



# REGIONAL COMPUTER FORENSICS LABORATORY ANNUAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015

The background of the report cover is a dark blue field filled with a complex network of glowing white and blue lines that form a globe-like structure. Numerous small, out-of-focus light spots in shades of pink, purple, and blue are scattered throughout the scene, creating a sense of depth and digital connectivity.

**RCFEL 2015**







# CONTENTS

<b>Foreword.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Part I: RCFL Program Overview .....</b>	<b>5</b>
1.0 Introduction.....	5
2.0 Partnership.....	7
3.0 FY15 Program Accomplishments .....	8
4.0 Protecting the Community— Case Sentencing Updates.....	10
5.0 RCFL Program Statistics.....	13
6.0 Law Enforcement Community Training .....	15
7.0 Looking Ahead to FY16 .....	17
<b>Part II: Laboratory Profiles.....</b>	<b>19</b>
Chicago RCFL.....	20
Greater Houston RCFL.....	22
Heart of America RCFL.....	24
Intermountain West RCFL.....	26
Kentucky RCFL .....	28
New Jersey RCFL .....	30
New Mexico RCFL .....	32
North Texas RCFL .....	34
Northwest RCFL.....	36
Orange County RCFL .....	38
Philadelphia RCFL.....	40
Rocky Mountain RCFL .....	42
San Diego RCFL .....	44
Silicon Valley RCFL.....	46
Western New York RCFL.....	48
Acknowledgments.....	50



# FOREWORD

After an exciting—and busy—first year managing the RCFL National Program, I'm happy to report that the program is healthy and strong. Since taking the helm, I've had the privilege of visiting nearly all of our fifteen RCFLs and meeting many of the hard-working men and women who make them run. I've also had the opportunity to attend several Local Executive Board meetings and meet the executives who comprise the boards. For a program founded in partnership, Local Executive Board members are key to our success and I'm pleased to report that they continue to express excitement about the RCFL Program and its capabilities.

As the RCFL Program completes its sixteenth year in operations, we reflect on the tremendous growth in the early years of the program in building new laboratories, and then later in building our internal infrastructure and quality programs. As we move into the next phase of the RCFL Program, we look forward to opening a new RCFL in 2017 in Boston, Massachusetts and are seeking out funding to expand the RCFL Program once again, into additional underserved areas of the United States, such as the north central corridor, the southeast, and the non-contiguous states.

This year, the RCFL Program also underwent a housekeeping change. The RCFL National Program Office, which was implemented in 2002 to manage and oversee national program funding and equipment and to support communication and training needs, was strengthened with additional capabilities, and renamed, Digital Evidence Field Operations. This new structure allows the RCFL Program to be even more effective in working with other FBI technical personnel as well as directly with digital evidence programs at FBI headquarters.

Throughout this report, readers will learn about some of the cases the RCFL Program supported at its nationwide network of laboratories. RCFLs



RCFL Laboratory Directors with Digital Evidence Field Operations Unit Chief, SSA Karen Nester, FBI (center)

partner with law enforcement to protect our interests both at home and overseas and this year contributed to a number of high-profile cases, including providing testimony in the case of the 2012 Aurora Theater Shooting, supporting both high and low profile terrorism cases involving the Islamic State or ISIS, and a number of locally executed cases of child exploitation. RCFLs continue to be an effective and critical path to solving a diverse and wide range of crimes facing our nation.

We are fortunate to partner with more than 139 agencies that make our success possible. We are grateful to those agencies and look forward to addressing these challenges together. Throughout this report, readers will learn how these partnerships make it possible to provide exceptional support to large-scale operations and ongoing criminal and intelligence investigations, while maintaining objectivity in the use of the highest quality procedures and protocols.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karen Nester', is written on a light-colored background.

SSA Karen Nester

Unit Chief, Digital Evidence Field Operations  
RCFL National Program Office





# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report presents a detailed accounting of the Regional Computer Forensics Laboratory (RCFL) Program's accomplishments during FY15 which covers October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015.

The RCFL Program has evolved from its beginnings as a pilot project in 1999 to a national network of 15 digital forensics laboratories today. The first RCFL, in San Diego, was created as a coalition of regional law enforcement agencies who combined their resources to open a digital forensics laboratory. Now, in its sixteenth year, the RCFL Program is pleased to announce the launching of a new laboratory in Boston in 2017. This laboratory will increase coverage of the RCFL network of laboratories and provide vital digital evidence services to the northeastern United States.

**An RCFL is a full service forensics laboratory and training center devoted entirely to the examination of digital evidence in support of criminal or national security investigations. Since its inception in 2002, laboratories within the RCFL National Program have played a key role in many high profile terrorism, child exploitation, and criminal investigations.**

## RCFL OPERATIONAL MODEL

The RCFL Program continues to follow its original model. In that model, the FBI provides startup, operational funding, training, and equipment while state, local, and other federal law enforcement agencies assign personnel to staff the laboratories. The RCFL National Program Office (NPO) oversees the operations of all RCFLs and serves as a liaison between field and FBI headquarters personnel.

As the most accredited digital forensics laboratory network in the world in digital evidence and multimedia, according to the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB), the RCFL Program is committed to providing the highest quality digital forensics services possible to the law enforcement community across all levels of the government.





An RCFL is managed with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and other federal, state and local law enforcement agencies operating within a specific geographic area. There are 15 RCFLs in the National Program.

## SERVICES

RCFL services include—

- › Pre-seizure consultation and onsite seizure collection
- › Duplication, storage, and preservation of computers and computer-related evidence
- › Prompt, accurate, and impartial forensic examinations of digitally stored media
- › Consultation on digital forensic matters
- › Courtroom testimony.

## OVERSIGHT

Each RCFL is overseen by two entities:

The **RCFL National Program Office (NPO)**, an FBI entity within the Operational Technology Division (OTD), established in 2002 to manage and oversee the RCFL National Program. The NPO administers program funding, provides equipment, and supports communications, training, facilities, and information technology needs at the RCFLs. They also provide administrative support to ensure consistent operations among the RCFLs.

A **Local Executive Board (LEB)**, composed of executives from each of the RCFL's participating agencies. LEB members advise on RCFL operations and provide oversight.



# 2.0 PARTNERSHIP

Partnership is at the core of the RCFL Program and is the key to its success. Personnel from 139 state, local, and federal agencies were assigned to the 15 RCFLs at the close of FY15.

This year, the RCFL Program welcomed the following new participating agencies:

- Chicago RCFL:
  - Naperville Police Department
  - Will County Sheriff's Office
- North Texas RCFL:
  - Frisco Police Department
  - Richardson Police Department

## Map of RCFL Locations

Today, RCFLs provide coverage to more than 5,000 state, local, and federal law enforcement agencies nationwide.



# 3.0 FY15 PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Much of the work performed by RCFL personnel on a day-to-day basis goes unnoted in major news outlets, but it is often times these activities that are most critical in keeping our citizens safe. While each RCFL is profiled in detail in Part II of this report, some additional noteworthy accomplishments from FY15 are listed below—



Two Chicago RCFL (CGR CFL) Forensic Examiners (FE) were awarded the Illinois Arson Award Committee's annual award for their work related to assisting in attaining a conviction in the "NATO 5" case. This case involved a group of domestic terrorists who planned on attacking government facilities in Chicago during the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) convention in May 2012.



Greater Houston RCFL (GHR CFL) Examiners processed all the digital evidence items from the William James Vahey case. Vahey, an international school teacher who drugged and sexually assaulted hundreds of children, committed suicide upon learning he was the subject of an FBI investigation. He could not be prosecuted, so the FBI took on the challenge of identifying victims (450 so far) spanning 42 years and more than nine foreign locations. The digital evidence processed by the GHR CFL was essential in identifying those victims. The case was awarded the FBI Director's Award for Distinguished Service for Assisting Victims of Crime in 2015.



The Intermountain West RCFL (IWR CFL) obtained a Computer Analysis Response Team (CART) Mobile Laboratory (M-Lab) to provide onsite digital forensics support to critical FBI and partner agency investigations. M-Labs are sponsored and funded by the FBI to address digital evidence needs during the course of a breaking investigation. The M-Lab was delivered to the IWR CFL in July 2015 and since then has been deployed multiple times to assist on search warrants and for division events.



The Kentucky RCFL (KRCFL) increased the number of agencies and number of personnel taking advantage of the Cell Phone Investigative Kiosk (CPIK) Program, by reaching out to law enforcement personnel in the state regarding the advantages and availability of the kiosks. CPIKs allow investigators with training and proper legal authority to review the contents of mobile telephones on their own.



For the second year in a row, the New Mexico RCFL (NMRCFL) had zero findings during its annual ASCLD accreditation surveillance visit. Also, the RCFL was able to successfully request a CART M-Lab which will be delivered in March 2016.

In support of a whistleblower investigation, the NMRCFL coordinated a search with San Diego CART, Phoenix CART, and an Oracle expert from CART Headquarters. During the search, numerous workstations were imaged on-site; shared folders from file servers were also imaged; e-mail containers for specific individuals were exported;



and the Oracle database server and an Oracle application server, both in the forms of virtual machines, were copied. Over the course of several months, the data from the workstations, shared folders, and e-mail containers were reviewed by the case agents and a NMRCFL CART examiner. Files and e-mail messages of interest were subsequently exported. Finally, the Oracle database and application servers were configured to run in the CART lab; and Oracle reports were successfully created.



A Northwest RCFL (NWRCL) member was nominated for the DOJ Attorney General's Distinguished Employee Award for his part in a \$9 million financial elder abuse fraud investigation.




The Philadelphia RCFL (PHRCFL) successfully prepared for the September Papal visit to Philadelphia.



All current Western New York RCFL (WNYRCFL) FEs achieved cell phone certification to better assist with the volume of cell phones entering the RCFL.



## Combating Terrorism

- 
 In a terrorism case centered in Garland, Texas, North Texas RCFL (NTRCFL) personnel assisted with bomb technician work in recovering data from numerous cell phones, and worked with the FBI's Operational Technology Division (OTD) to recover data from a tablet that had been inside an explosion at the scene. The results assisted FBI personnel in obtaining arrest warrants of co-conspirators located in other jurisdictions prior to them conducting additional acts of terrorism.
- FBI Dallas opened an investigation based on information that a subject planned to travel to Syria to support the Islamic State or ISIS. In April 2013, during the course of an interview with the FBI, the subject stated he was trying to travel overseas to Syria to fight against the regime of Bashar al-Assad. After the interview, the subject traveled to Mexico in order to circumvent law enforcement and enable him to travel to Turkey and on to Iraq. During this time period, FBI reporting indicated that the subject was becoming increasingly radical in his Islamic beliefs. The subject's laptops, cell phones, and thumb drives were examined by NTRCFL personnel on several occasions throughout the investigation. The FE found information that the subject had pleaded allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi through social media. The subject was arrested in May, 2015 via complaint for making false statements to a federal agent regarding their pledge. In June, the subject was charged in a federal indictment with one count of making a false statement to a federal agency and in October, the subject entered a guilty plea of Title 18 Section 1001 felony.

