tools and mobile laboratory.



# Northwest RCFL

Year Opened: 2005 Laboratory Director: SSA Betsy Bartko, FBI Service Area: Oregon and Southwest Washington Number of Agencies in Area: 109 Accredited Since: 2008



WWW.RCFL.GOV/NORTHWEST



### **Progress Report**

The RCFL's Progress and Accomplishments for FY20:

- Number of agencies that requested 30 assistance: 26 Local, 1 State, 3 Federal
- Number of service requests received: 277 119 Local, 15 State, 143 Federal
- Number of cases supported by on-site 13 operations
- Number of law enforcement officers trained 27 in various digital forensic tools and techniques
- 2 Number of times personnel testified in court

# **Top 5 Crimes**

- 1 Homicide
- 2 Exploitation/Enticement
- 3 Fraud (3-way tie)
- 4 Obstruction (3-way tie)
- 5 Sexual Assault (3-way tie)

## **Participating Agencies:**

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



- Oregon State Police
- Portland Police Bureau

#### **Notable News**

Welcome



Multnomah County Sheriff's Office



#### **Hate Crimes**

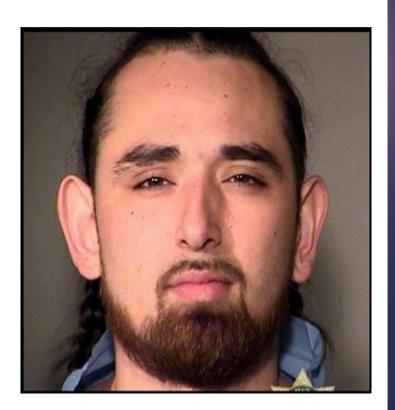
Subject Jeremy Christian stabbed and killed two men and injured a third has been sentenced to life in prison without parole. The men were defending two teenage girls, one of whom was wearing a hijab, from Christian's hateful rant aboard a Portland MAX train. The stabbings were caught on Closed Circuit Television (ČCTV) and personal cell phone. Christian was sentenced to two consecutive life terms without the possibility of release or parole for the murders of two men, as well as 310 months to be served on top of those sentences for stabbing the one victim and attacking another victim the night before.

Senior Forensic Examiner (SFE) Justin Lazenby overlaid audio transcripts onto several different layers of video. This also included body cam and patrol car CCTV.

#### Social Media Date Rape

Subject Mitchell Beckwith has been indicted on multiple charges for raping a woman he had just met through the application 'Tinder' and for kidnapping, threatening, and forcing her to perform sex acts in exchange for money. Beckwith was arrested by Gresham Police and booked into custody. Upon his arrest, he refused to provide the password of his iPhone to Gresham Police Officers.

Task Force Officer (TFO) Clay Long was contacted and using sound forensic techniques, was able to get the phone on Mobile Device Unlocking Service (MDUS) tools, and the next day, the phone was able to be extracted. Audio and visual files of the sexual assault were found, and he was charged with felony rape, kidnapping, sodomy, and prostitution charges as well as misdemeanor strangulation.



#### Pulse Check: Status of FY20 Goals

Increase Participation: Multnomah County Sheriff's Office signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and has become a participating agency. Their employee has onboarded at the NWRCFL.

Increase Training: Successfully completed osTriage training, and virtual training increased for examiners due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Improve Efficiency and Effectiveness: The NWRCFL is awaiting the Operational Technology Division (OTD) roll out of Digital Content Analysis Platform (DCAP) 2.0.

Promote Outreach and Training: Due to COVID-19 restrictions, other new agencies were contacted by phone or email, and as a result, will be readily available for FY21.



#### **Goals for FY21**

**Increase Participation:** Bring one additional participating agency on board by the end of the fourth quarter.

**Increase Training:** Increase liaison and training at the NWRCFL or other offsites.

Promote Outreach and Training: Liaison with and promote community outreach, travel to the NWRCFL's area of responsibility to increase awareness to local and state potential partners, and provide training and exposure to areas that otherwise would have no contact with the FBI and NWRCFL.

