



RCFL PROGRAM

ANNUAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006



REGIONAL COMPUTER FORENSICS LABORATORY

FOREWORD

This report documents the accomplishments and progress of the Regional Computer Forensics Laboratory (RCFL) Program for Fiscal Year 2006 (FY06), which covers the period from October 1, 2005, to September 30, 2006. During FY06, RCFLs were established in diverse areas across the country—from the east to the west and points between. In all, 13 RCFLs were operational by the end of FY06—making expert digital forensics services and training available to more than 4,000 law enforcement agencies across 16 states.

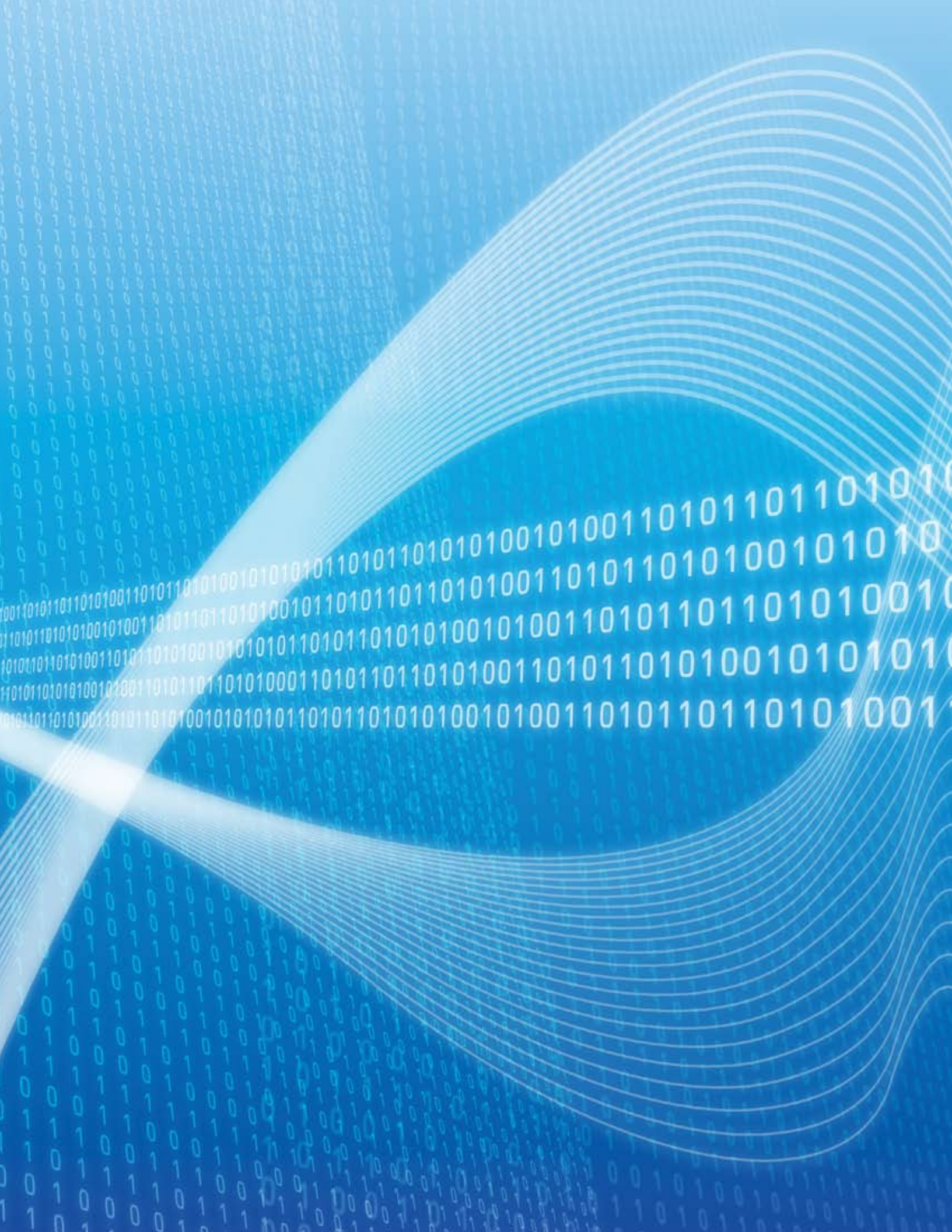
Now in its seventh year, the RCFL Program continues to mature and evolve. Through collaboration and information sharing, we are constantly refining our processes and procedures to deliver the highest quality digital forensics services to our customers in law enforcement. Moreover, because technology is constantly changing—so are we. Having this ability is critical. That is why we are devising innovative solutions, such as the Case Agent Investigative Review (CAIR) System and the Intermountain West RCFL's (IWRCFL) "Satellite Network," to allow us to offer our services to law enforcement personnel physically located hundreds, perhaps thousands of miles from an actual RCFL. Initiatives such as these are helping us meet the ever-growing demand for our services, as we use our resources strategically to benefit everyone—not just those organizations that are active participants in the RCFL Program. As a leader in the Government's digital evidence forensics community, this is one of our greatest responsibilities.

Members of the RCFL Program have always believed that our success stems from partnerships and a belief that by sharing scarce resources, we all win. This philosophy is what sustains and motivates us to keep moving forward and maintain the highest standards possible. It is what our customers and others have come to expect—and what we expect from ourselves.

—SSA Gerard J. Cocuzzo
Unit Chief, RCFL National Program Office

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"There are 84 billion communications occurring every day," according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Executive Assistant Director Kerry E. Haynes. Although it is difficult to pinpoint exactly how many of these communications are related to illegal activity—what law enforcement does know is that in every criminal act, digital evidence very likely will play a role, whether it is cellular telephone records, e-mail messages, or documents stored on a hard drive. For this reason, it is especially critical that first responders know how to recognize potential sources of digital evidence, properly preserve those sources, and have a reliable place to bring electronic media so that experts can carefully extract the information in a scientific and legally defensible manner.

"There are 84 billion communications occurring every day."

*—Executive Assistant Director Kerry E. Haynes,
FBI's Science & Technology Division,
speaking at the press conference
announcing the opening of the Rocky Mountain RCFL (RMRCFL)*

According to the Scientific Working Group on Digital Evidence, computer forensics is defined as a "sub-discipline of digital and multimedia evidence that involves the scientific examination, analysis, and/or evaluation of digital evidence in legal matters." More and more, this science's practitioners, otherwise referred to as digital forensics Examiners, have successfully extracted information or digital evidence found on such familiar devices as computers, MP3 players, cellular telephones, etc., literally transforming ordinary data and images into the electronic equivalent of the proverbial "smoking gun"—proof that may expose a suspect, establish a motive, or provide a critical finding that can impact an entire investigation.

"It has become clear that criminals are comfortable in cyberspace....This is the cutting edge....This is where we have to chase them."

*—Joseph Daly, Lower Merion,
Pennsylvania, Police
Superintendent, speaking at the
opening of the Philadelphia RCFL
(PHRCFL)*





The RCFL Program has progressed from its beginnings as a pilot project in 1999 to a national network of 13 digital forensics laboratories and training centers. The RCFL National Program Office (NPO) was established in 2002 to oversee the operations of all RCFLs and to facilitate the creation of new facilities. In addition, the NPO supports the laboratories by—

- Providing guidance to ensure consistent quality management of each laboratory
- Institutionalizing the policies, practices, and legal processes regarding the establishment and governance of RCFLs
- Cultivating working relationships among law enforcement, the private sector, academia, and other government agencies by serving as a national clearinghouse for the exchange and dissemination of information among these entities
- Serving as an advocate for the program before key constituent groups
- Working with the FBI, other government agencies, and academia to develop new digital evidence forensics tools
- Developing training curricula for digital evidence Examiners and law enforcement officers
- Coordinating and communicating training initiatives and tool development efforts for use by the law enforcement community.



Shown here are Unit Chief Gerard J. Cocuzzo with members of the NPO staff.

Ongoing Issues

Although much has changed over the seven years of the program's existence, many of the factors that initially sparked the creation of the first RCFL in San Diego remain—

Short Supply—Because building a digital evidence laboratory requires a sizable investment in both equipment and training, many police departments lack the resources to embark on such an expensive enterprise. The result is a significant shortfall in digital forensics capacity among law enforcement across all levels of government. Collectively, the RCFL Program is available to 4,321 law enforcement agencies spanning 16 states. However, with an estimated 18,000 law enforcement agencies operating in the United States alone, more resources are required to meet the rising demand for digital forensics expertise and training.

Lack of Awareness—Although first responders have dramatically increased their knowledge about digital forensics compared with just five years ago, according to a study conducted by the National Institute of Justice in March 2005, 72 percent of those polled did not have a digital evidence unit in-house, and fewer than half said their staff had some digital evidence training. Therefore, raising awareness with respect to the proper care and handling of digital evidence is one of the RCFL Program's most significant challenges.

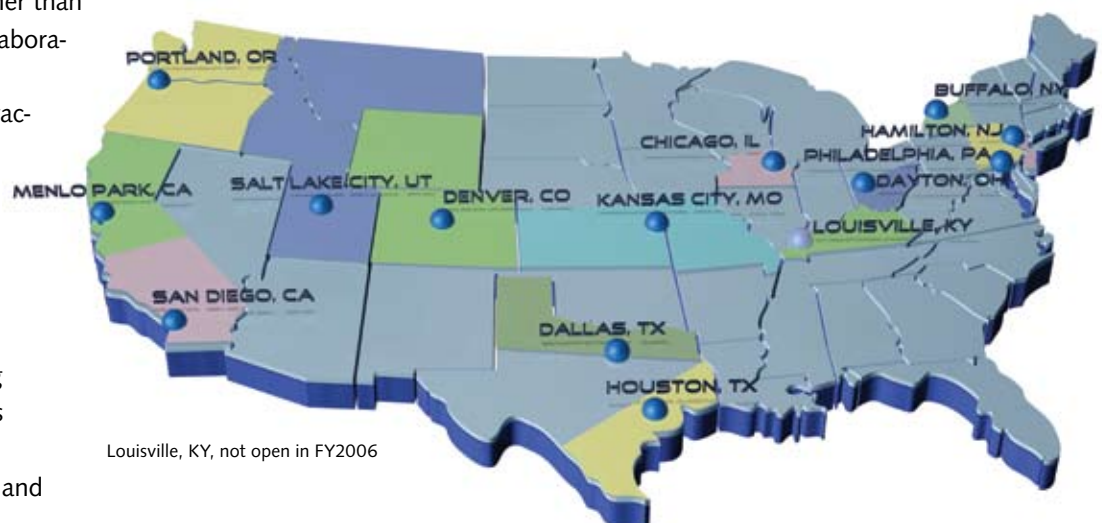
Program Participation—Many law enforcement agencies lack the ability to invest in expensive digital forensics initiatives, which is attributable in part to a growing list of competing priorities since the events of September 11, 2001. This situation has positioned the RCFL Program as a logical solution to help law enforcement meet its digital forensics needs. Rather than building a digital evidence laboratory from scratch, it makes much more sense from a practical and economic standpoint to join forces with an RCFL. However, with just over 100 participating agencies staffing 13 RCFLs, more organizations must join us to meet the growing demand for digital forensics services and to ensure the program's long-term health and continued viability.