## 4.0

# PROTECTING THE COMMUNITY— CASE SENTENCING UPDATES

*Each year the RCFL Program Annual Report features news stories from around the nation. Below are sentencing updates that occurred during FY15 from significant cases featured in previous RCFL annual reports. RCFLs provided digital forensics assistance in each of the following cases.*



## FY14: Attempted Airport Suicide Bomber Sentenced

Terry Lee Lowen, an avionic technician, was sentenced to 20 years in federal prison for attempting to explode a car bomb at the airport in Wichita, Kansas in December 2013. The Heart of America (HARCFL) supported the investigation which was conducted by the Wichita FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force.



Terry Lee Lowen

## FY14: White Supremacist Sentenced to Death for Murders at Jewish facility

Frazier Glenn Miller, Jr. was sentenced to death by lethal injection by a jury of his peers. He was convicted of one count of capital murder, three counts of attempted murder, and assault and weapons charges for the 2014 shootings outside a Jewish facility. Miller had said he was attempting to kill Jewish people, though the three victims were all Christian. The HARCFL assisted with the investigation.



Frazier Glenn Miller, Jr.



## FY14: 30-Year Sentence in Police Officer Shootings

Meagan Grunwald, the girlfriend of the main subject in a January 2014 police officer shooting was convicted and sentenced to 30 years to life for her part in the killing of Sergeant Cory Wride, Utah County Sheriff's Office and the wounding of another officer. The IWRCL assisted with analysis and enhancement of the dashcam footage from the murdered officer's vehicle.

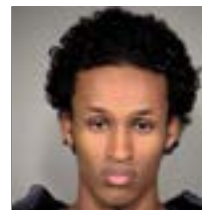


Sergeant Cory Wride, Utah County Sheriff's Office. Sergeant Cory Wride, Utah County Sheriff's Office was killed in the line of duty.



## FY12: Attempted Bomber Sentenced

Mohamed Mohamud, who was convicted of attempting to detonate a bomb in Portland during the city's annual tree-lighting ceremony in 2010 was sentenced to 30 years in prison. An examiner from the NWRCL testified at Mohamud's trial as to what his forensic examination entailed, how items are stored and recovered from a computer hard drive forensically, and his identification of numerous items of evidence he located on Mohamud's laptop.



Mohamed Mohamud





## **FY14: Silk Road Founder Sentenced to Life in Prison**

Ross Ulbricht, creator of the underground website Silk Road that was used to anonymously conduct transactions for contraband items, was sentenced to life in prison as a deterrent to future crimes of this nature. In the sentencing, the judge ordered \$183M forfeiture. Additionally, the Government seized 144,336 Bitcoins (which, at today's Bitcoin exchange rate, are worth over \$60M). As detailed in last year's annual report, the Silicon Valley RCFL (SVRCFL) provided critical assistance in this investigation.



Ross Ulbricht

## **FY14: California State Senator Sentenced to Prison**

Former State Senator Leland Yee pleaded guilty in federal court to racketeering charges and was sentenced to five years in prison. SVRCFL personnel assisted with the execution of a federal search warrant at the Yee residence and processed the digital evidence in the investigation.



Leland Yee



## **FY12: Aurora Theater Shooter Sentenced**

In this case dating back to 2012, Rocky Mountain RCFL (RMRCFL) examiners provided digital forensics assistance and expert witness testimony in the trial of James Eagan Holmes regarding Internet search history prior to the shooting, as well as the contents found on his digital devices. On June 20, 2012, Holmes entered an Aurora movie theater and opened fire, killing 12 and wounding 70 more. He was convicted on 24 counts of first degree murder, 140 counts of attempted first degree murder, and one count of possessing explosives, along with a sentence enhancement of a crime of violence. Holmes was sentenced to 12 consecutive life sentences plus 3,318 years without parole.



James Eagan Holmes

**RCFLs continue to play a key role in investigations, and have become especially critical in the fight against violent crimes against children.**

### **Fighting Child Exploitation**

Due to an increased awareness by state and local law enforcement to the child pornography and child sexual exploitation crime problem, more incidents of these types of crimes are being seen than ever before. Between fiscal years 1996 and 2007, the number of cases opened throughout the FBI catapulted from 113 to 2,443. From 2007 to the present, the numbers have steadily continued to rise.

### **National Center for Missing and Exploited Children**



The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) is a non-profit organization/national clearinghouse that deals with issues related to missing children and sexually exploited children. NCMEC maintains a 24-hour hotline at 1-800-THE-LOST, a website at [www.missingkids.com](http://www.missingkids.com), and operates a congressionally-authorized Cyber Tipline at [www.cybertipline.com](http://www.cybertipline.com) that receives leads and tips regarding suspected crimes of sexual exploitation against children.



# 5.0 RCFL PROGRAM STATISTICS\*

## Digital Forensics Services

<b>Agency Requests</b> Number of agencies that requested RCFL assistance.	FY13	826
	FY14	745
	FY15	684
<b>Service Requests Received</b> Number of requests for assistance received by all RCFLs.	FY13	6,040
	FY14	6,994
	FY15	6,321
<b>Field Services</b> Number of cases supported by on-site operations, conducted by law enforcement, for which RCFLs provided assistance. A case is defined as a request for assistance.	FY13	603
	FY14	456
	FY15	547
<b>Examinations Completed</b> Number of digital forensic examinations and searches completed by RCFL personnel.	FY13	7,273
	FY14	6,322
	FY15	5,897
<b>Terabytes Processed</b> Number of terabytes (TB) processed for digital forensic examinations and searches.	FY13	5,973
	FY14	5,060
	FY15	5,276
<b>Examiner Testimony in Court</b> Number of times RCFL Examiners testified in court and/or at hearings. This does not include subpoenas to testify when testimony was not required.	FY13	83
	FY14	88
	FY15	91

## Kiosk Services

RCFL kiosks provide an alternative for officers with valid legal authority to review digital evidence on cellular phones and loose media.

<b>Cell Phone Investigative Kiosk (CPIK) Usage</b> The collective number of times law enforcement officers used the CPIK at RCFLs to review cellular phones at RCFLs in support of investigations.	FY13	9,774
	FY14	6,132
	FY15	3,965
<b>Virtual Cell Phone Kiosk (VCPK) Usage</b> Number of times law enforcement officers use the VCPK to remotely review cellular telephones from their agencies or in support of investigations.	FY13	4,090
	FY14	2,331
	FY15	1,107
<b>Loose Media Kiosk (LMK) Usage</b> Number of times law enforcement officers used the LMK to review loose media at RCFLs in support of investigations.	FY13	1,588
	FY14	1,495
	FY15	1,980

## RCFL Program Training for the Law Enforcement Community

<b>Training Conducted</b> Number of law enforcement personnel trained at RCFLs and online (including RCFL webinars) in various digital forensic tools and techniques.	FY13	4,764
	FY14	2,673
	FY15	3,754

\*During FY14, changes were made to the reporting by RCFLs to include updates to the method for reporting on the data collected. The descriptions reflect the new data. Note FY13 data is provided for comparison purposes.

## RCFL PROGRAM TRENDS

RCFLs continue to produce large volumes of casework overall; however RCFLs had a particularly successful year in the following areas:

- **Supporting state, local and federal law enforcement agencies in the field**—During FY15, RCFLs provided on-site support in over 100 more cases than in the previous year.
- **More data processed due to greater storage capacity of devices**—Devices continue to increase in sophistication and storage capacity. As a result, RCFLs processed more terabytes than the previous fiscal year, even though there were slightly fewer forensic examinations completed. As technology evolves, this is a trend RCFLs are working to address.



- **Testifying in Court**—A critical part of the process for RCFLs is to provide testimony in court with regard to digital forensics examination findings. Each RCFL examiner is provided training to ensure they are prepared for testimony in court. During FY15, examiners provided testimony in court cases 91 times.

- **Self service products**—As technology evolves, part of the role of RCFLs is to provide additional capacity for law enforcement officers with proper authority to review media. The Loose Media Kiosk Program (LMK) was established for just that purpose. Usage of LMKs increased this fiscal year.



- **Increasing our training opportunities**—During the past year, several RCFLs met and exceeded their training goals. Training is a cornerstone of the RCFL Program and last year, RCFLs provided training to 3,754 law enforcement officers within RCFLs and at other locations.



# 6.0 LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY TRAINING

Training has remained a cornerstone of the RCFL Program since its inception. Each RCFL is outfitted with an interactive, state-of-the-art classroom that enables students to learn and gain hands-on experience with the digital forensics techniques they are learning. Following classes, students are able to reach back to the RCFL for questions and for support. This relationship is critical to the ongoing success of the RCFL Program, but it's also key in helping the law enforcement community maintain a technological edge in fighting crime.

The RCFL Program offers a range of digital forensics courses and periodic workshops for students ranging from beginner to advanced courses.

## FY15 Training Accomplishments

The RCFL Program trained 3,754 law enforcement personnel during the fiscal year. While that statistic is impressive, it is only part of the story, as the following training program highlights demonstrate—

- The Chicago RCFL worked with several individuals in academia and scheduled lectures in fields related to digital forensics.
- The Greater Houston RCFL was able to increase RCFL utilization by participating agencies by providing information at RCFL-sponsored training events about services, in particular advanced forensics on cellular phones. This led to a significant increase in submissions by two GHRCLF participating agencies.
- The Heart of America RCFL hosted the first annual Digital Forensics Training for Investigators Conference in Kansas City, Missouri.

- The Intermountain West RCFL upgraded its training facility including new workstations, monitors, projectors, and rewiring of equipment. As with all RCFLs, this newly updated training facility is available for CART, RCFL staff, and local law enforcement training events. It has 24 workstations plus an instructor workstation.
- The Kentucky RCFL completed significant outreach and training throughout the year in conjunction with state and local entities in the region. In addition, two examiners in the RCFL became Kentucky State Instructors.
- The New Mexico RCFL conducted computer forensics training in Morocco and Latvia during the fiscal year.
- The Orange County RCFL dramatically enhanced its training offerings to partner agencies by hosting a number of new training courses including: NW3C basic and advanced training courses, cell phone courses, Adobe, and Apple training during the fiscal year.
- The San Diego RCFL conducted or hosted training classes for over 500 members of the law enforcement community during the year. The SDRCLF has set a goal for next year to further develop as an instructional center for computer forensics and law enforcement training facility.

Several RCFLs have set goals for FY16 to increase training courses to provide needed training to examiners and partner agencies, while promoting the RCFL Program and its abilities. And, as always, the RCFL Program continues to seek new and innovative ways to increase its own examiners' certifications and skill sets.

## The Heart of America RCFL Hosts the First Annual Digital Forensics Training for Investigators Conference

The Heart of America RCFL (HARCFL) kicked off FY15 with the first Digital Forensics for Investigators Conference held on October 23, 2014. Along with the High Technology Crime Investigation Association (HTCIA)—Heartland Chapter and the United States Secret Service (USSS)—Electronic Crimes Task Force, the HARCFL jointly hosted the first annual Digital Forensics Training for Investigators Conference in Kansas City, Missouri. The day-long event was hosted at the Kansas City, Missouri Police Academy and was provided free-of-charge to investigators as a way to share information among the law enforcement



HARCFL personnel check in attendees at the annual Digital Evidence for Investigators Conference, a joint event with HARCFL and the High Technology Crimes Investigation Association.

community. The conference was a huge success with approximately 200 attendees.