**Maintain Backlog:** Maintain or reduce backlog and aging requests.



# Orange County RCFL

Year Opened: 2011 Laboratory Director: SSA Stephen E. Crist, FBI Service Area: Central District of California Number of Agencies in Area: 252 Accredited Since: 2013



WWW.RCFL.GOV/ORANGE-COUNTY



# **Progress Report**

The RCFL's Progress and Accomplishments for FY20:

- Number of agencies that requested 36 assistance: 31 Local, 2 State, 3 Federal
- Number of service requests received: 688 407 Local, 3 State, 278 Federal
- Number of cases supported by on-site 42 operations
- Number of law enforcement officers trained 146 in various digital forensic tools and techniques
  - 1 Number of times personnel testified in court

# **Top 5 Crimes**

- 1 Homicide
- 2 Fraud
- 3 Exploitation/Enticement
- 4 Sexual Assault
- 5 **Dangerous Drugs**

## **Participating Agencies:**

- **Anaheim Police Department**
- FBI—Los Angeles Division
- Fontana Police Department
- Irvine Police Department
- Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
- Los Angeles Police Department
- Murrieta Police Department
- Newport Beach Police Department
- Ontario Police Department
- Orange County District Attorney's Office
- Palm Springs Police Department NEW



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

#### **Notable News**

#### Welcome



Palm Springs Police Department

#### Suicidal Shooter Thwarted

Sebastian Dumbrava had posted messages on Twitter referencing the Virginia Tech shooter and stating that he was having suicidal thoughts. During the initial search warrant of Dumbrava's residence at the University of California, Irvine Police recovered 37 magazines, 22 of which were large capacity AR rifle magazines, 1199 rounds of ammunition, and lower receivers for three AR style weapons.

The OCRCFL provided examination assistance for five digital media items related to the search of the residence of Dumbrava.



#### Material Support to Terrorism

Subject, Enrique Marquez, Jr., was arrested for material support to terrorism related to the December 2015 San Bernardino Terrorist attack. Subject helped plan and facilitate the attack by purchasing weapons for the two individuals that executed the attack.

The OCRCFL performed digital forensic examinations of 127 devices. Subject was sentenced to 20 years in Federal prison for his role in the attack.

#### Murder While Out on Bail

A 24 year old Anaheim man, Miguel Angel Reyes, was arrested for stabbing his 17-year-old ex-girlfriend to death, roughly three and one-half weeks after being released from Orange County jail due to COVID-19 reduction efforts in the county jails.

The OCRCFL unlocked the subject's locked iPhone in support of the investigation. Subject was convicted and sentenced to 12 years in state prison

#### Pulse Check: Status of FY20 Goals

Education: The OCRCFL provided a presentation to Orange County District Attorney's (OCDA) Office concerning digital forensics matters related to California Electronic Communications Privacy Act (CalEPCA). Despite COVID restrictions, goal was achieved, and the OCRCFL will continue to pursue this goal in the future.

State and Local Training: The OCRCFL conducted a Case Agent Investigative Review (CAIR) class for state and local investigators that utilize the RCFL for digital forensic services. Additional topics covered state specific laws that apply to digital evidence seizure.

**Outreach:** The OCRCFL provided briefings to Chiefs of Police, local law enforcement agencies, and other outside agencies as to the capabilities and resources of the OCRCFL.



#### **Goals for FY21**

**Community Outreach:** Continue to reach out to other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to provide assistance and training.

**Increase Participation:** Bring one additional participating agency on-board by the end of the fourth quarter.

**Technology Improvements:** To deploy additional technologies within the laboratory environment.



# Philadelphia RCFL

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



WWW.RCFL.GOV/PHILADELPHIA



### **Progress Report**

The RCFL's Progress and Accomplishments for FY20:

- 31 Number of agencies that requested assistance: 26 Local, 2 State, 3 Federal
- Number of service requests received: 233 Local, 12 State, 353 Federal
  - 8 Number of cases supported by on-site operations
- Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensic tools and techniques
  - 3 Number of times personnel testified in court

# **Top 5 Crimes**

- 1 Assault
- 2 Homicide
- 3 Dangerous Drugs
- 4 Weapons Offense
- 5 Exploitation/Enticement

## **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
- Pennsylvania Office of the Attorney General
- Philadelphia Police Department

#### **Notable News**

#### **Explosions and Undetonated Bombs**

A Pennsylvania man, Jason Muzicato, was investigated for a series of explosions and undetonated bombs found in the local area. Weapons and bombs were found and seized, during a search warrant on the subject's home in Washington Township, Pennsylvania. Three undetonated bombs were found in the area of the township along with eight explosions prior to the arrest of the subject.

The FBI and United States Attorney's Office believe Muzzicato used a drone to drop a bomb on his girlfriend's property, although he denied doing so and pleaded to lesser charges. The PHRCFL examiners imaged and processed the seized digital evidence and assisted the case agent with trial preparation prior to the plea. Jason Muzzicato was sentenced to five years in prison and three years of supervised release.