Operational Technology Division (OTD)

The RCFL Program falls under the FBI's Operational Technology Division (OTD), which supplies the FBI with a wide range of technical investigative equipment, services, and capabilities, and funds many of the research and development initiatives undertaken by the RCFL Program and its close counterpart the Computer Analysis Response Team (CART) Program. OTD personnel play a role in almost every major FBI counterterrorism, criminal investigative, and counterintelligence case, and many of the tools and technologies created and tested by the RCFL and CART programs are provided to OTD and other law enforcement personnel in the field.

RCFLs and CART

The RCFL NPO works very closely with the CART Program, whose personnel are often assigned to work in RCFLs. CART is the FBI's elite computer forensics program. Its mission is to analyze digital evidence in support of the Bureau's Field Offices, whereas RCFLs support federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies as well as the FBI. All RCFL Examiners must be CART certified to conduct examinations, and many of the RCFL Directors are either current or former CART Examiners. Incoming CART Unit Chief, Chicago RCFL (CGRCFL) Laboratory Director Rick Voss, plans on furthering and enhancing the RCFL-CART partnership, which has produced a long list of important and innovative achievements in both training and technology development.



Thirteen RCFLs are available to 4,321 law enforcement agencies in 16 states.

“As a result of the increase in digital communications and the growing importance of digital evidence in all types of investigations, RCFLs continue to develop and deploy innovative digital forensics tools and services to meet law enforcement’s needs.”

—Anthony P. DiClemente, Section Chief, Digital Evidence Section, OTD

RCFLs are secure, full-service digital evidence laboratories and training centers that provide expert assistance to law enforcement agencies within their designated service area—at no cost to those agencies. RCFLs follow strict standard operating procedures and have implemented stringent quality systems consistent with accepted standards within the digital forensics science community. These standards and processes provide assurances to our stakeholders, including the court system, that every precaution is taken by RCFL personnel to ensure the integrity of evidence and that the resulting analysis is based on sound forensics science principles.

In FY06, RCFLs received 4,214 service requests from more than 800 law enforcement organizations—75 percent from agencies at the state and local levels.

Requesting Service

Requesting an RCFL’s assistance is simple. To start, law enforcement personnel must complete the service request on the Web site of the laboratory in their service area. (To see a full listing of all RCFL sites, go to www.rcfl.gov.) In response to such a request, experienced personnel are available to answer customers’ questions either in person or by telephone. The service request is critical to both the RCFL and the customer because it contains information about the level of expert assistance needed, the type

of equipment or software required, key search words or terms to help organize recovered data for the customer, and other important facts about the investigation. The more detailed the service request is—the better. Although the Examiner does not conduct the investigation, an informed understanding of the investigative goals will help him/her organize the data in a form that is more meaningful to the investigator, while filtering out non-pertinent information.

Media Types

As with any other service-oriented organization, RCFLs are constantly refining their offerings to meet their customers’ needs, as well as the challenges posed by terrorists, hostile foreign intelligence services, and common criminals. Although most examinations are conducted on media such as computer hard drives, floppy disks, and DVDs, several RCFL Laboratory Directors are reporting significant increases in requests for examinations of other electronic devices such as cellular telephones, video recorders, and digital cameras. All are considered important sources of digital evidence; therefore, it is critical to train and certify enough RCFL Examiners to process these requests in a timely manner while preserving the integrity of the evidence.

The RCFL Program tracks nine media type categories. During FY06, RCFLs collectively examined 59,677 media items. The chart below shows a breakdown of the individual media pieces.

Media Type	Number of Items
CD	20,960
Cellular Telephone	701
Devices (e.g., CPUs)	75
DVD	2,494
Flash Media	1,142
Floppy	16,019
HDD	15,079
Magneto Optical	48
Other	1,429
PDA	97
Tape	648
Zip/Jazz/Super Disc	985
Total	59,677

Each RCFL is devoted to the examination of digital evidence in support of criminal investigations, including, but not limited to—

- Terrorism
- Child pornography/crimes against children
- Homicide
- National security
- Violent crimes
- Fraud.

Specializations

As the Media Types section explains, RCFL personnel are capable of conducting digital forensics examinations on a wide variety of electronic devices. However, the program requires that Examiners take specific training and earn certification before they perform examinations on certain types of equipment, specifically cellular telephones and video devices.

Cellular Telephone Forensics

In FY06, 701 cellular telephones were submitted to RCFLs for examination, and 27 Examiners were certified by the FBI's OTD Cryptographic and Electronics Analysis Unit (CEAU) to conduct these examinations. Information extracted from cellular telephones, such as call history (incoming, outgoing, missed), text messages, pictures, video, documents, spreadsheets, and other information are having a significant impact on a wide spectrum of criminal investigations and are providing actionable intelligence for ongoing investigations.

Video Forensics

The FBI's OTD Forensic Audio, Video, and Image Analysis Unit (FAVIAU), located at the Quantico, Virginia, Engineering Research Facility, analyzes potential evidence derived from devices that produce such media. Because of the escalating demand for FAVIAU's services, the Field Audio Video Program (FAVP) was initiated in 2005. This program certifies RCFL Examiners and others in the digital evidence sub-discipline of audio and video. In FY06, seven RCFL Examiners were certified as FAVP Examiners,

and that number is expected to double in FY07 because many RCFLs report an increase in the number of service requests regarding video equipment such as digital video recorders.

Touring an RCFL

Once an RCFL accepts a request for service, a staff member contacts the customer to discuss the specifics of the request and to arrange for evidence delivery. RCFL customers can either bring the equipment they want examined to the RCFL, or they can ship it if that is more convenient. (Some RCFLs have service areas that span hundreds of square miles; therefore, driving to the laboratory is not always practical.) A description of how a service request is filled within an RCFL setting follows.

Evidence Intake—The

evidence intake room is a dedicated area where customers deliver their evidence, and it is where that evidence officially enters the laboratory's chain-of-custody.

Each piece of evidence is logged into an evidence management system, and all electronic devices are either sealed with evidence tape to prevent access, removal, or powering of the device, or are placed in an anti-static bag or other protective container and stored in secure evidence rooms until the service requested is assigned to an Examiner by either the Laboratory Director or Operations Manager.



Pictured here is RMRCL Examiner Tonya Barnes in the laboratory's Evidence Intake Room.

Although every RCFL design is unique, they all were constructed to the high safety, technical, and security standards necessary for the preservation and analysis of digital data.

Imaging Room—Many RCFLs have an imaging room where Examiners can make exact duplicates of the original evidence. One of the RCFL Program's best practices requires the staff members to "image" or make an exact copy of the original evidence as a safeguard because digital evidence is easily destroyed or manipulated. RCFL staff members use a tested, validated tool to conduct imaging activities, and once this step is complete, they validate the copy against the original. If the copy is not



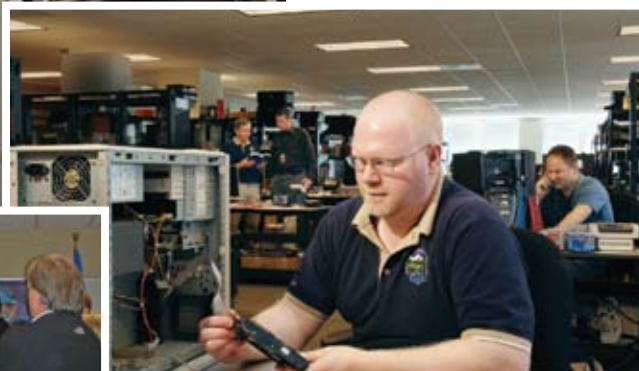
(Top Left) Pictured here is the SAN unit housed in the NTRCFL.

(Top Right) An Examiner at work in the NWRCL.



(Center) NPO Training Coordinator Tom Angle explains the features of the RMRCFL's training room to reporters during the laboratory's opening day activities.

(Bottom Right) Detective Joel Cancilla at work in the Western New York RCFL.



an exact match, the Examiner re-images the evidence to create a valid copy.

Storage Area Network (SAN)—The majority of RCFLs house a forensics SAN, which is a single repository that stores imaged evidence and evidence analysis results for each piece of evidence submitted to the laboratory. The SAN provides a more efficient work environment for the Examiner—translating into shorter examination turnaround times.

Laboratory/Processing—After an RCFL receives evidence for examination, the service request is assigned to an RCFL staff member. Examiners work in a laboratory environment that has strict access controls and is equipped with sophisticated examination hardware and software. The RCFL NPO provides each Examiner with a baseline set of equipment valued at approximately \$26,000. For those Examiners certified in specific digital forensics examinations of such devices as cellular telephones, personal data assistants (PDA), video equipment, or specialized operating systems (e.g., Linux, Macintosh,

etc.), the RCFL NPO provides additional advanced equipment and software.

Review Rooms—This is where RCFL customers can privately review the examination results. If the customer is familiar with the CAIR System, he/she can easily reduce the review time because this tool enables him/her to search for specific items such as e-mails on a certain date or keywords that are relevant to the case.