The Investigators Conference provided information on current issues related to digital forensics, digital evidence, and cyber investigations. Training courses ranged from Cell Phone/Tablet Forensics, Social Media and Computer Intrusion Investigations, Vehicle System Forensics, Video Extraction and Enhancements, and Cloud Computing.

As a follow up to the event, the HARCFL planned for and executed a second Digital Forensics for Investigators Conference during FY16.



HARCFL Deputy Director Todd Taylor welcomes attendees to the annual conference.

## Classroom-Based Training

RCFLs continue to offer classroom-based training at each location. RCFLs offer a variety of classes to members of the law enforcement community.



Offerings vary by laboratory but generally include courses such as:

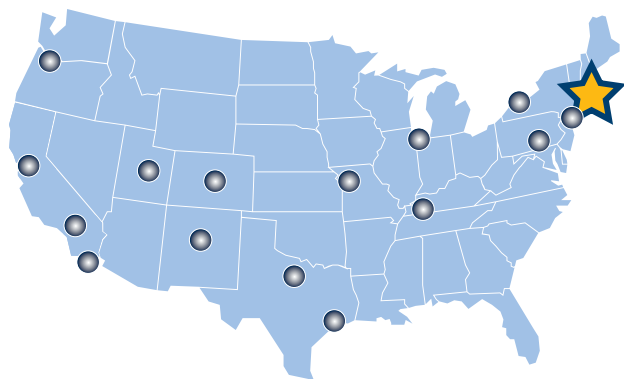
- Seizing and Handling Digital Evidence—Law enforcement officers learn how to recognize digital evidence and then how to handle it when legally seized.
- ImageScan and DriveQuest—Participants get hands-on training in using FBI-developed preview tools.
- Case Agent Investigative Review (CAIR)—Law enforcement officers who have submitted evidence to the RCFL for forensic examination learn how to understand the results of the exam.



# 7.0 LOOKING AHEAD TO FY16

The RCFL Program is excited for the opportunity to expand our program while remaining vigilant in light of new and evolving trends. Below are areas we look forward to working on during the coming fiscal year:

- **Program Expansion**—Construction on the newest RCFL in Boston, Massachusetts is nearing completion and scheduled to open in FY17. The RCFL will be co-located with the FBI Boston Field Office and will be available to law enforcement agencies in the entire state/region once it officially opens. Additionally, the RCFL Program continues to seek additional funds to build out laboratories in other under-served regions of the United States.



- **Added Reach-Back Support**—During FY15, the management of RCFL NPO was combined with CART and Computer Scientist Field Operations. With the reorganization of these FBI headquarters assets, RCFLs will have more resources at their immediate disposal to address crimes involving digital evidence. This includes the proliferation and increasing complexity of

electronic devices. This added reach-back to the FBI for cutting edge investigative support, helps ensure we continue to be aware of current trends in mobile devices and that we are able to keep pace with criminals' use of these new and evolving technologies.

## Continuous Improvement

The RCFL Program prides itself on a commitment to providing the highest quality digital forensics services to the law enforcement community and has taken the following steps to ensure continued success at each RCFL—

- **Enhance Cell Phone Investigative Kiosk (CPIK) Program Training**—During FY16, RCFLs will require kiosk users to electronically indicate whether they have completed CPIK training. If training has not occurred, the user will be prompted to complete training before reviewing a cellular phone at one of its kiosks. This additional step ensures that users are properly trained prior to accessing the equipment.
- **Address and Assist in Backlog Reduction**—The RCFL NPO is working closely with each RCFL to ensure backlog is addressed in a timely fashion. The RCFL NPO canvases and provides travel funds for RCFL examiners to travel to RCFLs facing a backlog. During FY15, backlog remained low at most RCFLs.
- **Capturing Training Attendance at RCFL Classes**—While RCFL funding limitations impacted the ability to utilize an online registration system for capturing training registration data at RCFLs, the program is looking forward to launching a new registration system in the coming year.







## PART II: LABORATORY PROFILES

Chicago RCFL.....	20
Greater Houston RCFL.....	22
Heart of America RCFL.....	24
Intermountain West RCFL.....	26
Kentucky RCFL .....	28
New Jersey RCFL .....	30
New Mexico RCFL .....	32
North Texas RCFL .....	34
Northwest RCFL.....	36
Orange County RCFL .....	38
Philadelphia RCFL.....	40
Rocky Mountain RCFL .....	42
San Diego RCFL .....	44
Silicon Valley RCFL.....	46
Western New York RCFL.....	48





# CHICAGO RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/CHICAGO

**YEAR OPENED:** 2003

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

Director John T. Dziedzic,  
Cook County Sheriff's Office

**SERVICE AREA:** North Illinois

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES  
IN AREA:** 364

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2009



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- > Aurora Police Department
- > Berwyn 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 **NEW**
- > Oak Park Police Department
- > Palatine Police Department
- > Romeoville Police Department
- > U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- > Will County Sheriff's Office **NEW**

## PROGRESS REPORT

The RCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY15:

**86**

Number of agencies that requested assistance (5 federal, 3 state, 78 local)

**588**

Number of TBs processed during examinations and searches

**791**

Number of service requests received (366 federal, 25 state, 400 local)

**40**

Number of times personnel testified in court

**791**

Number of examinations and searches completed

**151**

Kiosk Usage—Total number of times law enforcement personnel used the RCFL's self-service digital forensics tools (CPIK: 138; LMK: 13)

**52**

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques

**9**

Number of times personnel testified in court

## TOP 5 CRIMES

- 1** Homicide
- 2** Obscenity
- 3** Sex Assault
- 4** Sex Offense
- 5** Fraud

## NOTABLE NEWS

**PUBLIC CORRUPTION:** Barbara Byrd-Bennett, former CEO of the \$5.7 billion dollar annually budgeted Chicago Public School system, pleaded guilty to arranged kickbacks of \$23 million in return for a no bid contract to be rewarded to her former employer. The two owners of the involved company have pleaded not guilty. RCFL examiners provided onsite support at the education training firm, and other locations. Emails recovered by the CGRCFL were critical in outlining the scheme to defraud taxpayers.

### DEATH OF A FOX LAKE POLICE




**OFFICER:** While it initially appeared that Joseph Gliniewicz was murdered in the line of duty, the death was eventually ruled a suicide, and his spouse is being charged with embezzlement of funds. In support of the investigation, within hours of activation, members of the CGRCFL captured video from almost 100 video systems located throughout the town. Video matching the description of the initial suspected killers was identified and a timeline formed that geographically excluded them from having committed the murder. The officer's cellular phones were processed and the content led to the unraveling of an elaborate plan to stage the officer's own death to appear as a homicide due to the ongoing embezzlement of funds from the town's Explorer Post, an organization aimed at helping youth who are interested in a career in law enforcement.



Former Fox Lake  
Lt. Charles Joseph  
Gliniewicz




**TERRORISM:** Mohammed Hamzah Khan, a then 19-year-old, was apprehended along with two younger siblings at Chicago's O'Hare airport attempting to board a plane after having been recruited to join the terror group ISIS. The CGRCFL processed digital media utilized in the communication with the recruiters and recovered plans that outlined the subject's intent. Khan was charged with attempting to provide material support to a terrorist organization and pleaded guilty in October 2015. Sentencing is scheduled for June 2016.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY15 GOALS

-  **Grow the Ranks:** The Will County Sheriff's Office and the Naperville Police Department joined the CGRCFL as participating agencies. Further recruitment was suspended due to federal budgetary restrictions.
-  **Reduce the Backlog:** Backlog at the RCFL was reduced by over fifty percent since the end of FY14.
-  **Increase Training Opportunities for Examiners:** The CGRCFL has worked with several individuals in academia and scheduled lectures in fields related to digital forensics.

 Goal Met     Partially Met     Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY16

-  **Increase Remote Review Capabilities:** Increase the number of state and local law enforcement agencies and investigators that have the ability to review their examination results remotely.
-  **Annual Audit:** Conduct an annual internal audit of the CGRCFL's quality system in anticipation of the annual ASCLD inspection.
-  **Implement new Evidence Control System:** This system will help improve laboratory efficiency.

**CRIMINAL SEXUAL ASSAULT OF A MINOR:** Juan Contreras, a popular Chicago Spanish TV host, was sentenced to 61 years in prison for sexually assaulting four underage girls. A CGRCFL examiner testified to the contents recovered from the subject's computer which assisted in attaining the conviction.

**HOMICIDE:** Charles Whittington was sentenced to 170 years in prison for the murder of a man and his 14-year-old daughter over the man's online communication with Whittington's former girlfriend. CGRCFL forensic video examiners enhanced surveillance footage that was utilized in court and assisted in placing the defendant in the vicinity of the murders.



# GREATER HOUSTON RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/HOUSTON

**YEAR OPENED:** 2005

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**  
SSA Keith Hall, FBI

**SERVICE AREA:** Southern Texas

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES  
IN AREA:** 327

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2009



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- › FBI—Houston Division
- › Harris County Precinct 4 Constable's Office
- › Harris County Sheriff's Office
- › Houston Police Department
- › Pasadena Police Department
- › Texas Department of Public Safety

## PROGRESS REPORT The RCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY15:

**48**

Number of agencies that requested assistance (2 federal, 7 state, 39 local)

**228**

Number of TBs processed during examinations and searches

**294**

Number of service requests received (168 federal, 29 state, 97 local)

**28**

Number of cases supported by onsite operations

**250**

Number of examinations and searches completed

**585**

Kiosk Usage—Total number of times law enforcement personnel used the RCFL's self-service digital forensics tools (CPIK: 120)

**90**

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques

**3**

Number of times personnel testified in court

## TOP 5 CRIMES

- 1** Homicide
- 2** Exploitation/Enticement
- 3** Other
- 4** Sex Assault
- 5** Robbery



GHRCFL Forensic Examiner David Hendricks receiving an award from Laboratory Director Keith Hall



GHRCFL TFO Dylan Dorow teaching a CAIR class to local law enforcement personnel



## NOTABLE NEWS

**SANDRA BLAND INVESTIGATION:** The GHR CFL supported the processing of evidence from the DVR video from the Waller County Jail where Bland committed suicide along with the police cruiser dash cam video and Bland's cell phone. As a result of the ongoing investigation, the Texas state trooper who stopped Sandra Bland was fired and indicted on suspicion of perjury in January 2016.

**ST. LOUIS CARDINALS HACKING:** Christopher Correa, former director of Baseball Development for the St. Louis Cardinals, pleaded guilty to five counts of unauthorized access of a protected computer for accessing another team's scouting database. Over 20 submitted items were imaged and processed by the GHR CFL in support of the investigation. A Forensics Examiner conducted analysis of the digital evidence using multiple forensic tools and assisted the case agent in conducting reviews and performing text searches.

### ASHLEY NICOLE RICHARDS "ANIMAL CRUSH VIDEOS":

Ashley Nicole Richards, 24, entered a guilty plea admitting she produced and distributed what is referred to as "animal crush videos." These videos were banned under the Animal Crush Video Prohibition Act of 2010. Richards was among the first charged and convicted of creating and distributing these videos which depict the torture and killing of puppies, chickens, and kittens. Richards also pleaded guilty to three charges in state court stemming from the same conduct and was sentenced to 10 years in prison. The GHR CFL assisted with the imaging, processing and review of digital evidence items for this case.