#### Missing Person

In a high profile missing persons case, an 18-year-old Amish female, Linda Stoltzfoos, was declared missing, after she did not return home while walking from church services around noon on Sunday, June 21, 2020. The Philadelphia Division, Harrisburg Resident Agency (HRA), Lancaster sub-office, was asked for assistance in the investigation by the Pennsylvania State Police and the East Lampeter Township Police Department. Case Agents from HRA



#### LINDA STOLTZFOOS







DESCRIPTION

requested the exam of a Digital Video Recorder (DVR) system obtained from a local businessman. PHRCFL examiners conducted multiple examinations of different times on the DVR video and were able to obtain a video clip with a clear view of a vehicle and the possible abduction. An arrest was made of the prime suspect over the weekend of July 11-12, 2020. The case is ongoing and has received national press.

# **Public Corruption**

A high profile public corruption investigation was conducted involving International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local Union 98. The PHRCFL assisted in conducting several on-site examinations and exploitations regarding this investigation. Due to the ongoing investigation and developments, additional processing, searches, and examinations were requested. Forensic Examiners (FEs) processed multiple electronic devices which assisted in the investigation. This is an on-going investigation pending prosecution.

# Fraud and Loan Sharking

A high profile Gambino La Cosa Nostra (LCN) family investigation was conducted involving fraud and loan sharking. The PHRCFL assisted in conducting search warrants and examination of digital evidence. Forensic Examiners processed multiple electronic devices which assisted in the investigation. This is an on-going investigation pending prosecution.

#### Pulse Check: Status of FY20 Goals

Complete All Casework with No Backlog: During FY20, the average case completion time for the PHRCFL remained under 30 to 40 days.

Maintain Staffing: The new District Attorney and Chief from Delaware County, Pennsylvania, will be attending the October 2020 Local Executive Board (LEB) and is anticipated to staff the vacant Task Force Officer (TFO) position.

**Training:** COVID-19 pandemic forced the cancellation of all live training events. Forensic Examiners (FEs) and PHRCFL personnel attended multiple on-line training classes.



#### **Goals for FY21**

Complete Casework with No Backlog: Cases will be completed within 30 to 45 days unless under case agent review or other circumstances that prevent the completion.

Maintain or Increase Staffing: Replace vacant TFO position for Delaware County District Attorney's Office Agency Partner, and if possible, increase the staffing at the PHRCFL.

**Training:** Provide training for the Philadelphia Division and agency partners in Digital Video Retrieval Training (DIVRT), cellphone exploitation, and other subject matter areas.

# **Rocky Mountain RCFL**



Year Opened: 2006
Laboratory Director: Captain Glenn D. Peitzmeier,
Douglas County Sheriff's Office

Service Area: Colorado and Wyoming
Number of Agencies in Area: 269

ber of Agencies in Area: **Accredited Since:** 2008



#### WWW.RCFL.GOV/ROCKY-MOUNTAIN



# **Progress Report**

The RCFL's Progress and Accomplishments for FY20:

- Number of agencies that requested assistance: 25 Local, 1 State, 2 Federal
- Number of service requests received: 127 Local, 19 State, 143 Federal
- Number of cases supported by on-site operations
- Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensic tools and techniques
- 2 Number of times personnel testified in court

# **Participating Agencies:**

- Adams County Sheriff's Office
- Colorado Bureau of Investigation
- Denver Police Department
- Douglas County Sheriff's Office
- ♦ FBI—Denver Division
- ◆ Jefferson County Sheriff's Office
- Littleton Police Department

### **Notable News**

### Possession of Child Pornography

RMRCFL assisted the FBI with an examination of computers for the distribution of child pornography. The suspect, Scott Garland, is a registered nurse in the Denver area. While there was no evidence that Garland physically sexually assaulted any victims, there were numerous downloads of child pornography, to include child beastiality, child BDSM (Bondage and Discipline, Dominance and Submission, and Sadism and Masochism), and infant/toddler videos and pictures. Garland pleaded guilty to possession in federal court and was sentenced to 10 years.

# **Top 5 Crimes**

- 1 Homicide
- 2 Exploitation/Enticement
- 3 Sexual Assault
- 4 Assault (2-way tie)
- 5 Obscenity (2-way tie)



Suspicious Disappearance

The RMRCFL assisted local agency in the suspicious disappearance of Suzanne Morphew on May 10, 2020, in Salida, Colorado. Forensic Examiners (FEs) provided technical assistance with extracting and examining data from the husband's vehicle's infotainment center, cell phone, and other digital devices. Her husband was arrested and charged with her homicide.