Training Room—Many RCFLs have a state-of-the-art classroom where students receive hands-on training with computers. Students range in experience from first responders with limited exposure to digital evidence to those seeking advanced digital evidence training and certification as digital forensics Examiners. Training is conducted by CART-certified instructors, and most courses are free of charge to any law enforcement officer within an RCFL's service area.

FY06 PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

During FY06, the program expanded its presence while focusing on enhancing its service and training offerings and seeking new ways to do business more efficiently given limited resources. A brief description of each of the major accomplishments for the RCFL Program follows—

- **Expanded the Program**—The program welcomed four new RCFLs, with openings in Denver, Colorado; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Buffalo, New York; and Dayton, Ohio.
- **Strengthened Performance**—With 13 RCFLs in operation by the end of FY06, all major records from previous years were surpassed, as the table below illustrates.
- **Launched the RCFL Internship Program**—The NPO, in cooperation with the FBI's Human Resources Division, launched the RCFL Internship Program during FY06, focusing primarily on recruiting college juniors, seniors, and graduate students to work at selected RCFLs starting in summer 2007. The internships are offered as part of the FBI's Honors Internship Program (HIP), which provides a 10-week paid internship to eligible college students. The selected laboratories that are participating in the RCFL Internship Program include the North Texas, San Diego, Silicon Valley, Heart of America, Chicago, and New Jersey RCFLs. In the near future, the RCFL NPO will expand the Internship Program to all laboratories in the national network, as funding permits.

"In the past five years, RCFL and CART Examiners have conducted more than 28,000 examinations. As the number of computer crimes we investigate has increased, so has the need for computer forensics."

—FBI Director Robert S. Mueller III,
speaking at the 2006 Project Safe
Childhood Conference

- **RCFL Cooperative (Co-op) Pilot Initiative**—Complementing the Internship Program is the RCFL Co-op Pilot Initiative, which begins in FY07. Through a partnership with the University of Louisville's Speed School of Engineering, two interns will begin work at the Kentucky RCFL (KRCFL), which opens in FY07 and is located on the University's Shelby campus. This pilot initiative integrates the student into the KRCFL on a rotating semester basis until 52 weeks of service are completed. Every Co-op student must apply for temporary employment with the FBI; therefore, once he/she has accumulated a year of service, that student can seek a permanent position. The RCFL NPO plans to implement the Co-op Pilot program-wide because each laboratory is located near a major university or

ACTIVITY	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06
Established RCFLs —The number of RCFLs in operation.	2	4	9	13
Service Requests —The collective number of requests for assistance received by RCFLs.	1,444	1,548	3,434	4,214
Examinations —The number of digital forensics examinations conducted by RCFL personnel.	987	1,304	2,977	3,633
Terabytes (TB) Processed —A TB is a unit of measurement for data storage capacity equal to 1,000 gigabytes.	82.3	229	457	916
Field Services —Total number of on-site operations conducted by law enforcement, where RCFL personnel provided support.	196	177	288	803
Training —The number of law enforcement personnel trained by RCFL staff in various digital forensics techniques.	1,541	2,040	3,262	4,500

college. However, the extent to which this can occur is contingent on available funding for this purpose.

■ **Partnered with the Forfeiture and Seized Property Unit**

As part of its annual request for the allocation of resources from the Department of Justice's (DOJ) Forfeiture and Seized Property Unit, the RCFL NPO submitted a proposal to fund overtime of state and local Examiners assigned to RCFLs. The request was approved in FY06, enabling all RCFLs to better meet the escalating demand for digital forensics examinations, reduce the turnaround time for backlogged cases,¹ broaden services to assist in executing search warrants and on-site data acquisition, perform emergency examinations, and provide actionable intelligence and leads to customers in law enforcement. The positive effects on the program are already occurring at the Heart of America (HARCFL), which reports a 50-percent decrease in backlogged cases thanks to these overtime funds. If the current trend continues, HARCFL Director Kevin Steck estimates that the backlog will be eliminated by mid-2007.

In addition to overtime compensation, these funds are enabling the NPO to provide cellular telephones and vehicles to state and local Examiners assigned to RCFLs while on duty—making them more available for emergency response needs at no cost to their agency—yet another valuable benefit of participation.

- **Supported High-Profile Investigations**—During FY06, the RCFL Program supported several high-profile criminal investigations, helping prosecutors obtain guilty verdicts in the trials of high-ranking ex-Enron executives Kenneth Lay, Jeffrey Skilling, and Andrew Fastow; ex-Congressman Randy Cunningham and ex-Governor George Ryan for public corruption; child molester Dean Schwartzmiller; as well as the dissolution of an international child pornography ring dubbed "Operation Hamlet." (See "Major Investigations" section for more details regarding these and other investigations supported by RCFLs.)

- **Restructured the National Steering Committee (NSC)**—The NSC marked its third anniversary



(Left) Executive Assistant Director Kerry E. Haynes, FBI's Science & Technology Branch, addresses the media at the opening of the WNYRCFL on September 7, 2007.

(Middle) Lower Merion, Pennsylvania, Police Superintendent Joseph Daly speaking at the PHRCFL opening on July 6, 2006.

(Right) Douglas (Colorado) County Sheriff Dave Weaver speaking at the RMRCL opening on January 18, 2006.

in 2006. Because the RCFL Program has grown substantially since the NSC held its first meeting in April 2003, the RCFL NPO expanded the committee by adding representatives from the Local Executive Boards (LEB) to inject the field's perspective into the proceedings. LEBs provide overall guidance and oversight to the RCFLs and are composed of one representative from each of the participating agencies. Two highly qualified individuals were selected for the NSC: Chief John Douglass, hailing from the HARCFL, and Constable Ron Hickman, with the Greater Houston RCFL (GHRCL). In addition to adding local representatives, the NPO broadened the federal presence on the NSC as a result of the wide range of Federal Government agencies that manage computer forensics programs. This move positions the NSC as one of the only forums in government that brings together representatives from academia, the Federal Government, state and local law enforcement, and the legal community to discuss computer forensics.

- **Granted Access to the Case Agent Investigative Review (CAIR) System for State and Local Personnel**—The CAIR System allows FBI employees to review an RCFL's digital evidence forensics results online via a secure network. Although the technology exists to bring the CAIR System to state and local customers of RCFLs, the funding is not yet available to implement this initiative program-wide. Nonetheless, some state

1. Backlog: A service request is deemed backlogged by the CART and RCFL Units if it has been open more than 30 days and is not closed within 60 days.



During a news conference announcing the implementation of the CAIR System, Chief W. Ronald Olin, Lawrence, Kansas, Police Department, expresses gratitude to Sheriff Richard Barta, Shawnee County, Kansas, Sheriff's Office and Sheriff Frank Denning and Undersheriff David Burger, Johnson County, Kansas, Sheriff's Office for their agencies' significant financial contributions to make the CAIR System available within the HARCFL's service area.

and local RCFL customers are gaining access to the CAIR System thanks to the generosity of some participating agencies. For instance, the Sheriff's Offices of Johnson County and Shawnee County, Kansas, contributed much of the funding needed to allow the HARCFL to become the first RCFL in the nation to make the CAIR System available to state and local law enforcement agencies located in its vast 800-square-mile service area. Another participating agency, the Hillsboro (Oregon) Police Department, was awarded resources to bring the CAIR System to the Northwest RCFL's (NWRCL) state and local customers throughout the service area of Oregon and southwest Washington. The NWRCL estimates that the CAIR System will be fully operational in April 2007.

The State of New Jersey has also committed funding to allow the New Jersey RCFL (NJRCFL) to give access to the CAIR System to its state and local customers through the Department of Law and Public Safety's fiber network initiative. The NJRCFL plans to deploy the CAIR System incrementally

starting in FY07, with full implementation scheduled for the end of calendar year 2007.

Laboratory Accreditation

In 2003, after considering the feasibility of including digital evidence as part of an existing laboratory accreditation program, this became an element of the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board's (ASCLD/LAB) accreditation program. A laboratory conducting forensics analysis in any of the following four sub-disciplines (audio analysis, computer forensics, digital imaging analysis, video analysis) must include its digital evidence capabilities when it applies for accreditation or re-accreditation.

In 2004, the North Texas RCFL (NTRCFL) became the first federal digital evidence facility to earn ASCLD/LAB accreditation, and the Silicon Valley RCFL (SVRCFL), HARCFL, and NJRCFL moved closer to earning this distinction during FY06. In fact, the SVRCFL underwent ASCLD/LAB inspection during FY06—meeting one of the laboratory's major goals for the year.

To aid the RCFLs with the accreditation process, the NPO formed RCFL ASCLD/LAB pre-inspection teams that deploy to each facility and conduct "mock inspections" to prepare the staff for the rigorous accreditation process. The RCFL NPO will continue deploying inspection teams to the remaining laboratories in the network that are in the process of earning accreditation.

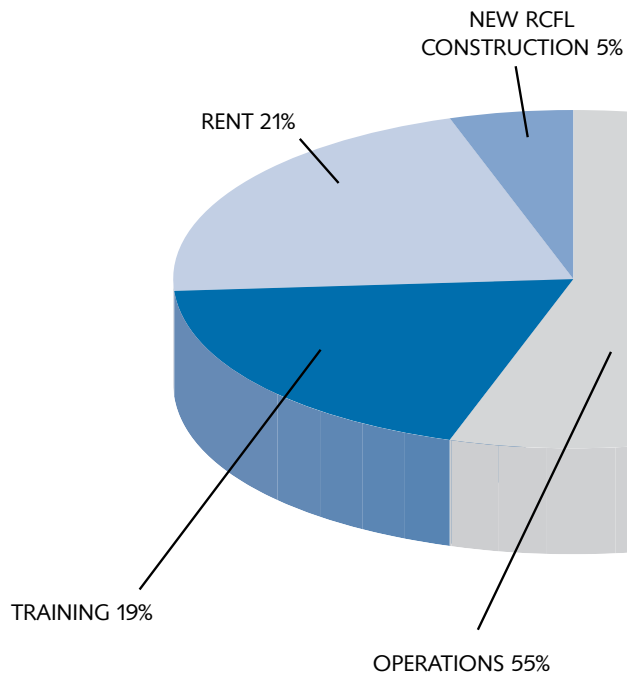
Shown here are members of the ASCLD/LAB team during their site inspection visit to the SVRCFL.