Ashley Nicole Richards

**TECHNOLOGY/R&D ACHIEVEMENT:** During FY15, the GHR CFL acquired the capabilities of performing advanced cell phone analysis through a technique that allows examiners to obtain information from a mobile device's memory when other techniques have not been successful.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY15 GOALS

- ☒ **Strengthen Examiner Capabilities:** The GHR CFL worked closely with vendors to get a training session brought to the RCFL and utilized internal experts to develop courses that were provided to examiners.
- ☒ **Increase RCFL Utilization by Participating Agencies:** The GHR CFL engaged executives through the RCFL's Local Executive Board meetings and provided information at RCFL-sponsored training events about services, in particular advanced forensics on cellular phones. This led to a significant increase in submissions by two GHR CFL participating agencies.
- ☐ **Grow the RCFL:** This goal was not accomplished due to funding restrictions resulting in a freeze on personnel.
- ☐ **Consolidate Systems and Reduce the Number of Disparate Networks:** This goal was dependent upon the successful deployment of a new case management system by headquarters. Deployment is now scheduled for FY16. In the meantime, the RCFL continued to use internally created applications for case management.



Goal Met







Partially Met



Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY16

-  **Promote outreach and training to agencies served by the GHR CFL:** Bring in outside vendors and training courses to provide needed training to examiners and agencies while promoting the RCFL and its abilities.
-  **Increase the number of examiner certifications:** Ensure two Forensic Examiners in Training receive their Forensic Examiner certification.
-  **Maintain a minimal backlog:** Keep backlog below 10% with the overarching goal of keeping it at zero.
-  **Enhance laboratory capabilities:** Obtain advanced CART certifications for at least one examiner in order to achieve a long-held goal of providing enhanced forensic abilities at the laboratory.



# HEART OF AMERICA RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/HEART-OF-AMERICA

**YEAR OPENED:** 2003

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**  
SSA Lou Ann Stovall, FBI

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

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES  
IN AREA:** 867

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2007



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

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

## PROGRESS REPORT The RCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY15:

91

Number of agencies that requested assistance (8 federal, 8 state, 75 local)

511

Number of TBs processed during examinations and searches

503

Number of service requests received (139 federal, 38 state, 326 local)

20

Number of cases supported by onsite operations

435

Number of examinations and searches completed

2,505

Kiosk Usage—Total number of times law enforcement personnel used the RCFL's self-service digital forensics tools (CPIK: 901; LMK: 497; VCPK: 1107)

## TOP 5 CRIMES

- 1 **Exploitation/Enticement**
- 2 **Homicide**
- 3 **Sex Assault**
- 4 **Assault**
- 5 **Other**

90

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques

6

Number of times personnel testified in court

## NOTABLE NEWS

### GUILTY PLEA IN PLOT TO EXPLODE CAR BOMB AT U.S. MILITARY BASE:

The HARCFL provided digital forensics expertise to the investigation into a plan to detonate a vehicle bomb on the Fort Riley military base in Manhattan, Kansas. John T. Booker Jr. pleaded guilty to one count of attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction and one count of attempting to destroy government property with an explosive device. The investigation began in 2014 when Booker posted on his Facebook page that he wanted to commit jihad. He went on to work with two undercover FBI informants who he thought were helping him in planning the attack. In April 2015, Booker attempted to carry out the attack, but was arrested upon making the final connections in the device that he thought would arm the bomb.



Fort Riley Military Base

**PROTECTING CHILDREN:** The cases below were brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse.



Led by the United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who sexually exploit children, and to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit [www.usdoj.gov/psc](http://www.usdoj.gov/psc). For more information about Internet safety education, please visit [www.usdoj.gov/psc](http://www.usdoj.gov/psc) and click on the tab "resources."

### DISTRIBUTOR OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY SENTENCED TO SIX YEARS:

Christopher Michael Donovan was sentenced to six years for distributing child pornography over the Internet. Donovan contacted an undercover FBI task force officer in a chat room and sent images and movies of child pornography. In a search of Donovan's residence, a USB storage device that contained additional movies and videos was recovered. Donovan will be required to register as a sex offender. The HARCFL assisted in processing digital evidence in this investigation.

**CHILD PORNOGRAPHER SENTENCED TO 30 YEARS:** Marcus S. Clarke was sentenced to 30 years in federal prison, along with a 10-year term of supervised release for producing child pornography and attempting to produce child pornography. Clarke had solicited young women using a Craigslist advertisement for lingerie and nude modeling and, in 2014, produced still and video images of a 15-year-old girl. He later admitted to taking video of a second victim. HARCFL provided assistance with the digital evidence.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY15 GOALS

- ✓ **Mobile Lab:** HARCFL received a Mobile Lab in January 2015 and has used it to support several on-site cases and numerous community outreach events.
- ✓ **Grow the Staff:** Two Forensic Examiners in Training (FET) were assigned to the HARCFL during FY15 to replace vacancies from Johnson County, Kansas Sheriff's Office and Platte County, Missouri Sheriff's Office.
- ✓ **Continue Outreach to Law Enforcement:** The HARCFL's first Digital Forensics for Investigators Conference was held on October 23, 2014 (FY15). The conference was held jointly with the USSS and HTCIA. It was a huge success with approximately 200 attendees. The HARCFL is currently planning for a second Digital Forensics for Investigators Conference scheduled for October 23, 2015 (FY16).
- **Obtain CART Certifications:** Two of the three FET assigned to the HARCFL Topeka Satellite Lab completed the FBI CART Forensic Examiner (FE) certification and one HARCFL FET completed the FBI CART FE certification.



Goal Met



Partially Met



Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY16

- **Maintain staffing levels.**
- **Implement new Case Management/Evidence Control System.**
- **Promote outreach and training.**
- **Increase Virtual Cell Phone Kiosk availability to law enforcement.**
- **Complete facility update to HARCFL conference room.**

### TECHNOLOGY/R&D ACHIEVEMENT:

HARCFL received a Mobile Laboratory to provide onsite digital forensics support to critical FBI and partner agency investigations. Mobile Labs provide full digital forensic processing and examination capabilities and can process, in real time, evidence found on standalone computers, computer servers, and all types of mobile computing devices found during the course of a breaking investigation.





# INTERMOUNTAIN WEST RCFL

[WWW.RCFL.GOV/INTERMOUNTAIN-WEST](http://WWW.RCFL.GOV/INTERMOUNTAIN-WEST)

**YEAR OPENED:** 2004

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

SSA Cheney Eng-Tow, FBI

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

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES**

**IN AREA:** 430

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2008



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

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

## PROGRESS REPORT The RCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY15:

# 83

Number of agencies that requested assistance (13 federal, 17 state, 53 local)

# 340

Number of TBs processed during examinations and searches

# 379

Number of service requests received (126 federal, 56 state, 197 local)

# 18

Number of cases supported by onsite operations

# 357

Number of examinations and searches completed

# 620

Kiosk Usage—Total number of times law enforcement personnel used the RCFL's self-service digital forensics tools (CPIK: 446; LMK: 174)

# 47

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques

## TOP 5 CRIMES

**1** Exploitation/Enticement

**2** Sex Offense

**3** Homicide

**4** Fraud

**5** Sex Assault

# 3

Number of times personnel testified in court

## NOTABLE NEWS

### IDAHO TERRORIST SENTENCED TO 25 YEARS:

In this international terrorism case, Fazliddin Kurbanov, an Uzbek national, was “sentenced for conspiring and attempting to provide material support to the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan and procuring bomb-making materials in the interest of executing a terrorist attack on American soil,” said Assistant Attorney General John P. Carlin of the District of Idaho. Two IWRCLF Forensic Examiners (FE) supported the investigation by imaging, processing and examining a massive amount of digital evidence. Both examiners testified in the trial. The digital evidence played an important role in the conviction of Kurbanov.



Map of Uzbekistan

**PROTECTING CHILDREN:** Digital evidence discovered by an IWRCLF examiner was crucial for the prosecution of William Wilkinson on charges of sexual exploitation and child pornography. The IWRCLF FE was able to locate crucial digital evidence consisting of still photographs taken with a webcam which were saved unbeknownst to the subject in the browser cache. Wilkinson was found guilty on three counts of sexual exploitation of a minor (an eight-year-old female), one count of possession of child pornography, and one count of access with intent to view child pornography. In March 2016, Wilkinson was sentenced to 130 years in federal prison.

### DIGITAL EVIDENCE ASSISTS IN MURDER

**CONVICTION:** Victoria Mendoza was convicted of killing her partner by stabbing her over 40 times while driving on I-15 in Salt Lake City. Mendoza pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 16-years-to-life in prison. An IWRCLF FE imaged and examined the subject’s digital media. This work was used by the prosecution to solidify their case against the subject regarding possible social and cultural influences being motivation for the murder of the victim.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY15 GOALS



### Implement New Case Management/Evidence Control

**System:** After looking into several possible solutions, the IWRCLF elected to use DEMS for case management and evidence control. The new system went live at the start of the new fiscal year.



### Update Archive System:

The IWRCLF has successfully transitioned to and implemented a lower-cost tape archival system on its ExaminerNet network.



### Increase Staffing:

One new Forensic Examiner in Training (FET) was brought on board to replace an FE who was recalled by his agency. Two FETs are nearing completion of their certification. Progress on hiring of two new employees has been hindered by delays in the adjudication process.



### Expand Advanced Certification:

Due to OTD budget limitations, advanced training was very limited this year. However, the IWRCLF did have one FE complete advanced MAC and Linux training and certification. Additionally one IWRCLF FE received JTAG training, two other FEs completed the Mobile Forensics advanced training class and are now certified mobile forensics examiners, and one FE who completed FAVIAU training is now a certified Audio/Video examiner. Increasing the number of A/V examiners is important as the number of requests for these services has increased with the proliferation of home/business surveillance cameras, police officer body cams, and the increased reliance on this type of media by law enforcement and prosecutors.