**Drug Trafficking** 

In February 2020, Denver FBI Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) Strike Force Group, with assistance from multiple FBI SWAT teams and RMRCFL personnel, executed Operation Platinum Hyenas, serving 8 federal search warrants in Colorado targeting a Denver-based drug distribution network sourced from Mexico. RMRCFL personnel were on scene at search sites to assist and facilitate effective collection and handling of devices, and ultimately exploited more than 60 cell phones and several laptop computers. Exploitation of the digital evidence produced overwhelming intelligence on the criminal network which directly aided and led to full investigation of the Mexico-based source of supply. In total, Operation Platinum Hyenas resulted in the seizure of more than \$200,000 in drug proceeds, 420 pounds of methamphetamine, 7 pounds of heroin, 5 pounds of fentanyl, 4.5 pounds of cocaine, and 10 firearms.

#### Pulse Check: Status of FY20 Goals

Promote Outreach and Provide Training: The RMRCFL promoted outreach to schools, civic organizations, and to participating law enforcement agencies in two formats, virtual and in-person, serving a total of 160 attendees.

**Maintain Low Backlog:** During FY20, the RMRCFL maintained no backlog throughout the year.

Increase Participation: A new Information Technology Specialist-Forensic Examiner (ITS-FE) was hired to replace an existing ITS-FE position. The RMRCFL is continuously reaching out to agencies to participate in the RCFL program.

**Training:** The RMRCFL hosted Cellebrite Certified Operator (CCO) and Cellebrite Certified Physical Analyst (CCPA) classes. All remaining vendor led training was postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions.



## **Goals for FY21**

**Promote Outreach and Training:** To agencies served by the RMRCFL.

**Maintain Low Backlog:** Maintain a 10 percent or lower backlog during FY21.

**Staffing:** Hire and train an evidence technician to take over for the retiring technician at the laboratory.

**Archival:** Digitize all old paper cases and return all master archive tapes to the submitting agencies from the old cases.



# San Diego RCFL

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



WWW.RCFL.GOV/SAN-DIEGO



# **Progress Report**

The RCFL's Progress and Accomplishments for FY20:

- Number of agencies that requested 20 assistance: 13 Local, 2 State, 5 Federal
- Number of service requests received: 479 75 Local, 6 State, 398 Federal
- Number of cases supported by on-site 34 operations
- Number of law enforcement officers trained 564 in various digital forensic tools and techniques

# **Top 5 Crimes**

- 1 Homicide
- 2 Exploitation/Enticement
- 3 **Dangerous Drugs**
- 4 Sexual Assault
- 5 Fraud

# **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
- Homeland Security Investigations **NEW**



- La Mesa Police Department
- National City Police Department
- Naval Criminal Investigative Service
- 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**

#### Welcome



Homeland Security Investigations

#### Murder-Suicide

Sheriff's deputies responded to a home in Bonita, after they received a 911 call from a family member who had stopped by the house to check on the couple that lived there. Inside, they found the bodies of Laura Koller, 86, and her husband, Noel Koller, 85. Both were dead and had gunshot wounds. Investigators determined that Laura Koller had been shot to death by Noel Koller, who then used the same gun to kill himself.

The SDRCFL processed several devices in this case and recovered artifacts related to financial information, suggesting transfers of various funds had been made. Additionally, the SDRCFL found internet artifacts related to firearms and health care issues.

### Illegal Export to China

Qingshan Li, a national of the People's Republic of China, was sentenced in U.S. District Court to three (3) years in federal custody for attempting to send to China an export-controlled radio. The radio is designated as a defense article due to its certification by the National Security Agency for Top Secret wire and data communications.

The SDRCFL facilitated the acquisition of an iPhone on-scene for this investigation.

## Hit and Run Suspect Located Using Berla

This investigation was a hit and run case in Ramona. The suspect hit a bicyclist and dragged her for blocks, then left the scene. After the press release of the vehicle, a neighbor noticed the suspect covering and repainting his vehicle. The RCFL utilized Berla and found location points shortly after the incident on a remote ranch. Investigators interviewed the ranch owner who did not see or hear anything. However, sometime after the interview, the owner discovered the suspect's fender hidden behind her dumpster. The owner would have thrown it away, had she not been previously contacted. The ranch owner turned over the fender which had trace evidence on it, linking it to the incident. The suspect pleaded guilty.

#### Fraud

A husband and wife pleaded guilty to using a charity to defraud donors and to evade taxes. Geraldine and Clayton Hill admitted that they used On Your Feet, Inc. (OYF), aka Family Resource Center (FRC), a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt non-profit organization that operated in Spring Valley, California, to defraud donors and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). FRC/OYF claimed to provide "assistance to low income families and individuals in need to better their living conditions and quality of life." The couple solicited and knowingly resold donated merchandise and then used the proceeds from the sale of donated items to financially support themselves, their family members and other associates. Donated items sold by the Hills were worth over \$16 million. The SDRCFL supported with on-site forensic support.