FISCAL YEAR 2006 FUNDING

In FY06, the RCFL Program's annual operating budget totaled \$8,858,949. These funds were used to operate 13 FBI-sponsored RCFLs and to support the activities performed by the RCFL NPO.

The pie chart below shows, by percentage, the activities funded by the RCFL Program.



"The RCFL is a tremendous resource we use in every one of our cyber-crimes cases."

—Eric Zahnd, Platte County, Missouri,
Prosecutor



The RCFL NPO uses eight investigative classifications to track the types of crimes that RCFL Examiners have aided investigators in solving. Because the program is national in scope, yet has an impact at the local level, it is essential for RCFL NPO planning, research, and training purposes that headquarters staff understand the general nature of the crimes that require the program's expertise. The FBI's eight investigative classifications and priorities are—

- ❶ **Terrorism**—Prevent, neutralize, dismantle, and protect against terrorist acts against American citizens and assets.
- ❷ **Counterintelligence**—Expose, prevent, and investigate illegal activities on U.S. soil with a focus on keeping weapons of mass destruction and other embargoed technologies from foreign enemies, protecting the secrets of the U.S. intelligence community, protecting the secrets of the U.S. Government and its contractors, protecting our nation's critical national assets, and focusing on countries that pose the greatest threat to the United States.
- ❸ **Cybercrimes**—Track and trace persons who use the Internet and computers to illegally penetrate business and government computer systems, including stealing trade secrets and intellectual property, trafficking in child pornography, enticing children from the safety of their homes, and attacking critical infrastructure such as computer networks and power grids.
- ❹ **Public Corruption**—Investigate public officials and those acting under the color of law to seek illegal financial gain based on the public's trust. These acts include embezzlement, voter fraud, subsidy fraud, illegal kickbacks, and bribes committed by government and/or elected officials.
- ❺ **Civil Rights**—Investigate hate crimes, involuntary servitude and slavery, and the blocking of patients from accessing health clinics.
- ❻ **Organized Crime**—Investigate and infiltrate entire organizations that are established for the purpose of committing a host of criminal activities for financial gain or territorial control through various means, including threats, intimidation, and collusion.

"As criminals become more sophisticated, we have to get better and smarter at what we do."

—Aurora, Colorado, Police Chief
Daniel Oates, who spoke at the
opening of the RMRCFL



- ❼ **White Collar Crime**—Investigate and trace financial transactions that are deliberately deceptive and have the sole purpose of deriving unlawful financial gain at the public's expense. Corporate fraud can take place in the areas of healthcare, mortgage lending, identity theft, insurance, telemarketing, and money laundering.
- ❽ **Major Thefts/Violent Crime**—Investigate and prevent crimes against children, such as molestation, as well as kidnappings, bank robberies, and such criminal acts as homicide committed by gangs and drug traffickers.

The charts below list each RCFL's top five major crime classifications supported in FY06—

San Diego <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Violent Crime 2. Cybercrime 3. White Collar Crime 4. Organized Crime 5. Public Corruption 	Philadelphia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cybercrime 2. White Collar Crime 3. Terrorism 4. Organized Crime 5. Major Thefts/Violent Crime 	Rocky Mountain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cybercrime 2. White Collar Crime 3. Violent Crime 4. Major Thefts/Violent Crime 5. Organized Crime
Chicago <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cybercrime 2. Major Thefts/Violent Crime 3. Public Corruption 4. White Collar Crime 5. Terrorism 	North Texas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Major Thefts/Violent Crime 2. Cybercrime 3. White Collar Crime 4. Counterintelligence 5. Terrorism 	*Western New York <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cybercrime 2. White Collar Crime 3. Major Thefts/Violent Crime
New Jersey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cybercrime 2. Major Thefts/Violent Crime 3. White Collar Crime 4. Public Corruption 5. Counterintelligence 	Heart of America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cybercrime 2. Major Thefts/Violent Crime 3. White Collar Crime 4. Organized Crime 5. Terrorism 	Miami Valley <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cybercrime 2. Terrorism 3. Counterintelligence 4. White Collar Crime 5. Major Thefts/Violent Crime
Greater Houston <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cybercrime 2. Major Thefts/Violent Crime 3. White Collar Crime 4. Organized Crime 5. Terrorism 	Silicon Valley <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cybercrime 2. Violent Crime 3. White Collar Crime 4. Counterintelligence 5. Terrorism 	<p>* Because the WNYRCFL was officially open for approximately three weeks during FY06, only a limited amount of work could be completed during this short period. Therefore, the crime types were categorized under three crime classifications.</p>
Northwest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cybercrime 2. Major Thefts/Violent Crime 3. White Collar Crime 4. Terrorism 5. Counterintelligence 	Intermountain West <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cybercrime 2. Major Thefts/Violent Crime 3. White Collar Crime 4. Counterintelligence 5. Terrorism 	

Because digital evidence and electronic devices have become so ubiquitous in criminal investigations, the types of crimes that require RCFL expertise to solve vary widely. The following case studies and success stories demonstrate the diversity of investigations in which RCFLs played a role. In many instances, the Examiners' findings have led directly to an arrest, significantly bolstered the prosecution's case, or placed incontrovertible proof into an investigator's hands. Whether RCFL personnel devoted a few hours or a few years to supporting a criminal investigation—our customers all agree that our findings always add significant value.

Enron Task Force Is Victorious

It is the largest corporate fraud case in U.S. history—Enron, once the nation's fourth largest company, collapsed in 2001, and with it, went the life savings of thousands of average Americans. The Enron Task Force, formed in the weeks following the company's bankruptcy announcement, is composed of federal prosecutors, along with FBI and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) agents. Since the Task Force's inception, the GHRCFL has provided expert digital forensics services to its members and has examined hundreds of Enron employees' computers, processed thousands of e-mails transactions, assisted in discovery requests allowing the defense lawyers access



"Computers are the crime scene of the new millennium."

—U.S. Attorney Patrick Meehan,
NSC Member, speaking at the
opening of the PHRCFL

to the same information that the Government had, and applied full-text search capabilities to thousands of documents.

FY06 proved to be a pivotal year for the Enron Task Force, with the conviction of several of the company's top executives, including founder Kenneth Lay, ex-CEO Jeffrey Skilling, and former Chief Financial Officer Andrew Fastow. All were found guilty on a number of charges and sentenced to serve years in jail along with the payment of millions of dollars in fines. (Lay died from a heart attack in July 2006.)

(Left) GHRCFL Examiner Leonard Keiser is placing evidence seized from Enron's corporate offices in the RCFL's evidence storage room.

(Middle) Pictured here is the Enron Task Force evidence room.

(Below) GHRCFL Examiner Cynthia Landreneau is processing evidence from the Enron investigation.



During the course of the investigation, the GHRCL processed 31 terabytes of data that included—

- 2,300 pieces of evidence
- 600 employee e-mails
- 130 computers
- 10 million pages of documents
- More than 3,000 Outlook e-mail boxes
- 4,500 Lotus Notes e-mail boxes.

GHRCL Director Dennis Williams said, *"Our Examiners did a tremendous job and always provided timely support in response to the investigator's, prosecutor's, and judge's deadlines. They were also innovative and did not always rely on using the tools and software with which they were already skilled. Rather, they tested and validated new technologies, software, and procedures to get the job done. They were constantly challenged but rose to the occasion each and every time."*

The Enron Task Force will continue operating through calendar year 2007, with some trials possibly taking place in 2008.

"The RCFL is amazing....It provides us an opportunity that we have never had before in our own department."

—Sgt. Gary Spurger, Harris County, Texas, Precinct 4

Update: Ex-Congressman Randy "Duke" Cunningham

During FY06, the former war hero turned Congressman was sentenced to eight years and four months in prison for conspiring to commit bribery, honest services fraud, and tax evasion. The San Diego RCFL (SDRCFL) supported this investigation, along with a team from the San Diego FBI Office, the IRS, and the Defense Criminal Investigative Service. As part of the joint investigation, the SDRCFL provided extensive assistance with the collection, preservation, and examination of computers obtained from Cunningham's residence, as well as defense



DoD photo by: PH1 R.J. ORIEZ, USN

contractor MZM's corporate headquarters in Washington, DC. The SDRCFL processed nearly nine terabytes of digital evidence for this case—just one terabyte is equivalent to 250 million pages of printed text.

Ex-Governor George Ryan Convicted

For the CGRCFL, one of the areas most frequently involving computer forensics deals with public corruption—this is the third most requested crime for which Illinois law enforcement seeks the CGRCFL's assistance. One of the most high-profile public corruption trials in FY06 involved former Illinois Governor George Ryan. On September 7, 2006, Ryan was sentenced to six and a half years in federal prison—the third governor in Illinois history convicted of a crime. Ryan's criminal trial began nearly a year earlier, with the CGRCFL providing expert digital forensics services to the Office of the United States Attorney—Northern District of Illinois. The prosecutors alleged that Chicago businessman Larry Warner, a longtime friend, and others gave Mr. Ryan cash, gifts, free vacations, and favors while in office, in exchange for government contracts totaling at least \$167,000.

The CGRCFL examined various types of electronic media, including several computer hard drives and CDs. Robert Grant, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI's Chicago Division said he hoped that *"this case begins the end of political prostitution that seems to have been evident in the State of Illinois and begins a resurrection of honest government and services in this state that so many people have demanded."*

Animal Liberation Front/Earth Liberation Front

Both the Earth Liberation Front and the Animal Liberation Front are described in press reports as "closely aligned underground movements with no leadership, membership, or official spokesperson." Often operating as covert cells (a cell may have just one person), the groups' tactics include arson, removing animals from facilities, sabotage, and organized protests. The FBI's Portland Division headed the investigation of both organizations, which it suspected were behind a number of crimes, including arson and attempted murder at various sites throughout the Pacific Northwest. The NWRCLF was enlisted to support the investigation and used its skills to decode the encryption techniques that the groups used to cover their digital tracks, specifically a process known as "e-mail dead drops" in which an individual accesses an e-mail account, saves a typed message as a draft—but never hits the send

button. Other users then access the same e-mail account by checking the draft folder. Theoretically, e-mail dead drops are a clever tactic—but not ultimately an effective one, however, because RCFL Examiners successfully recovered many of the draft e-mail messages that were not sent but still existed.