Goal Met



Partially Met



Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY16



**Implement New Case Management System:** Continue transition and implementation of DEMS.



**Certify FETs:** Ensure two FETs complete certification.



**Increase Staffing:** Bring one new FET on board



**Increase Advanced Certifications:** Increase advanced certifications for examiners on additional platforms to include mobile devices, Mac, Linux/Unix and Audio/video



# KENTUCKY RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/KENTUCKY

**YEAR OPENED:** 2006

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

Acting SSA Amanda Rankhorn, FBI  
(During FY15, Lieutenant Michael Haag,  
Louisville Metro Police Department)

**SERVICE AREA:** State of Kentucky

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES  
IN AREA:** 420

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2009



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

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

## PROGRESS REPORT

The RCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY15:

**30**

Number of agencies that requested  
assistance (2 federal, 3 state, 25 local)

**82**

Number of TBs processed during  
examinations and searches

**187**

Number of service requests received  
(87 federal, 35 state, 65 local)

**4**

Number of cases supported  
by onsite operations

**131**

Number of examinations  
and searches completed

**585**

Kiosk Usage—Total number of times  
law enforcement personnel used the  
RCFL's self-service digital forensics  
tools (CPIK: 495; LMK: 200)

## TOP 5 CRIMES

- 1** Exploitation/Enticement
- 2** Homicide
- 3** Other
- 4** Dangerous Drugs
- 5** Burglary

**60**

Number of law enforcement  
officers trained in various digital  
forensics tools and techniques






## NOTABLE NEWS

**PROTECTING CHILDREN:** The Kentucky RCFL (KRCFL) provided critical assistance with a pending federal child exploitation investigation. In the case, the subject, who is already a registered sex offender, is alleged to have been involved with hands-on offenses with his niece, who was living with her sister at their grandmother's house in Kentucky at the time. The girl was victimized between the ages of 9 and 11, and the activity would occur when the subject would visit at his mother's house where the girl was staying, or when the subject would babysit the victim at the subject's house. The victim left the state of Kentucky, at which time she felt safe enough to disclose what had been happening to her for the previous two years. Multiple items of digital evidence were obtained, including the victim's sister's laptop, which had been used by the subject. The examination conducted by the KRCFL provided evidence of possession and receipt of child pornography, including active efforts by the subject to locate child pornography involving girls that were between 9 and 11 years of age. The subject was indicted in February 2016 and is awaiting trial. The subject faces a sentence of 30 years to life.

### PROTECTING THE COMMUNITY—GUILTY VERDICT IN DOUBLE HOMICIDE:

William Truss was found guilty of murdering two cousins. The victims were found shot inside Truss's vehicle in 2012. An examination by the KRCFL of a locked Android phone resulted in the extraction of all data contained within the device. The passcode had previously been unable to be bypassed using other means. Deleted calls and text messages that were recovered as a part of the extraction included communications between the subject and the victims in the time leading up to the discovery of the victims' bodies. Testimony was provided during the capital murder trial providing the results of the examination. Truss was convicted in 2016, and the jury recommended a sentence of 25 years to life.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY15 GOALS

-  **Promote Outreach and Training:** The KRCFL completed significant outreach and training throughout the year in conjunction with state and local entities in the region. In addition, two KRCFL examiners became Kentucky State Instructors.
-  **Maintain Staffing Levels:** Although the KRCFL underwent staffing and participating agency changes, they were able to increase overall personnel.
-  **Increase Remote Review Capabilities:** All KRCFL participating agencies now have remote review capabilities. Two additional non-participating agencies were also provided capabilities. The KRCFL continues to work on enhanced remote access capabilities.



Goal Met







Partially Met



Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY16

-  **Make Progress Toward Certification:** Seek training for KRCFL personnel toward certification.
-  **Promote Outreach and Training:** Expand outreach efforts to organizations within the KRCFL area of responsibility through tours, training opportunities offered, and expanded use of the cell phone investigative kiosks.
-  **Implement DEMS:** Implement new case management and evidence control system at the KRCFL.
-  **Enhance Recruiting Efforts:** Increase involvement with area universities and colleges to facilitate recruitment.



# NEW JERSEY RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/NEW-JERSEY

**YEAR OPENED:** 2004

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**  
SSA Ronald E. Menold II, FBI

**SERVICE AREA:** State of New Jersey

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES  
IN AREA:** 526

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2006



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- > Essex County Prosecutor's Office
- > FBI—Newark Division
- > Mercer County Prosecutor's Office
- > Middlesex 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

## PROGRESS REPORT The RCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY15:

29

Number of agencies that requested assistance (1 federal, 8 state, 20 local)

287

Number of TBs processed during examinations and searches

400

Number of service requests received (148 federal, 182 state, 70 local)

83

Number of cases supported by onsite operations

446

Number of examinations and searches completed

90

Kiosk Usage—Total number of times law enforcement personnel used the RCFL's self-service digital forensics tools (CPIK: 78; LMK: 12)

84

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques

5

Number of times personnel testified in court

## NOTABLE NEWS

**VIOLENT GANG LEADER SENTENCED:** Mykal Derry and his brother Malik Derry, both of Atlantic City, were convicted in federal court in August 2015. The two were members of a gang known as "Dirty Block" which operated in a geographic area of Atlantic City that included the public housing apartment complexes of Stanley Holmes Village and Schoolhouse Apartments. The defendants participated in a violent street-level drug trafficking organization that controlled heroin sales through the possession of firearms and the use of gun violence, including at least one homicide

## TOP 5 CRIMES

- 1 Homicide
- 2 Exploitation/Enticement
- 3 Other
- 4 Sex Assault
- 5 Robbery

and several non-fatal, drug-related shootings. Both faced charges of distribution of heroin, possession and discharging of firearms, drug conspiracy and other charges that carry high potential terms in prison in addition to fines. Mykal Derry was sentenced to life in prison plus 10 years. Malik Derry awaits sentencing. Without the help of the NJRCFL, much of the digital evidence found on the cell phones would have been inadmissible in court.






Mykal Derry (left) and Malik Derry (right)

#### **PROTECTING CHILDREN—PREVIOUSLY CONVICTED SEX OFFENDER SENTENCED TO 121 MONTHS:**

A previously convicted sex offender was sentenced to 121 months in prison for uploading images of child sexual abuse to an online file-sharing network. Layne Bracht, a 32-year-old, of Highlands, NJ, pleaded guilty in 2006 to charges of one count of possession of child pornography and admitted to knowingly placing images and videos depicting child sexual abuse into a shared folder that others could access via a peer-to-peer network. FBI executed a search warrant at his residence in January 2014 and seized digital evidence containing numerous videos and images depicting child sexual abuse, including material involving prepubescent minors and sadistic or masochistic conduct. In addition to the prison term, Bracht is to serve 15 years of supervised release. The digital evidence recovered a plethora of suspected child pornography used to prosecute the case.

**KIDNAPPING:** Martin Wolmark, 56, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to travel in interstate commerce to commit extortion and was subsequently sentenced to 38 months in prison with two years of supervised release and a \$50,000 fine. Wolmark admitted to conspiring to travel to NJ to coerce a Jewish man to give his wife a religious divorce, referred to as a “get” through threats of violence. On August 7, 2013, Wolmark, an ordained Orthodox Jewish rabbi, spoke with a woman and her brother about obtaining a Jewish divorce from the woman’s recalcitrant husband. A get is a divorce document which, according to Jewish Law, must be presented by a husband to his wife to effect their divorce.

## **PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY15 GOALS**

-  **Expand Examiner Capabilities:** All NJRCFL examiners were trained in a new forensic tool.
-  **Increase Network Storage:** In July, the NJRCFL added more storage to the state and local DCAP network.
-  **Grow the Ranks:** While the NJRCFL did gain a TFO and SA, they did not increase the overall number of examiners due to the loss of three TFOs. The RCFL gained a new network administrator.



Goal Met






Partially Met



Not Met

## **GOALS FOR FY16**

-  **Grow the Ranks:** Increase the number of staff at the NJRCFL.
-  **Increase the number of Certified Examiners:** Increase the number of qualified examiners at the NJRCFL.
-  **Promote Outreach to Agencies Served by the NJRCFL:** Conduct outreach to the staff of member agencies concerning digital evidence.

Unbeknownst to Wolmark, the woman and brother were undercover FBI agents. The digital evidence demonstrated ongoing criminal activity in support of the prosecution of the case.

### **TECHNOLOGY/R&D ACHIEVEMENT (DEVELOPMENT OF TOOLS WHEN NONE ARE AVAILABLE):**

The NJRCFL was able to obtain incriminating data on a proprietary server by developing a new method for forensically extracting data from this type of server when no other existing tool would work. This method aided in obtaining a plea deal in the investigation and was shared with FBI Headquarters to aid in future investigations. The NJRCFL was the first site in the entire RCFL network of labs to encounter such a server.





# NEW MEXICO RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/NEW-MEXICO

**YEAR OPENED:** 2011

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

SSA Mary Adkins, FBI

**SERVICE AREA:** State of New Mexico

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES**

**IN AREA:** 135

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2014



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

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

## PROGRESS REPORT The RCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY15:

**31**

Number of agencies that requested assistance (6 federal, 4 state, 21 local)

**35**

Number of cases supported by onsite operations

**269**

Number of service requests received (121 federal, 14 state, 134 local)

**199**

Kiosk Usage—Total number of times law enforcement personnel used the RCFL's self-service digital forensics tools (CPIK: 180; LMK: 19)

**228**

Number of examinations and searches completed

**115**

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques

**264**

Number of TBs processed during examinations and searches

**4**

Number of times personnel testified in court

## TOP 5 CRIMES

**1** Exploitation/Enticement

**2** Homicide

**3** Other

**4** Assault

**5** Fraud

**1**

Number of Amber Alerts supported

## NOTABLE NEWS



NMRCFL FET Byron French assists the Rio Rancho Police Department with the CPIK

### PROTECTING CHILDREN—DOCTOR FACES PRISON FOR FEDERAL CHILD

**PORNOGRAPHY CHARGE:** in another case brought by the New Mexico Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC), Thomas Murray, a non-Indian who resides in Acoma Pueblo, NM, pleaded guilty in federal court to a federal child pornography charge. Murray is a physician who relocated to New Mexico in October 2014, from Ohio to take a position as a general practitioner with Indian Health Services at the Acoma-Canoncito-Laguna-Service Unit located in Acoma Pueblo. The NMRCFL examined numerous computers, hard drives, and media collected at Murray's residence. In processing evidence items, examiners located numerous images, videos, and Internet artifacts of suspected child pornography. Murray faces a federal prison term of not less than five years and not more than 20 years. Murray would also be required to register as a sex offender.



### PROTECTING CHILDREN—PRIOR SEX OFFENDER SENTENCED TO TEN YEARS FOR FEDERAL CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CONVICTION:

Kyle Morrow, 30 of Los Alamos pleaded guilty to information charging him with possession of child pornography. Morrow had been living in a halfway house and was still in the custody of the Bureau of Prisons completing a 37-month sentence for a prior child pornography conviction. Morrow specifically admitted possessing child pornography images on his cellular phone. The NMRCFL conducted a forensic examination of Morrow's cellular phone and obtained the evidence for prosecution.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY15 GOALS

- ✓ **Maintain Minimal Backlog:** NMRCFL has maintained "no backlog" status throughout FY 2015.
- ✓ **Enhance Laboratory Capabilities:** The NMRCFL has one certified JTAG examiner. The JTAG techniques have provided assistance in homicide cases at the local and federal level. The NMRCFL has two examiners that have completed Audio/Visual Enhancement training and are working toward certification. To date, they have assisted with multiple homicide investigations.
- ✓ **Annual Audit:** The NMRCFL conducted an annual audit in January 2015.
- **Training:** The NMRCFL continues to strive to train state, local, and federal law enforcement officers as it transitions to a new training coordinator.

☒ Goal Met
 ☐ Partially Met
 ☐ Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY16

- 🎯 **Maintain Minimal Backlog**
- 🎯 **Enhance Staffing:** Hire one additional FBI ITS-FE employee. Certify a minimum of two Forensic Examiners in Training (FET) in FY16 to better support Participating Agencies. Hire full-time Administrative/Evidence Technician.
- 🎯 **Annual Audit:** Conduct an annual internal audit of the NMRCFL.
- 🎯 **Enhance Audio/Video Capabilities:** Obtain Field Audio/Video Program (FAVP) certification for one NMRCFL examiner.