#### Pulse Check: Status of FY20 Goals

**Productivity:** The SDRCFL continued to complete requests in a timely manner throughout FY20 despite COVID-19 related restrictions.

**Training:** The SDRCFL provided and hosted training classes for partner agencies, new agents, and law enforcement communities.

Certification: The SDRCFL had three (3) Forensic Examiner Trainees (FETs) complete their Capstone and attended Moot Court, while other FETs attended training online.



#### **Goals for FY21**

**Productivity:** Continue to maintain the forensic services of the laboratory, timeliness and productivity of the forensic examination process.

**Training:** Further develop the SDRCFL as an instructional center for computer forensics and law enforcement training facility.

**Certification:** Certify additional examiners to better support member agencies.



# Silicon Valley RCFL

Year Opened: 2005
Laboratory Director: SSA Sherman Kwok, FBI
Service Area: Northern District of California
Number of Agencies in Area: 125
Accredited Since: 2006



WWW.RCFL.GOV/SILICON-VALLEY



# **Progress Report**

The RCFL's Progress and Accomplishments for FY20:

- Number of agencies that requested assistance: 9 Local, 1 State, 2 Federal
- Number of service requests received: 108 Local, 1 State, 222 Federal
- Number of cases supported by on-site operations
- Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensic tools and techniques
- 1 Number of times personnel testified in court

# **Top 5 Crimes**

- 1 Sex Offense
- 2 Homicide
- 3 Robbery
- 4 Burglary
- 5 Assault

# **Participating Agencies:**

- ♦ Alameda County Sheriff's Office
- ♦ FBI—San Francisco Division
- ♦ Fremont Police Department
- Newark Police Department
- San Francisco Police Department
- Santa Clara Police Department

# **Notable News**





# Murder of Officers

On May 29, 2020, two federal security officers working at the Oakland Federal Building, 1301 Clay Street, Oakland, California, were shot. The shooting occurred during a period of civil unrest and resulted in the death of one officer. Steven Carillo and Robert Justus, Jr., were indicted. Carillo was also charged with the murder of a Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office Deputy that occurred on June 6, 2020, during the follow-on investigation. The case is still pending.

The SVRCFL was responsive to 16 service requests for search warrant operations and related imaging and examination of digital evidence from all subjects. Additionally, the SVRCFL assisted with the collection, processing, and uploading of videos to the Triage Tool Kit (TTK) system for Case Agent review. Also, SVRCFL conducted Case Agent Investigative Review (CAIR) training for FBI San Francisco Agents as well as reviewers from other FBI divisions in response to this priority investigation.

Computer Intrusion and Fraud

On July 15, 2020, Twitter, located in San Francisco, California, fell victim to a coordinated attack in which several high profile Twitter usernames were compromised. Once compromised, the subject tweeted fraudulent donation messages soliciting Bitcoin, promising to double the money of anyone who sent cryptocurrency. The subject's actions resulted in the fraudulent solicitation of over \$100,000 in Bitcoin. The investigation consisted of multiple subjects in different federal jurisdictions. The case is still pending.

The SVRCFL was responsive to seven service requests for assistance in executing search warrants, and imaging and analyzing data from Tampa, San Francisco, and Boston.

Child Pornography

The CEO of a high-tech company was arrested by the San Francisco Police Department Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, during a search warrant operation. The SVRCFL performed on-scene forensic previews of all digital media for evidence and artifacts of child pornography. The investigation is ongoing.

#### Pulse Check: Status of FY20 Goals

**Reduce Backlog:** In FY20, the SVRCFL was able to reduce their backlog by 27 percent from 64 backlogged cases down to 47.

Maintain Current Staffing Level: The SVRCFL hired Forensic Examiner Trainees (FETs) and Information Technology Specialist (ITS)-FEs, some have onboarded and others are still in background.

Community Outreach: The SVRCFL hosted an Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) and Mobile Device Basics classes for investigators, prior to COVID-19 restrictions which caused all training to be cancelled.

Maintain ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB) Accreditation: The SVRCFL completed paperwork for assessment, passed the ISO/IEC 17025 off-site assessment, and prepared for ANAB audit as part of new centralized laboratory system.



#### **Goals for FY21**

Reduce Backlog: The SVRCFL will attempt to reduce case backlog by re-examining our internal processes; shifting FE resources and assignments; performing an in-depth inventory and triage of the backlog; analyzing digital evidence operations (including Digital Extraction Technician {DExT} resources) across FBI San Francisco (SF), and providing a future briefing to FBI SF Executive Management and the US Attorney's Office Executive Management of findings and recommendations.