To date, 10 of the 19 subjects indicted pled guilty in Portland; two pled guilty in Seattle; four are now international fugitives; one committed suicide; one is expected to plead guilty; and one is going to trial. In a press release issued by DOJ, U.S. Attorney Karin J. Immergut of the District of Oregon said, *"Without the relentless work and coordination of all the local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies involved, this case would not have been possible."*

Videotapes Linked to Grisly Assault and Two Homicides

The HARCFL is providing digital forensics services in support of an investigation involving Richard Davis, 41, and Dena Riley, 39. They were arraigned on May 30, 2006, and charged with first-degree murder, first-degree assault, kidnapping, forcible rape, and forcible sodomy in the death of Marsha Spicer. Ms. Spicer's body was discovered in a shallow grave east of Kansas City on May 15, 2006. Although police initially interviewed the suspects about Ms. Spicer's murder, they fled before authorities could obtain a warrant to search their home. After being on the run for eight days, the couple was arrested after being involved in a car accident. They had Davis' five-year-old niece with them.

Proving again that digital evidence is present in nearly every criminal case, the HARCFL examined a host of electronic equipment seized from the couple, including computers, videotapes, and flash memory cards. The HARCFL conducted expedited examinations of the items, including a seized videotape that depicted a second victim, Michelle Ricci. Ms. Ricci's charred remains were discovered in Clay County, Missouri—she and Ms. Spicer were friends.

Davis and Riley currently face two death penalty trials for the murder, rape, kidnapping, and sexual assault of Michelle Ricci and Marsha Spicer. The accused murderers also face federal charges for the kidnapping and sexual assault of Davis' five-year old niece. The videotapes examined by the HARCFL are certain to be key pieces of evidence at trial.

Murder of Assistant U.S. Attorney Remains a Mystery

Thomas Crane Wales was a dedicated public servant, having worked for the Western District of Washington as an Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) for more than 18 years until his death on October 11, 2001. AUSA Wales died from gunshot wounds he suffered while typing on a computer in his own



Photo courtesy of the Thomas C. Wales Foundation

home. Details surrounding a possible motive and the shooter's identity have been sketchy ever since, but what authorities do know is that the shooter stood in the backyard of Wales' home and shot him several times through a basement window. It has been reported that a lone male suspect was seen fleeing the scene. AUSA Wales died at a hospital the next day.

In FY06, the NWRCLF dedicated staff to support the investigation and has imaged approximately 35 pieces of media, including hard drives, CDs, and memory sticks. DOJ is offering a reward of up to \$1 million for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the murder of AUSA Wales. A foundation has also been established for him at <http://www.walesfoundation.org/RickWalesTribute.htm>.

Update: Groene Kidnapping/Murder

The IWRCLF supported authorities investigating the kidnapping of Shasta Groene, who was just eight years old at the time of her abduction and the murder of her family. The suspect, Joseph Edward Duncan III, admitted to killing the family so that he could abduct and sexually assault Dylan Groene, nine, and Shasta. Duncan was arrested after Shasta was recognized by a bystander, and he pled guilty to three counts of first-degree murder and three counts of first-degree kidnapping. Under that arrangement, Duncan was spared the death penalty in Idaho, and Shasta did not have to testify at his trial. Duncan, however, still faces the death penalty for murder, along with federal charges of kidnapping and sexual assault. Federal prosecutors said they will seek the death penalty in that trial.

Olympic Hopeful Receives Life Term

Former University of Oregon football player and track star Micah Harris had a bright future before him, but any hopes for a professional sports career were dashed when he was convicted on August 1, 2006, of torture, mayhem, assault with intent to commit a sex offense, and assault likely to cause great bodily injury. The San Diego Police Department, a participating agency in the SDRCL, was investigating Harris after arresting him for allegedly committing these offenses against a San Diego State University student. After the victim rejected his sexual advances, Harris beat her so severely that her major injuries included a broken nose and a fractured cheekbone that required an implant. The police asked the SDRCL to examine Harris' cellular telephone. The information extracted from it contradicted several statements made by Harris regarding his actions during the evening of the assault. The responding police officer, who had more than 20 years on the force, stated that this was the second-worst assault he had ever seen. Harris is eligible to receive parole after serving seven years of his life sentence.



cramped one-bedroom, one-bathroom apartments with barely any furniture. To keep the students from communicating with the outside world, they were not permitted to have a mailbox key or a telephone in their apartment.

After law enforcement was alerted to the students' plight, the HARCFL was asked to provide assistance with the execution of a search warrant for the company's computers. The managers of Frosty Treats, along with two other individuals involved with recruiting the Russian students, were later charged in federal court with aiding and abetting and using forced labor—they are awaiting trial.

Mayor Daley Aide Convicted

The CGRCFL provided digital forensics assistance for an investigation involving Chicago Mayor Richard Daley's former aide Robert Sorich, who once held the second highest post in the mayor's office of intergovernmental affairs. On July 6, 2006, Sorich was convicted of two counts of mail fraud after a five-week jury trial. Jurors also convicted two other former officials of mail fraud, and another was convicted of lying to an FBI agent. In an affidavit filed by the U.S. Attorney's Office—Northern District of Illinois, prosecutors stated that Sorich was *"part of a scheme in which he and his co-schemers routinely manipulated the interview and selection process for certain city employment positions...guaranteeing that certain pre-selected candidates who were favored by top City officials would win the employment positions..."* These practices began in the early 1990s and continued through 2005.

In addition to supplying digital forensics services to the U.S. Attorney's Office throughout the investigation, CGRCFL Examiners testified during Sorich's trial. Sorich, along with the other four defendants face years in federal prison. The investigation into City Hall's hiring practices continues.

Digital Evidence Plays a Role in Human Trafficking Investigation

An opportunity that seemed like a dream for eight students from Russia turned out to be a real-life nightmare. The unsuspecting students registered with a Russian company named InterAir, which offered a "cultural, educational, and financially rewarding summer in the United States." The students signed an employment contract to gain a work visa, and each paid \$2,500 to cover associated travel fees. It was their first visit to America, and none of them spoke English.

Upon arriving in Kansas City, Missouri, InterAir directed the students to the Frosty Treats Ice Cream Company. Managers David Carslake and David Mackintosh allegedly threatened the students, using psychological and financial pressure to force them into working 13 hours a day, seven days a week for less than minimum wage. One of the students told investigators that he worked 13 hours a day for 62 days for \$700—earning a paltry 87 cents an hour. Frosty Treats was also accused of withholding approximately \$225 per month from each of the students to cover "rent" and then forcing them to collectively share

Digital Evidence Leads Investigators to Homicide Suspect

On June 7, 2006, local police and fire rescue teams responded to a routine garage fire, but once there, discovered the remains of a young woman. What started as an ordinary emergency call, soon turned sinister. Looking for clues about what may have occurred, the investigators began questioning neighbors and came upon a "person of interest" who agreed to allow law enforcement to examine his cellular telephone. It was brought to the

RMRCFL for examination where the Examiner successfully located a text message that led to the seizure of a laptop computer from another person. During the laptop examination, the Examiner found a letter in "unallocated space" that remotely implicated a family member of the female victim in the murder. Investigators brought the suspect in for questioning, armed with no more than the information contained in the hidden letter. During the interrogation, the suspect confessed, making a statement that he thought he had completely "wiped" all information from his computer and was therefore unclear about how much more data still resided on the hard drive. According to the investigation's supervisor, it was the letter found on the suspect's computer that "made the case." What was especially striking about the examination, was that the letter could have easily been overlooked because there was little or no other useful information on the computer. Moreover, these examinations were conducted mere hours after the victim was found—enabling the Coroner's Office to proceed with its final report.

The electronic "smoking gun" in this investigation turned out to be a skillfully hidden letter written by the suspect. Without that letter and subsequent confession, law enforcement would have had insufficient evidence to establish the homicide—leaving the family with many questions and a young victim with no justice.

Suicide or Homicide? Digital Evidence Yields Clues

David Lee Stagg, a professor at the University of Missouri, is charged with first-degree murder in the death of William Jennings. At issue is an alleged suicide note found on Mr. Jennings' computer in the apartment where he was killed. Mr. Stagg and Mr. Jennings were involved in a relationship, and on April 24, 2004, the two were having dinner at Mr. Jennings' apartment when an argument ensued. When interviewed by authorities, Mr. Stagg told police that he moved his belongings out of Mr. Jennings' house the following morning, but when he did not hear from Mr. Jennings, he returned to the residence where he found the latter's body. Investigators determined that Mr. Jennings had been strangled to death.

A forensic analysis of an alleged suicide note found in the Trash folder on the computer at Mr. Jennings' residence determined that while the note had been prepared on the computer, it was not saved in the usual manner that Mr. Jennings used to save his other documents. The content of the note attempted to vindicate Mr. Stagg stating that

"The RCFL network of digital evidence forensics laboratories is an extraordinarily successful force multiplier of forensic capabilities across the entire law enforcement community. Its success hinges on the mutual respect for and cooperation of all of the participating law enforcement agencies. If you tangle with the RCFLs, be prepared for them to take a big 'byte' out of crime."

—Michael Gilmore, Assistant Section Chief, Digital Evidence Lab Director, Digital Evidence Section, Operational Technology Division, FBI

"[t]his has nothing to do with David except for the fact that he's been the most fulfilling part of my life...."

Mr. Stagg's first trial ended in a hung jury. The Johnson County, Kansas, District Attorney's Office will again seek murder charges against Mr. Stagg, and the HARCFL will again provide testimony regarding the alleged suicide note.