# NORTH TEXAS RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/NORTH-TEXAS

**YEAR OPENED:** 2000

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**  
SSA Allyn Lynd, FBI

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

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES  
IN AREA:** 573

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2004



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- > Dallas Police Department
- > FBI—Dallas Division
- > Frisco Police Department **NEW**
- > Garland Police Department
- > Grand Prairie Police Department
- > Plano Police Department
- > Richardson Police Department **NEW**

## PROGRESS REPORT The RCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY15:

**50**

Number of agencies that requested assistance (3 federal, 5 state, 42 local)

**20**

Number of cases supported by onsite operations

**474**

Number of service requests received (199 federal, 6 state, 269 local)

**87**

Kiosk Usage—Total number of times law enforcement personnel used the RCFL's self-service digital forensics tools (LMK: 87)

**450**

Number of examinations and searches completed

**500**

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques

**423**

Number of TBs processed during examinations and searches

**10**

Number of times personnel testified in court

## TOP 5 CRIMES

- 1** Exploitation/Enticement
- 2** Sex Offense
- 3** Homicide
- 4** Fraud
- 5** Sex Assault

**2**

Number of Amber Alerts supported



## NOTABLE NEWS

### TWO LIFE SENTENCES FOR CHILD SEX CRIMES:

Paul John Martinez received two life sentences plus 120 years after he was found guilty of 13 crimes from a 2013 child exploitation case. Two examiners from the NTRCFL testified at the hearing about locating the evidence and putting the local police department in contact with the officer who performed the original investigation. That officer interviewed the child victim and related to the jury how this crime impacted the child. After hearing the testimony of the two NTRCFL examiners and the officer's testimony, Martinez decided to take a plea to the above sentence instead of taking his chances with the jury.





### FOUR SENTENCED IN OVERDOSE DEATH OF TEEN:

In April, 2015, as part of a murder investigation into the death of a teenager by heroin overdose, the NTRCFL recovered all of the text messages used to describe the crime. The plot unfolded in text messages as Cierra Rounds, the victim (name withheld), and another woman, Kathryn Dirks, rode back to Round's home in the victim's car. A drug dealer, Jimison Coleman, and a 28-year-old named Glen Brunton trailed along in a separate car, prosecutors said. Rounds and Dirks took the victim inside, and Coleman sent a text message to keep her there. Rounds and Dirks proceeded to inject the victim with three doses of heroin, which proved fatal, in order to steal cash, an iPad, and a cell phone from her. The case was scheduled for trial, but the subjects pleaded out after seeing text messages recovered by the NTRCFL. During sentencing, Rounds and Dirks were each sentenced to 13 years in federal prison, Coleman was sentenced to 19 years, and Brunton to five years.

### SENTENCING IN SHOOTING OF 8-YEAR-OLD:

As part of an investigation into the shooting of an 8-year-old boy, in the face, in Lake Highlands in 2013, the NTRCFL examined a cell phone that the subject, Brian Cloninger, had on him at the time. The examiner was able to use the phone to establish a timeline placing the subject at the scene of the crime. Cloninger was found guilty and sentenced to 45 years in jail.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY15 GOALS

-  **Facility Planning:** The NTRCFL negotiated a five-year extension in their existing location. A new location was identified, and funding is being sought to initiate the move and build out.
-  **Grow the Staff:** A new FBI ITS-FE was brought on at the NTRCFL and two additional participating agency TFOs started at the lab during the fiscal year and began training.
-  **Enhance System Administration Support:** A new system administrator joined the lab during the fiscal year.
-  **Enhance New Examiner Training:** Three Forensic Examiners obtained Mobile Forensics certification. One Forensic Examiner (FE) obtained FAVP certification training.



Goal Met






Partially Met



Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY16

-  **Obtain CART Certifications:** Complete training and certification of three current Forensic Examiners in Training (FET) and continue training with two additional FETs.
-  **Enhance Training on Specialized Tools:** Obtain training for at least two new trainers and provide training to at least 40 state and local officers.
-  **Facility Planning:** Facilitate the 2017 planned move to the NTRCFL's new facility by planning for and preparing the move while minimizing disruption to operations.

**TECHNOLOGY/R&D ACHIEVEMENT:** The NTRCFL jointly worked with the USSS to recover evidence from computers located in the vehicle of a subject in a Frisco Police Department murder case



# NORTHWEST RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/NORTHWEST

**YEAR OPENED:** 2005

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:** Acting/  
SSA Colt Chester, FBI (During FY15, SSA  
Jennifer C. Burnett, FBI)

**SERVICE AREA:** Oregon and  
Southwest Washington

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES  
IN AREA:** 109

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2008



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- › Beaverton Police Department
- › Canby Police Department
- › Clackamas County Sheriff's Office
- › FBI—Portland Division
- › Hillsboro Police Department
- › Multnomah County Department of  
Community Justice
- › Oregon State Police
- › Portland Police Bureau
- › Washington County Sheriff's Office

## PROGRESS REPORT The RCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY15:

**36**

Number of agencies that requested  
assistance (3 federal, 2 state, 31 local)

**240**

Number of TBs processed during  
examinations and searches

**196**

Number of service requests received  
(107 federal, 6 state, 83 local)

**30**

Number of cases supported  
by onsite operations

**193**

Number of examinations  
and searches completed

**415**

Kiosk Usage—Total number of  
times law enforcement personnel  
used the RCFL's self-service digital  
forensics tools (LMK: 415)

**75**

Number of law enforcement  
officers trained in various digital  
forensics tools and techniques

**6**

Number of times personnel  
testified in court

## TOP 5 CRIMES

- 1** Exploitation/Enticement
- 2** Sex Offense
- 3** Homicide
- 4** Fraud
- 5** Sex Assault

## NOTABLE NEWS

**PROTECTING CHILDREN—25 YEAR SENTENCE FOR PLACING HIDDEN CAMERAS IN STEPDAUGHTER'S SHOWER:** Brett Lloyd denied placing hidden cameras in his teenage stepdaughter's shower. However, Forensic Examiners (FE) at the NWRCLF examined an iMac and later testified to locating browsing history for sites related to "Stepdaughter Sex," a video of the suspect installing the camera, and video footage of a 12-year-old girl. Lloyd was found guilty and sentenced to a mandatory minimum of 25 years in prison

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY15 GOALS

- ☒ **Promote use of Self-Service Kiosks:** The NWRCLF continues to promote usage of kiosks through training and presentations provided within the FBI and to outside agencies in appropriate situations.
- ☐ **Improve Efficiency:** The NWRCLF served as a pilot office to test the new Digital Evidence Management System (DEMS) and anticipates implementation during FY16.
- ☐ **Increase Productivity:** The NWRCLF continues to promote the use of Case Agent Investigative Review (CAIR) with the FBI. The RCFL recently hosted CAIR training and promoted attendance by FBI probationary agents. On the local side, there have been some technical challenges with signing up outside agencies on DCAP to review cases but locals are encouraged, when appropriate, to come to the RCFL to review their digital evidence.
- ☐ **Continue Recruiting Efforts:** While the NWRCLF pursued a number of avenues to increase participation among local agencies, budgetary restrictions hampered efforts to increase staffing



Goal Met







Partially Met

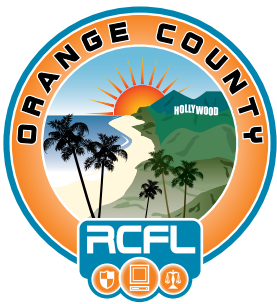


Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY16

-  **Increase Audio/Video Certifications:** Obtain FAVP certification for one Forensic Examiner.
-  **Reduce backlog/aging cases:** Reduce backlog and improve examiner efficiency and productivity, as measured by hours per request and number of cases closed.
-  **Enhance Capabilities with a Mobile Laboratory:** Obtain a mobile laboratory for on-site operations.
-  **Enhance Staffing:** Backfill at least one FE position for retiring personnel.





# ORANGE COUNTY RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/ORANGE-COUNTY

**YEAR OPENED:** 2011

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

SSA Christopher Pluhar, FBI

**SERVICE AREA:** Central District of California

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES**

**IN AREA:** 252

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2013



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

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

## PROGRESS REPORT The RCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY15:

**29**

Number of agencies that requested assistance (2 federal, 2 state, 25 local)

**489**

Number of TBs processed during examinations and searches

**693**

Number of service requests received (279 federal, 3 state, 411 local)

**55**

Number of cases supported by onsite operations

**625**

Number of examinations and searches completed

**711**

Kiosk Usage—Total number of times law enforcement personnel used the RCFL's self-service digital forensics tools (CPIK: 519; LMK: 192)

## TOP 5 CRIMES

- **1** Fraud
- **2** Sex Assault
- **3** Homicide
- **4** Crimes Against Persons
- **5** Exploitation/Enticement

**696**

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques

**6**

Number of times personnel testified in court

## NOTABLE NEWS

### DVR FOOTAGE ASSISTS IN ARSON INVESTIGATION:

In a Los Angeles fire that resulted in one of the single highest dollar losses in the city's history, recovered DVR footage captured an image of the suspect at the crime scene. The footage was used to corroborate additional evidence obtained during the course of the investigation and ultimately led to the arrest of the suspect in this ongoing investigation.

**PUBLIC CORRUPTION:** An enormous amount of digital evidence has been collected during a search related to the City of Palm Springs. Digital evidence is at the center of this public corruption investigation as a majority of business activities in question were conducted and/or memorialized electronically. Digital evidence review continues at the OCR CFL in this ongoing investigation.



## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY15 GOALS

- ☒ **Enhance Inland Empire (IE) Presence:** OCR CFL Inland Empire expansion development is continuing. The Riverside annex is fully operational, but they continue to evaluate options for expansion due to increasing case volumes.
- ☒ **Advanced Training:** The OCR CFL has conducted a number of classes for the RCFL and broader law enforcement community during the fiscal year.
- ☐ **Complete Facility Updates:** The OCR CFL is working with headquarters to procure equipment. Computer upgrades are 90% complete with the assistance of Los Angeles Division discretionary funds.

☒ Goal Met    ☐ Partially Met    ☐ Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY16

- ☒ **Enhance Inland Empire (IE) Presence:** Obtain approval and intermediate funding to transition the OCR CFL Riverside satellite to rent free space located at Ontario Police Department.
- ☒ **Enhance Operations:** Continue planning and development for potential OCR CFL satellite co-located with the National Cyber-Forensics and Training Alliance (NCFTA)-West, and a future Los Angeles Cyber Center of Excellence near downtown Los Angeles. Explore options to enhance Ontario police department facility to include multipurpose review and investigative space, as well as a classroom/JOC facility to service the Inland Empire.
- ☒ **Update Equipment:** Complete upgrade of review stations and classroom computers at OCR CFL. Provide OCR CFL examiners new exam equipment



# PHILADELPHIA RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/PHILADELPHIA

**YEAR OPENED:** 2006

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

SSA Raymond Manna, FBI

**SERVICE AREA:** Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES  
IN AREA:** 500

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2009



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

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

## PROGRESS REPORT The RCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY15:

**35**

Number of agencies that requested assistance (5 federal, 30 local)

**636**

Number of TBs processed during examinations and searches

**625**

Number of service requests received (402 federal, 223 local)

**63**

Number of cases supported by onsite operations

**628**

Number of examinations and searches completed

**303**

Kiosk Usage—Total number of times law enforcement personnel used the RCFL's self-service digital forensics tools (CPIK: 267; LMK: 36)

## TOP 5 CRIMES

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

**686**

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques

**6**

Number of times personnel testified in court



## NOTABLE NEWS

**PUBLIC CORRUPTION CASE:** In a broad public corruption case involving officials from the cities of Allentown and Reading, the PHRCFL seized terabytes of data from a file server and an email server that case agents are using to prove the violations. To date, there have been three guilty pleas, with one resulting in a two-year prison sentence. The investigation is ongoing.