**Community Outreach:** The SVRCFL will continue to reach out to other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to provide assistance, training, and to recruit new participating agencies.

Maintain and/or Increase Staffing Level: The current staffing level at the SVRCFL consists of the Director, Deputy Director, four (4) full-time FEs, and two (2) part-time FEs. There are two (2) ITS-FE and one (1) Special Agent vacancies.

Deploy Digital Content Analysis Platform (DCAP) 2.0 at the SVRCFL.

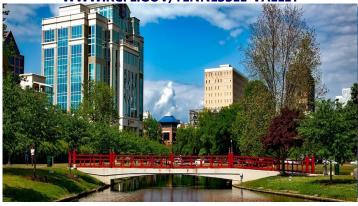
**Increase Agency Participation:** The SVRCFL will add one additional participating agency to the laboratory by the end of the fourth quarter.



# **Tennessee Valley RCFL**

**Year Opened: 2018** Laboratory Director: SSA Deen Abbott, FBI Service Area: Alabama and Southern Tennessee Number of Agencies in Area: 213

WWW.RCFL.GOV/TENNESSEE-VALLEY



# **Progress Report**

The RCFL's Progress and Accomplishments for FY20:

- Number of agencies that requested 22 assistance: 17 Local, 1 State, 4 Federal
- Number of service requests received: 328 0 Local, 0 State, 328 Federal
- Number of cases supported by on-site 16 operations
- Number of law enforcement officers trained 50 in various digital forensic tools and techniques
- 1 Number of times personnel testified in court

# **Top 5 Crimes**

- 1 **Child Exploitation**
- 2 Homicide
- 3 Burglary
- 4 Kidnapping
- 5 Vandalism

# **Participating Agencies:**

- Alabama Counterdrug Program—National Guard
- City of Madison Police Department
- **Etowah County Sheriff's Office**
- FBI—Birmingham Division
- **Homeland Security Investigations**
- Huntsville Police Department
- Lincoln County, Tennessee, Sheriff's NEW Department



- Madison County Sheriff's Office
- The U.S. Attorney's Office Northern District of Alabama

# **Notable News**

#### Welcome



Lincoln County, Tennessee, Sheriff's Department

# Computer Intrusion

Missile Defense Agency (MDA) determined that the cell phone and laptop of an employee were compromised by a Foreign Intelligence Service overseas due to the employee engaging in a sex related crime. The TVRCFL assisted in both searching for evidence of sex related crimes as well as examining the devices for intrusion and compromise. The TVRCFL was unable to access the devices due to MDA not maintaining an administrative code for device access.

### Child Pornography

Madison County received a National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) tip from Dropbox of a child pornography user. Madison County investigators served legal process, but did not find significant pornography on subject's device.

Special Agent Forensic Examiner (SA/FE) Stark was able to recover in unallocated space significant evidence of access to the subject's Dropbox account as well as child pornography. SA/FE Stark was qualified as an expert witness and his testimony resulted in a conviction. The TVRCFL received two service requests covering eight evidence items.

The TVRCFL recovered significant Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) in unallocated space on the devices which lead directly to the arrest of subject, Wayde Zane Slocumb.

## **Email Compromise**

Coca Cola was the target of a business email compromise. Information Technology Specialist-Forensic Examiner (ITS-FE) Michael D'Angelis was able to recover deleted text messages from slack space and use an outside script to rebuild and search those text messages.

The TVRCFL received seven service requests in this case covering 13 devices to date. The case has nationwide impact with evidence being utilized by offices in Alabama, California, and New Jersey. The investigation is ongoing.

# Synagogue Vandalism

Several synagogues and Jewish homes in Huntsville, Alabama, were vandalized. The TVRCFL supported the case by collecting and analyzing video from several locations which lead to the identification of a subject.

The TVRCFL subsequently participated in a search of the subject's residence and seizure of extensive digital evidence. The TVRCFL received four (4) service requests in this case from the FBI and Huntsville Police Department. The TVRCFL expertise resulted in the drafting of a new Federal search warrant. The TVRCFL has identified the location and usage data on phones, which is crucial to this case, and uncovered evidence of illegal gun sales involving local Police Department employees.

#### Pulse Check: Status of FY20 Goals

**Training:** TVRCFL hosted a Presentation Skills Course (PSC), Cellular Analysis Survey Team (CAST), and data courses, such as SANS, Mobile Forensics, SQL, and Oxygen. All staff participated in numerous online training events including Cyber Task Force (CTF) events, Oxygen Forensics, and CART sponsored training. TVRCFL wrote and taught a new Structured Query Language (SQL) course as part of Mobile Forensics, which multiple examiners attended.