BALCO

Victor Conte always seemed to be in the right place at the right time. Once a musician with the popular funk band Tower of Power in the late 1970s, Conte entered the thriving sports nutrition market in the 1980s. He became CEO of the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative near San Francisco—what has become known infamously in the professional sports world as BALCO. Conte's customers included some of the biggest names in sports, including Barry Bonds, Jason Giambi, and Marion Jones.

Press reports state that BALCO began as a legitimate enterprise, and that Conte made millions of dollars by assessing the nutritional deficiencies of professional athletes and body builders and selling them supplements. He soon learned that by adding steroids to the mix, athletes could reap the benefits of training harder, building muscle quicker, and shortening recovery times. The only downside was that distributing and selling steroids is illegal, and BALCO was exposed as a steroid ring by a grand jury in 2002. The investigation was conducted by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of California, the IRS' Criminal Investigation Division, the FBI,

the Food and Drug Administration, and the San Mateo County Narcotics Task Force. The SVRCFL supplied digital forensics assistance to the Task Force.

On October 18, 2005, Victor Conte and two others were sentenced for their roles in a conspiracy to distribute illegal steroids and other performance-enhancing drugs to athletes. Conte was sentenced to four months in prison and four months of home confinement with electronic monitoring, and was ordered to pay a fine of \$10,000.

Self Defense or Murder?

An NTRCFL Examiner supported an investigation in which a woman claimed she shot and killed her husband in self defense. After examining the family's computer, the Examiner learned that on several occasions before the shooting, the subject conducted a number of Internet searches with the key words "self-defense laws of Texas," along with searches for information about marital laws and marriage between a U.S. citizen and an illegal immigrant. One of these searches occurred just five minutes before the shooting took place. After reviewing the NTRCFL's findings and other evidence related to the case, the District Attorney ascertained that the victim's wife was having an affair with one of the day laborers that worked at her family's fencing company. Thanks in part to the digital evidence, the case is now being investigated as a murder—not self defense.

Guilty Verdict in Slaying of Doctor

Dr. Haval Ravin was an American success story. After emigrating from Baghdad in the 1980s, he earned multiple academic degrees and went on to own several fertility clinics in Southern California. On November 12, 2004, Dr. Ravin was found dead in his home from multiple stab wounds. The list of possible suspects was narrowed down to Bilji Varghese, the recently divorced husband of Dr. Ravin's girlfriend, 35-year old Vilia Varghese. During the course of the investigation, the San Diego Police learned that Varghese was extremely jealous of his wife's relationship with Dr. Ravin. A subsequent search of Varghese's residence produced, among other items, a laptop computer, which the SDRCLFL examined. A preliminary examination of the laptop determined that the hard drive contained a software locking mechanism/password, which was later unlocked by the FBI's CEAU. With this information, the SDRCLFL uncovered numerous Internet searches conducted by Mr. Varghese using key words such as "revenge," "adultery," and "law." Due in part to

the information found by the SDRCLFL on Varghese's computer, which the Examiner later testified to at trial, the jury found Varghese guilty of fatally stabbing Dr. Ravin. He was sentenced to a 26-year prison term.

Guarding Against Identity Theft

RCFLs see their share of identity theft investigations, which is no surprise. In the Federal Trade Commission's (FTC) Annual Report for 2005, identity theft topped its list of complaints, accounting for 255,000 of more than 686,000 filed with the agency for the year. Individuals are not the only ones harmed by identity theft. As the following case study illustrates, businesses are also affected as criminals use technology and other increasingly sophisticated means to steal personal information for profit—

The subject in question operated a company based in California that supplied personal information about prospective employees to professional recruiters. The subject would call a company posing as an employee of that company and would request personal information about the staff—which he later sold. After officials of one company realized that the subject had fraudulently obtained data about their staff, they alerted the Hillsboro (Oregon) Police Department, a participating agency in the NWRCLFL. The police were able to identify the subject, obtain a search warrant for his computers, and bring them to the NWRCLFL for examination. Examiners successfully extracted a host of digital evidence, including "canned" telephone call scripts, spreadsheets with employee information, and data from a number of other businesses in addition to the company that filed the original complaint. The subject pled guilty to identity theft but the business lost an estimated \$2 million as a result of this individual's crimes against it.

If you or someone you know thinks he/she may be a victim of identity fraud, contact the FTC's Identity Theft hotline at 877/438-4338. The FTC also has a host of useful materials about identity theft on its Web site at www.ftc.gov/idtheft.

FBI "Top Ten" Criminal Captured

In August 2006, Warren Steed Jeffs, one of the FBI's Ten Most Wanted Fugitives, was arrested during a routine traffic stop in Las Vegas. Authorities found \$54,000 in cash, 15 cellular telephones, portable radios, wigs, and four laptops in the car. The 50-year-old fugitive was wanted for alleged sex assaults in 2002 and was wanted in Utah as an accomplice to rape. During that incident, he married a 14-year old girl to her 19-year old cousin. Jeffs is the leader of a polygamous sect known as the Fundamentalist Latter Day Saints and has an estimated 10,000 followers in communities located in Hilldale, Utah, and Colorado City, Arizona. Because Jeffs and his accomplices crossed through the service areas of the IWRCFL and the RMRCFL, both laboratories aided investigators by providing digital forensics assistance.



Internet Pharmacy Fraud

Pharmaceutical drug trafficking on the Internet is a growing and troubling phenomenon—controlled substances and other drugs are sold directly to buyers without the legally mandated examination by a physician. The Garland Police Department, a participating agency in the NTRCFL, supported an investigation in which the subject was arrested while in the act of producing other fraudulent prescriptions. While searching her vehicle, the officers found fraudulent prescriptions along with a recent receipt for a computer. Authorities received a search warrant for the subject's home, where two computers were seized. The examination of one of the computers showed several bank accounts in different names where money had been deposited from the sale of the illegally obtained prescriptions that had been sold over the Internet to individuals



across the United States. Furthermore, the Examiner found numerous e-mail exchanges between the subject and her "customers"—those individuals in 23 states that were buying the illegally obtained pills. The subject was charged with fraudulent prescription and fraudulent use or possession of identifying information. The case is progressing through the justice system.

Partnering With the IRS

Examiners from the PHRCFL assisted the FBI's Philadelphia Division and officials from the IRS during a high-profile white collar investigation that began in FY06. The target of the investigation was a multimillion dollar a year healthcare firm. Once enough evidence was gathered to conduct a legal search of the business, the Examiners worked closely with the company's system administrators to develop a plan to image more than 30 network servers without causing a major interruption to the business' operations. (In those situations where a business is involved in a criminal investigation, RCFL Examiners take every precaution to minimize disruptions to the company's operations.) The Examiners spent more than 26 hours imaging the hard drives and, as the company had requested, were able to finish the task without shutting down all the servers. Once their on-site work was completed, the Examiners successfully imaged seven terabytes of data.



Since FY03, when the RCFL Program issued its first annual report, the crime for which investigators most often request assistance is—and continues to be—cybercrime, which encompasses child pornography and other violent acts against children. Unfortunately, this situation is not expected to change. This is attributable to several reasons, but the most significant factor is the rise of the World Wide Web. With the growth of the Internet and its pervasive use, purveyors of this contraband have made using the mail obsolete. Now they can easily upload, download, share, and exchange picture files in just seconds, as technology becomes faster and easier to use. As a result, economic research organizations say that commercial child pornography is a multibillion dollar industry.

In addition to being a growing international scourge, child pornography is especially insidious because the abuse continues even after the victim is rescued—his/her images may linger in cyberspace for years to come. As the following real-life examples show, the sexual predators committing these crimes come from many backgrounds, and they are masters at gaining the trust of both children and adults to advance their agenda. RCFL personnel, however, are using their skills to bring these individuals out of the shadowy darkness where they operate and into the bright light of the justice system where they belong.

“There is a misconception of what child pornography is...these images actually represent the graphic sexual assault of children... [W]e know six percent of the children identified are actually infants. And fully 58 percent are children who are still prepubescent.”

—Michelle Collins, Director of the Exploited Child Unit, National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), in a statement in a Project Safe Childhood video

“The sexual abuse and exploitation of children is one of the most disturbing crimes known to humankind.”

—U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, speaking at the 2006 Project Safe Childhood Conference



Pastor Leads Double Life

Shawn Davies, an assistant pastor at a church in rural Greenwood, Missouri, had a secret past that the congregation knew nothing about. According to published press reports, from 1998 to 1999, Davies was leading a youth group at a Scott County, Kentucky, church when he played a pornographic movie and performed a sex act on one of the boys. Because of this incident, Davies was charged with first-degree sodomy, first-degree sexual abuse, and three counts of use of a minor under 16 in a sexual performance. After the charges were amended as part of a plea agreement, he moved to Missouri and subsequently engaged in the same types of activities involving young boys aged 13 to 16. Several parishioners approached the senior pastor of the church about Davies with the same claims that the parents in Kentucky made against him. The Greenwood, Missouri, Police Department was asked to investigate. During their investigation, they enlisted the help of the HARCFL, which found pornographic files on the church's computer hard drive and evidence of a number of Internet searches collectively involving the words "young," "boy," "incest," and "movies." Press reports state that according to Missouri court records, Davies was fired from his position after church officials learned that pornography had been found on their computer. Missouri law enforcement officials have charged Davies with 25 offenses involving crimes against children, and if convicted, he could face life in prison. However, he is currently being held at the Kentucky State Reformatory where he is serving a 10-year sentence after pleading guilty in May 2006 to second-degree sodomy and two counts of unlawful transaction with a minor.

"Nothing I've seen in 20 years of law enforcement compares with the things I've seen since I've been in this chair."

— SSA Arnold Bell, Unit Chief, FBI's Innocent Images National Initiative, in a statement in a Project Safe Childhood video

Facts About Contraband

- Child pornography is contraband—just having it in your possession is illegal—that includes storing, sending, or receiving these images.
- In 1982, the Supreme Court ruled that child pornography is not protected speech—it is child abuse.
- Do not hesitate to report someone who has child pornography in his/her possession. Immediately contact your local police department, FBI office, or NCMEC's tip line, 1-800-THE-LOST.