**COUNTERTERRORISM MATTERS:** During FY15, the PHRCFL assisted in processing digital evidence in multiple counterterrorism cases. Digital evidence contained vital communications regarding plans to join ISIS and/or conduct attacks against the United States. These activities were disrupted due to the discovery of key pieces of digital evidence processed by the RCFL.

**PUBLIC CORRUPTION:** The PHRCFL processed digital evidence including files which were instrumental in proving violations including bank and tax fraud. Chaka Fattah, Jr. was found guilty of numerous charges and sentenced to five years in federal prison, \$1.1M in restitution, and five years on supervised release after serving his prison term.

**TECHNOLOGY/R&D ACHIEVEMENT:** The PHRCFL enhanced their Derivative Evidence Search Tool to handle multiple forensic tools and types of evidence.

### Network and infrastructure Upgrades





The PHRCFL continued to expand its network infrastructure in the lab to improve connectivity.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY15 GOALS

- ✓ **Enhance Senior Examiner Training:** The PHRCFL conducted 4 in-house training sessions. Two senior examiners attended additional advanced training.
- ✓ **Enhance Laboratory Network:** The PHRCFL received and implemented equipment for all examiners and all workstations.
- ✓ **Provide Highest-Quality Forensic Support:** The PHRCFL fully implemented a new search tool and other review tools for cell phones and internet artifacts.

✓ Goal Met     Partially Met     Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY16

-  **Maintain Minimal Backlog:** Maintain no backlog in assignments or completion. Strive to complete cases within 30 days where possible.
-  **Enhance Certifications:** All certified examiners should become proficient in one additional processing tool/software.
-  **Enhance Skills:** Educate examiners about the different operating systems and the proper tools/methods to examine them.
-  **Maintain Accreditation:** Continue the lab's accreditation from the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB)—International.



# ROCKY MOUNTAIN RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/ROCKY-MOUNTAIN

**YEAR OPENED:** 2006

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:** SSA Douglas Oliver (Partial year: SSA Adam Krob, FBI; Lieutenant James Lamont Jensen, Douglas County Sheriff's Office)

**SERVICE AREA:** Colorado and Wyoming

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES IN AREA:** 269

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2008



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

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

## PROGRESS REPORT The RCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY15:

50

Number of agencies that requested assistance (3 federal, 2 state, 45 local)

207

Number of TBs processed during examinations and searches

217

Number of service requests received (67 federal, 7 state, 143 local)

19

Number of cases supported by onsite operations

228

Number of examinations and searches completed

162

Kiosk Usage—Total number of times law enforcement personnel used the RCFL's self-service digital forensics tools (CPIK: 131; LMK: 31)

## TOP 5 CRIMES

1 Obscenity

2 Fraud

3 Sex Assault

4 Homicide

5 Assault

19

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques

5

Number of times personnel testified in court



## NOTABLE NEWS

**HOMICIDE:** Warren Watson, a 54-year-old man, was sentenced to life in prison plus 334 years for murdering Claudia Miller, a well-known local attorney. Watson fled the scene, but was identified using surveillance video where he had used the victim's credit cards. Police were able to locate Watson in Idaho. RMRCFL provided forensic services that established the subject had done Internet research on his victim before the murder. In addition, after the murder, the RCFL established the subject used a computer in his motel to stay up-to-date on the police investigation.



Warren Watson

**PROTECTING CHILDREN:** A tip from an ongoing investigation in Great Britain led police to a couple for their alleged involvement in child pornography. Both subjects were subsequently arrested and charged with a number of sexual exploitation charges. RMRCFL assisted in the physical search warrant and provided forensic examinations of the subjects' computers, Sony PlayStation and camera.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY15 GOALS

- ☒ **Select Laboratory Director:** A new Laboratory Director was selected by the RMRCFL.
- ☐ **Increase the Staff:** While the RMRCFL continued fostering relationships to increase participation among local agencies, budgetary restrictions during the fiscal year hampered efforts to increase staffing.



Goal Met







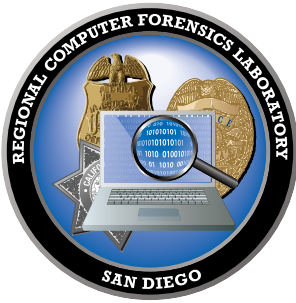
Partially Met



Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY16

-  **Enhance Staffing:** Add at least one new member to the RMRCFL team and engage existing agencies regarding backfill for retiring personnel.
-  **Advanced Certifications:** Acquire MAC and Linux certifications for at least two additional team members.
-  **Increase Audio/Video Support:** Train personnel and create a true capability to support service requests for Audio/Video.
-  **Mobile Lab:** Obtain a mobile laboratory for on-site operations.



# SAN DIEGO RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/SAN-DIEGO

**YEAR OPENED:** 1999

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

SSA James Mailloux, FBI

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

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES  
IN AREA:** 80

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2008



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

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

## PROGRESS REPORT The RCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY15:

**21**

Number of agencies that requested assistance (6 federal, 1 state, 14 local)

**535**

Number of TBs processed during examinations and searches

**749**

Number of service requests received (563 federal, 9 state, 177 local)

**18**

Number of cases supported by onsite operations

**541**

Number of examinations and searches completed

**510**

Kiosk Usage—Total number of times law enforcement personnel used the RCFL's self-service digital forensics tools (CPIK: 317; LMK: 193)

## TOP 5 CRIMES

- 1** Homicide
- 2** Exploitation/Enticement
- 3** Fraud
- 4** Sex Offense
- 5** Other

**505**

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques

**7**

Number of times personnel testified in court

## Network and infrastructure Upgrades

The San Diego RCFL (SDRCFL) completed deployment of higher speed internal evidence network.



## NOTABLE NEWS

### HOMICIDE—WOMAN KILLS HER ELDERLY MOTHER:

The SDR CFL assisted in an investigation where a woman, Ghazal Jessica Mansury, killed her 79-year-old mother, then dumped her body in a remote area of San Diego. The RCFL examination of six computers revealed Internet searches about bloodstains and homicide investigation techniques, as well as other indicative data. In addition, Internet connection data showed a wireless connection to a local fast food restaurant, where video surveillance showed the suspect at the keyboard of the laptop making these Internet searches. The SDR CFL digital forensics examinations helped prove not only the facts of the crime itself, but also the premeditation and planning for the first degree murder conviction. Mansury was convicted at trial of first degree murder and sentenced to 25 years to life. A SDR CFL examiner testified at length at the trial.

### PROTECTING CHILDREN— PEDIATRIC NURSE SENTENCED TO 80 YEARS FOR CHILD






**EXPLOITATION:** A 52-year-old San Diego pediatric nurse and foster parent, Michael William Lutts, was sentenced to 80 years in prison for child molestation, sexual assault, and production and distribution of child pornography. The SDR CFL examined ten hard drives and four laptops revealing thousands of child pornography videos, photos, and related emails which led to the guilty plea. Lutts pleaded guilty to 15 instances of photographing and videotaping the babies (2 month-old boy and 11 month-old girl) in his care in sexually explicit situations at both his home and workplace.



Michael William Lutts

**TASER LAWSUIT DISMISSED:** After a considerable pursuit, a 24-year-old was stopped by Border Patrol. When the subject appeared to be reaching for the center console instead of complying with commands, the Border Patrol agents fired a Taser, which ignited unknown fumes inside the car, killing the subject. While the SDR CFL was not able to recover critical deleted video data, they subsequently reached back to FBI Headquarters

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY15 GOALS

-  **Continue to Develop Training Center:** The SDR CFL conducted or hosted 32 training classes for 505 students in FY15, marking a significant improvement over the previous year.
-  **Maintain Quality of Service:** Exam backlog varied throughout the year but finished lower, and overall examination turnaround time remained low for FY15.
-  **Enhance Staffing:** The SDR CFL has three examiners in training as of the end of the fiscal year and continues to pursue avenues to obtain additional staffing.
-  **Meet Service Request Completion Goal:** The SDR CFL nearly met its goal and completed 86% of service requests within 90 days.
-  **Increase Audio/Video Support:** An SDR CFL examiner is nearing completion of Field Audio Video Program (FAVP) certification.



Goal Met







Partially Met



Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY16

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

resources for assistance, where an examiner painstakingly reconstructed the video data to show the Border Patrol agents' actions and the events leading up to the explosion. This video was critical in exonerating the Border Patrol agents.



# SILICON VALLEY RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/SILICON-VALLEY

**YEAR OPENED:** 2005

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

SSA Bryant Ling, FBI

**SERVICE AREA:** Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara Counties

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES**

**IN AREA:** 125

**ACCREDITED SINCE:** 2006



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- Alameda County Sheriff's Office
- Contra Costa Office of the Sheriff
- FBI—San Francisco Division
- Fremont Police Department
- Newark Police Department
- Palo Alto Police Department
- San Francisco Police Department
- San Jose Police Department
- San Mateo County Sheriff's Office

## PROGRESS REPORT The RCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY15:

34

Number of agencies that requested assistance (2 federal, 2 state, 30 local)

368

Number of TBs processed during examinations and searches

353

Number of service requests received (249 federal, 3 state, 101 local)

87

Number of cases supported by onsite operations

425

Number of examinations and searches completed

87

Kiosk Usage—Total number of times law enforcement personnel used the RCFL's self-service digital forensics tools (CPIK: 84; LMK: 3)

## TOP 5 CRIMES

1 Sex Offense

2 Homicide

3 Fraud

4 Burglary

5 Dangerous Drugs

337

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques

14

Number of times personnel testified in court

## NOTABLE NEWS

**HOMICIDE:** Emails recovered by SVRCFL personnel during a digital forensics examination were read aloud in court, which provided key information in the trial that was used to convict Raymond Wong of murdering his girlfriend in 1999. SVRCFL personnel also discovered a key logger file on Wong's computer that showed Wong's attempt to create an alibi for himself on the day he murdered his live-in girlfriend. Wong was sentenced to 50 years to life in prison.

**GUILTY VERDICT IN RACKETEERING CASE:** Raymond “Shrimp Boy” Chow was convicted by a federal jury on murder and various racketeering charges. SVRCFL personnel assisted with the execution of numerous federal search warrants and processed the digital evidence for case agent review.