**Decrease Backlog:** New case management system contributed significantly to identifying and decreasing backlog. Backlog is currently one month's intake of approximately 10 items at this time.

**Quality Assurance:** The TVRCFL completed all quality documentation and engaged in ANAB accreditation.



### **Goals for FY21**

**Reduce Backlog:** Continue to reduce case backlog and reduce the time between when a case is submitted and when a case is first addressed by examiner.

**Community Outreach:** Continue to reach out to other Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies to provide assistance, training, and to recruit new participating agencies.

Maintain ANAB accreditation: Maintain the TVRCFL's accreditation from the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board. The TVRCFL will need to maintain momentum in anticipation of on-site evaluation in September 2021.

# **Western New York RCFL**



Year Opened: 2006
Laboratory Director: SSA Eric Sakovics, FBI
Service Area: 17 Counties in Western New York

Number of Agencies in Area: 137

WWW.RCFL.GOV/WESTERN-NEW-YORK



# **Progress Report**

The RCFL's Progress and Accomplishments for FY20:

- Number of agencies that requested assistance: 28 Local, 2 State, 5 Federal
- Number of service requests received: 111 Local, 7 State, 134 Federal
- Number of cases supported by on-site operations
- Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensic tools and techniques
  - 1 Number of times personnel testified in court

# **Top 5 Crimes**

- 1 Homicide
- 2 Dangerous Drugs
- 3 Sex Offense
- 4 Assault (2-way tie)
- 5 Robbery (2-way tie)

# **Participating Agencies:**

- ♦ Buffalo Police Department
- Erie County Sheriff's Office
- ◆ FBI—Buffalo Division
- ♦ Monroe County Department of Public Safety
- Niagara County Sheriff's Office

### **Notable News**

#### Attempted Murder

On April 24, 2020, Michael Wilson Sr., his common law wife, Christina Degroff, and their daughter Michaela Wilson were arrested by the Niagara County Sheriff's Office. Wilson Sr., has been charged with attempted murder of his 5-year-old grandson. Degroff and Michaela received lesser charges.

The 5-year-old boy was badly abused and malnutritioned, weighing only 33 pounds. Degroff and his family would beat the victim for any reason and put him into critical condition. During one such beating, the victim had to be revived twice and undergo numerous surgeries to relieve pressure on the brain.

Forensic Examiner (FE) Chris Page was called by Niagara County Sheriff's Office (NCSO) and requested to process all the digital evidence. This included a couple deer cams that were setup by the family, which they used to tape their beatings of the victim and then store them on a laptop. The Wilson family was not immediately charged after the child was admitted to the hospital. After a couple days of non-stop work done by FE Chris Page, enough digital evidence was obtained from the cams and laptops, along with search parameters that included "jail time for child abuse" and "bleeding on the brain," to charge the Wilson family.

Prior to the arrest, there were protests and a large outcry for an arrest to be made for the 5-year-old. Due to FE Page, the case was handled delicately, expeditiously, and efficiently, which has and will lead to justice for the child.

Child Pornography

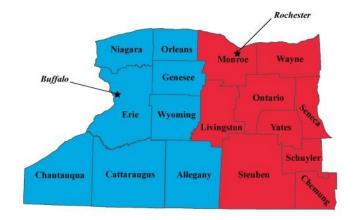
An underage victim reported Delshawn K. Trueheart had sexual relations with her and produced nude images and videos. Trueheart also recorded and photographed their sexual contact. The activity was primarily performed at Trueheart's photography studio where a search warrant was conducted. During the search, Information Technology Specialist - Forensic Examiner (ITS-FE) Michael Davis discovered a micro SD (Secure Digital) card and child pornography as described by the underage victim in a .Trashes folder.

Trueheart pleaded guilty, and on September 2, 2020, was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment and five (5) years of supervised release.

#### Service Area

Upon request, the WNYRCFL will provide digital forensics services and training to any law enforcement agency operating in its 17 county service areas:

- Allegany
- Cattaraugus
- Chautauqua
- ♦ Chemung
- Erie
- Genesee
- Livingston
- Monroe
- Niagara
- ♦ Ontario
- Orleans
- Schuyler
- ♦ Seneca
- ◆ Steuben
- ♦ Wayne
- Wyoming
- ♦ Yates



#### Pulse Check: Status of FY20 Goals

Appoint a New Laboratory Director: The WNYRCFL appointed a new Laboratory Director, SSA Eric Sakovics, on February 16, 2020.

Certify Examiners: Forensic Examiner Trainees (FETs) continued the certification process. Due to class cancellations because of COVID-19, certification dates will be delayed.