Police Officer Crosses the Line—and Pays the Price

Officers of the law know full well the penalties associated with possessing child pornography, but that did not deter a police officer employed by the King City, Oregon, Police Department from doing just that. The police officer conversed with a mentally challenged male minor online for several months and later met the youngster in a local park where he sexually assaulted him. After the boy's mother notified the police about the assault, the Washington County Sheriff's Office, a participating agency in the NWRCFL, obtained a search warrant and seized both the victim's and the subject's computers. During the examination, NWRCFL personnel located more than 1,000 images of child pornography on the subject's computer. This paved the way for authorities to legally charge the suspect with several federal counts of receiving child pornography. The subject agreed to a plea arrangement, was sentenced to five years in jail, received five years probation, and must register as a sex offender for life.

Child Pornography Case Exposes Other Suspects

The Miami Valley RCFL (MVRCL) assisted the FBI's Cincinnati Field Office with a child pornography investigation, seizing the subject's computer and one terabyte of digital evidence—which is roughly equal to the amount of information stored on 200 DVDs. During the course of the investigation, the subject subsequently purchased a new laptop computer. Meanwhile, six months had passed since the first search warrant was executed; therefore, the FBI agent followed up with the subject by conducting another interview with him. During that interview, the

subject confessed to downloading more child pornography. The agent immediately arrested the subject.

The MVRCL's findings contributed to the subject being sentenced, but the investigation did not end there. After analyzing the RCFL's findings, the case agent identified other individuals who were trading child pornography with the initial subject. This resulted in four separate spin-off investigation cases that the MVRCL is fully supporting.

Assault on a Minor

The NWRCFL provided digital forensics support for a child abuse/pornography investigation involving the sexual assault on a six-year-old girl by the child's uncle. The suspect recorded the assaults and sent pictures and video to himself via e-mail using his camera cellular telephone. RCFL Examiners recovered at least five images from the cellular telephone, along with the time and dates of the attacks, and converted the files to a format that investigators could review. Armed with this evidence, Lincoln County, Oregon, indicted the subject on 58 counts of child sexual abuse. The prosecutor offered the subject a plea of 54 years, which he refused. After going to trial, the subject was found guilty on all counts and was sentenced to more than 250 years in prison for his offenses—the longest sentence ever handed down in Oregon history. At sentencing, the judge stated this was “the most vile” case he had prosecuted in more than 25 years on the bench.

Child Pornographer Convicted

Barry Eytcheson, an unemployed computer engineer, was arrested for allegedly sharing child pornography over the Internet and later admitted that he had collected child pornography for years. Investigators working with the CGRCFL also learned that Eytcheson made a sexually explicit video and took lewd photographs of a child between June and November 2004. Eytcheson was discovered by an FBI agent who worked in the Sex Crimes Unit. After the agent downloaded two files of child pornography through a file sharing program, he was able to trace the Internet address of the supplying computer to Eytcheson's home. All told, more than a terabyte was seized and brought to the CGRCFL for analysis. Working with investigators, the CGRCFL staff examined computers, removable media, and a digital camera to locate evidence in furtherance of the investigation—ultimately supporting charges that Eytcheson was also manufacturing child pornography.

Crimes Against Children Unit



The Crimes Against Children Unit (CACU) was established in 1997 within the Criminal Investigative Division. Its mission is to—

- Address all crimes under the FBI's jurisdiction that involve the victimization of children
- Provide program management and field-wide investigative oversight of those critical FBI operations
- Coordinate training throughout the law enforcement community.

To make full use of all available resources, an FBI Supervisory Special Agent is assigned full time at NCMEC. By working alongside NCMEC personnel, the FBI is better able to respond to child abductions, parental kidnappings, child pornography, and other matters relating to sexual exploitation of children.

On May 9, 2006, Eytcheson was sentenced to 20 years in federal prison for his crimes. Upon his release from prison, Eytcheson must register as a sex offender while continuing treatment. During the first five years after his release, he may not have any unsupervised contact with children or own a computer.

“There have been numerous occasions where kids have been solicited via e-mail or chat rooms. It's just a covert way for predators—or even other kids that you don't want your child to be associated with—to have communication.”

—Investigator Toby Thorp, Montrose County, Colorado Sheriff's Office

Teamwork Snares Child Pornographer

A 39-year-old Kansas man, David Underwood, whose online activities were first spotted by NCMEC, pleaded guilty to one count of distributing child pornography on the Internet. In his plea, Underwood admitted that he had uploaded nearly two dozen images of child pornography to a Yahoo group.

In FY06, NCMEC sent a CyberTipline Report to the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force and the Cyber Crimes Task Force in Kansas City. Using administrative subpoenas, investigators tracked the postings back to Underwood, and the HARCFL found more than 600 images of child pornography on his computer. He faces a sentence of between five and 20 years in prison.

Technology Traps Child Pornographer

Michael Jean Masitis, Jr., 59, of Boise, Idaho, embraced technology and used it to foster his perverse fascination with child pornography. But in the end, it was technology that caught him, when an undercover FBI agent in Tampa, Florida, conducted a keyword search for a commonly used term associated with images of child pornography. The agent's search identified Masitis' computer, where

he found proof that the subject had downloaded pornographic images involving infants and small children.

Masitis was charged after local FBI agents, along with a member of the IWRCFL's Boise satellite office, executed a search warrant at Masitis' home, where they seized a computer, 73 CDs, and a bag containing printed pictures. The IWRCFL in Salt Lake City performed all the digital forensics work and sent its findings to NCMEC, which determined that the materials contained 936 sexually explicit still images of 61 known child victims, and two sexually explicit videos depicting known child victims. The CDs also contained images of unknown prepubescent children engaging in sexual activities. Masitis admitted in federal court that he possessed almost 1,000 computer images of child pornography. He received a sentence of six years in the federal penitentiary for his many crimes.

AMBER Alerts and RCFLs

The AMBER Alert System began in 1996 when Dallas-Fort Worth broadcasters teamed with local police to develop an early warning system to help find abducted children. AMBER stands for "America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response" and was created in honor of nine-year-old Amber Hagerman, who was kidnapped and brutally murdered. Once law enforcement determines that a child has been taken and the abduction meets AMBER Alert criteria, law enforcement notifies broadcasters and state transportation officials.

On those occasions when law enforcement is able to identify a suspect(s) in an RCFL's service area, RCFL personnel will spring into action, providing their expertise and resources at a moment's notice, as the following story illustrates—

On April 11, 2006, a teenager from Independence, Kansas, who was a "straight-A" student and very involved in various organized activities, placed a frantic 9-1-1 cellular telephone call to police, claiming that she had been forced at gunpoint into a white van outside her residence. An AMBER Alert was issued, and the FBI quickly dispatched approximately 30 agents to help police and county officers search for the victim.

During the search, the FBI flew an HARCFL Examiner to the scene so that the digital information could be immediately processed and made available to the



investigators. The investigation quickly determined that the facts were in conflict, and when the alleged victim was located later that day, she admitted that her 9-1-1 call was indeed a hoax. This case demonstrates the importance of digital evidence during an investigation because a forensics analysis of the alleged victim's computer was one of the first investigative steps taken to successfully resolve the matter.

Project Safe Childhood

The AMBER Alert program is part of DOJ's Project Safe Childhood initiative, which is striving to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. According to the DOJ..."As technology advances and as the Internet becomes more accessible, the number of computer-facilitated sexual exploitation crimes committed against children—including child pornography offenses and enticement crimes—is expected to continue to grow....The goal of Project Safe Childhood is to enhance the national response to this growing threat to America's youth."



To learn more about Project Safe Childhood, visit the initiative's Web site at www.projectsafefchildhood.gov.

Update: Operation Hamlet

The investigation, dubbed "Operation Hamlet," centered on an international child pornography ring and was led by the San Diego Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force and supported by the SDRCL. Forty-five children were victimized, including 37 young Americans ranging in age from two to 14. The SDRCL devoted more than 500 staff hours in support of this investigation—and their efforts paid off. Paul Whitmore, the leader of the group, along with 24 others, went on trial for their involvement in the ring. Nearly four years after the investigation began, Whitmore received a life sentence—the judge called it the "most horrible" case of her legal career.

Update: Schwartzmiller Found Guilty

A California jury needed just four hours to convict serial pedophile Dean Schwartzmiller on 10 counts of child molestation—setting the stage to put him in jail for the rest of his life. Schwartzmiller, 64, was found guilty on the molestation counts with special allegations, guilty on a felony count of taking obscene pictures of minors, and guilty on a misdemeanor count of possessing child pornography. The SVRCFL assisted the San Jose Police Department, one of its participating agencies, with the investigation, imaging the contents of several computer servers. Schwartzmiller faces a maximum prison sentence of more than 150 years.

429-Count Indictment Handed Down Against Local Contractor

Clement Bilski, Jr., easily gained entrance to people's homes for more than 10 years while working as a self-employed handyman. Once inside, he would seek the trust of the owner's children by giving them candy, toys, etc., and when the opportunity presented itself, Bilski would sexually assault the young victims and videotape them. New Jersey authorities learned about Bilski's criminal acts after receiving a tip from the Maryland State Police Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, which contacted the New Jersey State Police, a participating agency in the New Jersey RCFL (NJRCFL), to inform it that a computer traced to Bilski was "sharing" with other Internet users a video depicting the sexual abuse of a child. After authorities confirmed the link between Bilski and the video, they obtained a search warrant for his home. The NJRCFL played a key role in processing the digital evidence seized from that search.

A Monmouth County grand jury returned a 429-count indictment against Bilski, who is charged with 74 counts of aggravated sexual assault, 30 counts of second-degree sexual assault, and 295 counts of endangering the welfare of a child by manufacturing child pornography, as well as charges of weapons possession and obscenity. In addition, Bilski allegedly amassed a voluminous library of child molestation videos depicting at least 11 children. Because identifying the young victims on the videos is a priority, a task force was formed, including the NJRCFL, which is processing the videotapes. One veteran law enforcement official working on the investigation said that the videotapes were enough to "test the sensibilities of some of the most hardened police officers."

"As technology advances and as the Internet becomes more accessible, the number of computer-facilitated sexual exploitation crimes committed against children—including child pornography offenses and 'traveler' or enticement crimes—continues to grow."