**SVRCFL AIDS NATIONWIDE CHILD PORNOGRAPHY INVESTIGATION:** As a result of SVRCFL’s assistance with nationwide child pornography investigation, four arrests were made thus far, along with 15 searches and 11 examinations to support the ongoing initiative. Additional arrests, court hearings, and victim identifications are ongoing.

**ADAM WALSH ACT:** SVRCFL and San Francisco FBI Field Division legal personnel were interviewed as part of an NBC special report on the conflict between state and federal law regarding child pornography statutes. SVRCFL personnel were featured prominently in the final edited documentary describing experiences of being legally required by the state of California to distribute contraband child pornography in violation of The Adam Walsh Act federal law. NBC’s report brought a public awareness to the issue of the conflicting federal and state laws in regard to child pornography evidence.



SVRCFL FE Brian Rodriguez is interviewed with NBC and the NBC Investigative Unit in an online article.



## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY15 GOALS

- ✔ **Advanced Certifications:** Three SVRCFL examiners completed FAVP training, and began examinations under supervision. Two examiners received CART certification in UNIX Forensics. One examiner attended the certification course for Mac Forensics.
- ✔ **Advanced Training:** SVRCFL personnel conducted three advanced training and certification classes for CART and the RCFL Program in the form of two Virtualization Workshop courses held at the New Mexico RCFL and Orange County RCFL, and one UNIX Forensics certification course at Heart of America RCFL. In addition to these courses, the instructors updated curriculum and developed bound, printed materials to provide students with lasting reference materials.
- ◻ **Certify Examiners:** Two SVRCFL examiners are expected to obtain certification during FY16. Budgetary restrictions have slowed progress on certifying three on-the-job (OJT) trainees.
- ◻ **Increase Personnel:** The SVRCFL added two FBI personnel, but lost one at the close of the fiscal year. Two additional personnel are pending processing.

✔ Goal Met    
 ◻ Partially Met    
 ◻ Not Met

## GOALS FOR FY16

- 🎯 **Reduce backlog:** Improve examiner efficiency and productivity, as measured by hours per request, and number of cases closed.
- 🎯 **Increase capabilities:** Add four new certified examiners and two new FEs in training.
- 🎯 **Recruiting:** Solicit personnel as new ITS-FE hires or as new participating agencies



# WESTERN NEW YORK RCFL

WWW.RCFL.GOV/WESTERN-NEW-YORK

**YEAR OPENED:** 2006

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**

SSA Scott Romus, FBI  
(During FY15, SSA J. Michael Tapen, FBI)

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

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES  
IN AREA:** 137

## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- Buffalo Police Department
- Erie County Sheriff's Office
- FBI—Buffalo Division
- Monroe County Department of Public Safety
- New York State Taxation and Finance
- Niagara County Sheriff's Office
- United States Department of Homeland Security/U.S. Customs and Border Protection/Border Patrol

## PROGRESS REPORT The RCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY15:

**31**

Number of agencies that requested assistance (5 federal, 4 state, 22 local)

**78**

Number of TBs processed during examinations and searches

**191**

Number of service requests received (105 federal, 22 state, 64 local)

**27**

Number of cases supported by onsite operations

**169**

Number of examinations and searches completed

**397**

Kiosk Usage—Total number of times law enforcement personnel used the RCFL's self-service digital forensics tools (CPIK: 289; LMK: 108)

## TOP 5 CRIMES

- 1** Sex Offense
- 2** Fraud
- 3** Exploitation/Enticement
- 4** Obscenity
- 5** Sex Assault

**120**

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques

**4**

Number of times personnel testified in court

## NOTABLE NEWS

### MAN SENTENCED TO 20 YEARS FOR CHILD PORNOGRAPHY:

Thomas Sparks was caught by FBI Agents with child pornography on a flash drive. Sparks admitted to agents that he downloaded child pornography and placed the images onto a flash drive, which he smashed just before he answered the door for the execution of a search warrant. The flash drive was able to be repaired by Forensic Examiners (FE) in the WNYRCFL and several images of child pornography were recovered. Also, a contract was recovered, which Sparks drafted for his girlfriend. Its terms read that in the event they married and had children,



she would help him commit acts of child exploitation. Sparks pleaded guilty to receipt of child pornography and admitted he engaged in sexual abuse of a minor. He was sentenced to 20 years in prison.

#### **PROTECTING THE COMMUNITY—MAN ATTEMPTS**

**TO JOIN ISIS:** A man from Lackawanna, New York was held on charges of attempting to support a terrorist organization. The subject traveled to Turkey on two separate occasions with the intention of joining ISIS. Before the trips, he allegedly purchased numerous items of military combat gear, including body armor, night vision goggles, and a tactical vest. The WNYRCFL assisted in the execution of a search warrant at the subject's residence, and continue to provide forensic support to this ongoing investigation.




#### **PROTECTING CHILDREN—TRUCK DRIVER RECEIVES**

**LIFE SENTENCE FOR SEXUALLY ABUSING BOYS:** David Allen Vickers, accused of sexually abusing six underage boys over a 25 year period, was found guilty at trial and received a life sentence, for taking two of the six boys across state lines for the purposes of having sex. The six boys who lived with or knew the defendant and are adults now, accused the tractor-trailer driver of sexually abusing them on overnight trucking trips or during visits to Vickers's home. The digital forensics in the investigation, performed by FEs in the WNYRCFL, revealed Vickers was conducting Internet searches for "Statute of Limitations," "Sex Abuse," and "Sex Crime," thus corroborating the fact that he was researching the legal ramifications for sexually abusing his victims. The FBI, also believes that five of the six boys were abused by his brother, Sean Vickers, who is currently serving a 107 year prison sentence for sexually abusing underage boys.






The Western New York Public Safety Campus building houses the WNYRCFL

## **PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY15 GOALS**

-  **Make Progress Toward ASCLD/LAB Accreditation:** The RCFL continues to make progress toward ASCLD/LAB Accreditation. Several pre-assessment audits have been conducted and have been successful.
-  **Increase Certifications and Staffing:** Despite budgetary restrictions, the WNYRCFL continues to enhance training. The RCFL increased Audio/Video capabilities. They have three Examiners who have completed Mac Basic and another FE in training who continues to advance toward full certification. WNYRCFL has one FE attending various training courses conducted by FAVIAU working toward certification in FY16. This WNYRCFL examiner is helping train trainers and providing community outreach.
-  **Integrate New Examiners:** The WNYRCFL is making progress in bringing an offsite laboratory online in Monroe County. Upon the offsite successfully completing RCFL cases using the RCFL Baseline, the WNYRCFL will schedule a full inspection in FY16.

 Goal Met     Partially Met     Not Met

## **GOALS FOR FY16**

-  **Increase FBI Personnel:** The WNYRCFL intends to bring two FBI personnel on board as FEs.
-  **Select Laboratory Director:** The WNYRCFL will be selecting a new Laboratory Director during FY16.
-  **Continue Recruiting Efforts:** The WNYRCFL plans to recruit at least one new agency and/or fill current vacancy.

## **TECHNOLOGY/R&D ACHIEVEMENT:**

DCAP was implemented for State and Local examinations with the ability to conduct CAIR reviews from their agencies.

OPWAN was implemented for Buffalo's Cyber Squad in the Rochester Resident Agency, supporting Cyber investigations and their Computer Scientist.

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The progress and accomplishments described in this report would not be possible without the FBI's continued support, as well as our invaluable partnership with the Asset Forfeiture Fund, and those relationships formed with our participating agencies nationwide, including—

## CALIFORNIA

### Orange County RCFL

- › Anaheim Police Department
- › Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives
- › FBI—Los Angeles Division
- › Fontana Police Department
- › Fullerton Police Department
- › Irvine Police Department
- › Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
- › Los Angeles Police Department
- › Newport Beach Police Department
- › Ontario Police Department
- › Orange County District Attorney's Office
- › Orange County Sheriff's Office
- › Riverside County District Attorney's Office
- › 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
- › Department of Homeland Security—Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- › El Cajon Police Department
- › Escondido Police Department
- › FBI—San Diego Division
- › La Mesa Police Department
- › National City Police Department
- › Naval Criminal Investigative Service
- › Oceanside Police Department
- › San Diego County District Attorney's Office
- › San Diego Harbor Police Department
- › San Diego Police Department
- › San Diego Sheriff's Department
- › U.S. Attorney's Office—Southern District of California

### Silicon Valley RCFL

- › Alameda County Sheriff's Office
- › Contra Costa Office of the Sheriff

- › FBI—San Francisco Division
- › Fremont Police Department
- › Newark Police Department
- › Palo Alto Police Department
- › San Francisco Police Department
- › San Jose Police Department
- › San Mateo County Sheriff's Office

## COLORADO

### Rocky Mountain RCFL

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

## IDAHO

### Intermountain West RCFL

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

## ILLINOIS

### Chicago RCFL

- › Aurora Police Department
- › Berwyn Police Department
- › 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
- NEW**
- › Oak Park Police Department
- › Palatine Police Department
- › Romeoville Police Department
- › U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- › Will County Sheriff's Office

**NEW**

## KANSAS

### Heart of America RCFL

- › Johnson County Sheriff's Office
- › Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI)
- › Kansas City Police Department

- › Lawrence Police Department
- › Olathe Police Department
- › Overland Park Police Department
- › Shawnee County Sheriff's Office
- › Topeka Police Department
- › U.S. Attorney's Office—District of Kansas

## KENTUCKY

### Kentucky RCFL

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

## MISSOURI

### Heart of America RCFL

- › Clay County Sheriff's Office
- › FBI—Kansas City Division
- › Gladstone Police Department
- › Independence Police Department
- › Kansas City Police Department
- › Lee's Summit Police Department
- › Missouri State Highway Patrol
- › North Kansas City Police Department
- › Platte County Sheriff's Office

- › U.S. Attorney's Office—Western District of Missouri
- › U.S. Department of Agriculture—Office of Inspector General

## MONTANA

### Intermountain West RCFL

- › Billings Police Department

## NEW JERSEY

### New Jersey RCFL

- › Essex County Prosecutor's Office
- › FBI—Newark Division
- › Mercer County Prosecutor's Office
- › Middlesex 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 & Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement
- › University of New Mexico

## NEW YORK

### Western New York RCFL

- › Buffalo Police Department
- › Erie County Sheriff's Office
- › FBI—Buffalo Division
- › Monroe County Department of Public Safety
- › New York State Taxation and Finance
- › Niagara County Sheriff's Office
- › United States Department of Homeland Security/U.S. Customs and Border Protection/Border Patrol

## OREGON

### Northwest RCFL

- › Beaverton Police Department
- › Canby Police Department
- › Clackamas County Sheriff's Office
- › FBI—Portland Division
- › Hillsboro Police Department
- › Multnomah County Department of Community Justice
- › Oregon State Police
- › Portland Police Bureau

- › Washington County Sheriff's Office

## PENNSYLVANIA

### Philadelphia RCFL

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

## TEXAS

### Greater Houston RCFL

- › FBI—Houston Division
- › Harris County Precinct 4 Constable's Office
- › Harris County Sheriff's Office
- › Houston Police Department
- › Pasadena Police Department
- › Texas Department of Public Safety

### North Texas RCFL

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

- › Richardson Police Department NEW

## UTAH

### Intermountain West RCFL

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







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