**Training:** The WNYRCFL held Digital Video Retrieval Training (DIVRT), Cellebrite Touch, and Intake/Electronic Case Reporting (ECR) training prior to the COVID-19 cancellation of all training.

Maintain Satellite Office: The Monroe County Satellite Office is fully staffed and operational.



### **Goals for FY21**

**Receive ANAB Accreditation:** Become ANAB accredited per OIG audit recommendation following the 2018 WNYRCFL audit.

**Increase Staffing:** Increase the number of examiners at the WNYRCFL. The WNYRCFL currently has physical space for one, possibly two more examiners.

**Decrease Backlog:** The WNYRCFL currently has 27 cases awaiting assignment.

**Training:** Continue internal training ("Quality Time") provided by the WNYRCFL management to all examiners to maintain consistency across the board on report writing, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), and policy in accordance with the Operational Technology Division (OTD) Digital Evidence Laboratory (DEL) Quality Assurance Manual (QAM), CART Policy Guide, and local supplemental.

# Acknowledgements

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 Department of Justice Asset Forfeiture Program (AFP). We are sincerely grateful for our 134 participating agencies nationwide, including the following:

#### **Alabama**

#### Tennessee Valley RCFL

- Alabama Counterdrug Program—National
- City of Madison Police Department
- **Etowah County Sheriff's Office**
- FBI—Birmingham Division
- Homeland Security Investigations
- **Huntsville Police Department**
- Madison County Sheriff's Office
- The U.S. Attorney's Office Northern District of Alabama

### **California**

#### Orange County RCFL

- Anaheim Police Department
- FBI—Los Angeles Division
- Fontana Police Department
- Irvine Police Department
- Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
- Los Angeles Police Department
- Murrieta Police Department
- Newport Beach Police Department
- Ontario Police Department
- Orange County District Attorney's Office
- Palm Springs Police Department
- **Riverside County District** Attorney's Office



Riverside Police Department

- 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
- Homeland Security Investigations



- La Mesa Police Department
- National City Police Department
- Naval Criminal Investigative Service
- 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
- San Francisco Police Department
- ◆ Santa Clara Police Department

#### Colorado

#### Rocky Mountain RCFL

- Adams County Sheriff's Office
- Colorado Bureau of Investigation
- Denver Police Department
- Douglas County Sheriff's Office
- FBI—Denver Division
- Jefferson County Sheriff's Office
- Littleton Police Department

#### Idaho

#### Intermountain West RCFL

- Ada County, Idaho, Sheriff's Office
- Boise City, Idaho, Police Department

#### Illinois

#### Chicago RCFL

- Berwyn Police Department
- Carol Stream Police Department
- 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
- Rockford Police Department
- Romeoville Police Department
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- Will County Sheriff's Office

#### **Kansas**

#### Heart of America RCFL

- Kansas Bureau of Investigation
- Kansas City, Kansas, Police Department
- ◆ Lawrence, Kansas, Police Department
- Olathe, Kansas, Police Department
- Overland Park, Kansas, Police Department
- Shawnee County, Kansas, 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

### Massachusetts

#### **New England RCFL**

- Boston Police Department
- Brookline Police Department
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and **Explosives**
- FBI—Boston Division
- Framingham Police Department
- Massachusetts State Police
- Middlesex Sheriff's Office
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection NEW



#### Missouri

#### Heart of America RCFL

Clay County, Missouri, Sheriff's Office

# Acknowledgements

- FBI—Kansas City Division
- Gladstone, Missouri, Police Department
- Independence, Missouri, Police Department
- Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department
- Lee's Summit, Missouri, Police Department
- North Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department
- Platte County, Missouri, Sheriff's Office
- U.S. Attorney's Office-Western District of Missouri

#### **Montana**

#### Intermountain West RCFL

Billings, Montana, Police Department

### **New Jersey**

#### New Jersey RCFL

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

### **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 and 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
- Niagara County Sheriff's Office

### Oregon

#### Northwest RCFL

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



- **Oregon State Police**
- Portland Police Bureau

# **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
- Pennsylvania Office of the Attorney General
- Philadelphia Police Department

#### Tennessee

#### Tennessee Valley RCFL

♦ Lincoln County, Tennessee, Sheriff's Department



#### **Texas**

#### **Greater Houston RCFL**

- ♦ FBI—Houston Division
- ◆ Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office
- Harris County Sheriff's Office
- Montgomery County Sheriff's Office NEW



- Texas Department of Public Safety
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection **NEW**



#### North Texas RCFL

- **Dallas Police Department**
- FBI—Dallas Division
- Frisco Police Department
- ◆ Grand Prairie Police Department
- Plano Police Department
- ◆ Richardson Police Department

#### Utah

#### Intermountain West RCFL

- 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