—Excerpt from a 2006 U.S. Department of Justice press release announcing the Attorney General's call for Americans to fight child sexual exploitation

Protecting Kids: Helpful Resources

- **A Parent's Guide to Internet Safety:**
<http://www.fbi.gov/publications/pguide/pguidee.htm>

- **Department of Justice National Sex Offender Public Registry Web site:**
<http://www.nsopr.gov/>

To report incidents of child exploitation or child pornography, contact—

- **NCMEC's Tip Line:**
1-800-THE-LOST (1-800/843-5678), a 24-hour multilingual hotline, the main telephone number 703/274-3900, or online at www.missingkids.com

- **Local FBI office** (www.fbi.gov) or your local police department.

Innocent Images Unit

The FBI's Innocent Images National Initiative (IINI) is an intelligence-driven, proactive program that combats the worldwide proliferation of child pornography and child sexual exploitation facilitated by the Internet. IINI is part of the FBI's Cyber Crimes Program, and its mission is to: (1) identify, investigate, and prosecute sexual predators who use the Internet and other online services to sexually exploit children; (2) identify and rescue witting and unwitting child victims; and (3) establish a law enforcement presence on the Internet as a deterrent to anyone who exploits children.

The RCFL Program is aiding the IINI mission by training IINI personnel to use "ImageScan," which allows field investigators to accurately view a variety of graphics formats on a subject's computer—while making absolutely no changes to any files. To make the training more easily accessible for IINI personnel, the RCFL NPO appointed an ImageScan Coordinator who serves as their central point of contact and schedules the training, which is taught by both RCFL and CART-certified instructors.

Throughout this report, there are many examples of success stories in which justice is achieved for victims of crime thanks in part to the contributions of RCFL personnel. Because the IINI deals primarily with infants and children, its successes are all the more profound, and that is why the RCFL Program is so committed to sharing its resources with our colleagues to protect the innocent. Commenting on the work IINI does, Unit Chief Arnold Bell said, "...We're all focused on saving kids. We can't be effective if we're not working together—we just can't." The following IINI case study further illustrates why partnering and information sharing among law enforcement is so critical—

In 2003, a detective in Denmark was conducting an undercover, online investigation when he found images of a young girl being molested by an adult male. The images indicated that the youngster was being subjected to increasing levels of violence during the molestation, and the detective feared she might already be dead. The detective posted these images on an Interpol site where they were recognized by an investigator in Canada. Seeing something familiar in the images, he contacted the FBI's IINI.



Working around the clock, the Toronto detective and an FBI agent identified several numbers on what appeared to be a Brownie uniform worn by a female victim in one of the photographs. Through countless additional searches, the detectives narrowed the search to Charlotte, North Carolina. Local FBI field staff quickly mobilized and successfully learned the victim's identity along with her abuser, Brian Todd Schellenberger, who was arrested by FBI agents in Charlotte. Schellenberger's residence was also searched by a team of law enforcement officials, including CART Examiners, who found 426 photographs on Schellenberger's computer. Agents also seized a laptop from Schellenberger's residence that contained child pornography; approximately 100 CD-ROMs believed to contain encrypted child pornography; one digital camera and one digital video recorder, both believed to have been used in the production of child pornography; and digital videotapes believed to contain child pornography. Subsequent examinations of the computers' hard drives located more than 175,000 additional images of child pornography. Schellenberger also confessed to producing the images of the molestation and e-mailing those images, which were later discovered by the Danish detective.

The digital evidence found by the CART Examiners helped identify and subsequently rescue five children from sexual exploitation and initiated several spin-off investigations. Schellenberger was sentenced to 100 years in prison for manufacturing, distributing, and possessing child pornography.

To view IINI's online resources about protecting children and teens on the Internet, go to <http://www.fbi.gov/innocent.htm>.

According to the Bureau of Justice, approximately 663,535 police officers are currently working in the United States. Compare that number to only about 100 RCFL Examiners on staff, and it becomes evident that there are simply not enough personnel and resources available to fully address all of law enforcement's growing digital forensics needs. Therefore, to realistically address this situation, the RCFL Program relies on training to narrow the gap between what is available and what is needed.

Most RCFLs are equipped with an interactive, state-of-the-art classroom that enables students to actually practice the digital forensics techniques they are being taught by the instructor. What's more, once a student is trained, he/she can always contact RCFL personnel with questions or to obtain further clarification on a particular issue.

The RCFL Program offers a range of standardized digital forensics courses and workshops for students ranging from those with minimal computer skills up to the sophisticated user. To enhance access, the program offers an online registration system so that students can enroll at any time for coursework at the RCFL of their choosing. In FY06, more than 4,500 students registered for classes using this system, and that number is expected to increase with the opening of the KRCFL in FY07.

Training Accomplishments

As stated above, in FY06, the RCFL Program trained 4,500 law enforcement personnel. While that statistic is impressive, it is only part of the story, as the following program accomplishments demonstrate—

Case Agent Investigative Review (CAIR) System—The CAIR System is one of the RCFL Program's most promising initiatives—its potential is just beginning to be realized by the law enforcement community. Once digital evidence is submitted and processed by an RCFL, the Examiners can upload their forensic examination results (e.g., images, e-mail messages, or documents) to a secure server that allows investigators to review the information in the convenience of their respective agencies' offices. In FY06, nearly 1,400 law enforcement personnel received the CAIR one-day training course to learn how to navigate the system.

The CAIR System is also proven in the field, as the following case studies demonstrate—

"It is always a struggle to square priorities and improve services with limited resources. But we must find a way to balance our forensics needs in counterterrorism, counterintelligence, and computer intrusion cases with an ever-increasing need for such analysis in child exploitation cases. To meet that need, we have trained more than 10,000 law enforcement officers to handle digital forensics evidence."

—Robert S. Mueller III, FBI Director,
speaking before the 2006 Project Safe
Childhood Conference

- **NTRCFL**—The NTRCFL used the CAIR System to process time-sensitive evidence regarding a terrorism matter for the FBI's San Juan, Puerto Rico Division. The evidence was flown to Dallas, and within hours, the results were placed on the review network and accessed by the agents in San Juan. Based on the evidence processed by the NTRCFL, the San Juan agents successfully obtained additional search warrants that resulted in lives potentially being saved.
- **HARCFL**—The burglary ring operating in and around Platte County, Missouri, was a clever bunch. However, it was no match for law enforcement, which eventually broke up the ring by tracing it to a home decor store that was selling stolen items to the public. A search warrant was obtained to recover both the stolen goods and the business' computers. The HARCFL assisted with the analysis of the store's computer and placed its findings on the CAIR System. Once this information became available, investigators could compare and compile the case's digital evidence, which included pictures, itemized lists of thousands of dollars worth of stolen items, maps to the burglary locations, notes on home security systems, and various other related documents. In addition, investigators demonstrated

how the thieves used the store's records to steal the same stolen merchandise again that they had previously sold to their unsuspecting customers.

Using the CAIR System, law enforcement expedited the investigation by identifying and returning the stolen property to its rightful owners. To date, one subject pled guilty and received a 26-year jail sentence, while the others are awaiting trial.

CAIR System Training Online

The FBI has more than 30,000 professionals on staff throughout the United States and the world. To better reach these customers, the RCFL NPO developed a computer-based training course to teach those who review digital evidence how to use the CAIR System. The online offering is intended to function as a review of the instructor-led course. In FY06, 375 FBI employees took the self-paced course, which complements the standard CAIR training and contains supplementary modules that allow users to practice their skills through exercises and simulations. It also provides information and advice on how Examiners and investigators can work together to uncover case details and produce reports for prosecutors and other law enforcement personnel.

To access CAIR training online, FBI personnel must visit the FBI's Virtual Academy. (Personnel must have FBI.net access.) Once users log in, they can search for the course entitled "Case Agent Investigative Review." Employees must have their supervisor's approval to take the course; agents are exempt from this requirement.



primarily available to FBI personnel and those who have access to the FBI's Intranet. The main obstacle is not technology—it is cost. It costs approximately \$150,000 to equip an RCFL with the proper hardware and software to enable state and local personnel to use the CAIR System over a secure network. However, because of the extraordinary level of partnership and cooperation among those in its service area, the HARCFL cleared the funding obstacle thanks to generous contributions from the Johnson County and Shawnee County, Kansas, Sheriff's Offices. These participating agencies truly exemplify the basic RCFL philosophy of pooling resources for the benefit of all. After successfully testing and validating the CAIR System, the HARCFL used the Regional Information Sharing System, in conjunction with the Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area network, to further safeguard the system—all connections are made through numerous firewalls and are encrypted. In addition, evidence can only be reviewed—not downloaded or transferred via the CAIR System. The HARCFL's breakthrough marked an historic first for that laboratory and the program overall.

The Hillsboro (Oregon) Police Department, a participating agency in the NWRCL, is following the HARCFL's lead and was awarded resources to bring the CAIR System to the 109 state and local agencies in the service area of Oregon and southwest Washington.

(Top) Detectives Mark Stephens and William Dillingham, Platte County, Missouri, Sheriff's Office use the CAIR System.



(Bottom) HARCFL Operations Manager Mike Jacobson provides instruction to law enforcement officers on the CAIR System.





ImageScan

"ImageScan is one of our most sought-after training courses."

—FBI Director Robert Mueller III, speaking at the 2006 Project Safe Childhood Conference

ImageScan is one of the RCFL Program's most popular training courses. The course was designed for law enforcement personnel who investigate crimes against children, specifically child pornography. Developed in-house by the FBI's CART Program, investigators can use the ImageScan tool to safely "preview" graphical image files on a subject's computer during consent searches, without altering any data on the computer system. ImageScan, however, is an investigative tool and is not meant to replace a professional computer forensics examination.

In FY06, RCFL and CART Examiners taught 1,601 law enforcement personnel how to use ImageScan. An updated version is planned for release in FY07 that will address changing technologies and possibly be expanded to work on Macintosh computers.

During a speech before the 2006 Project Safe Childhood Conference, FBI Director Mueller called ImageScan "one of our most sought-after training courses." The RCFL Program will continue seeking ways to make ImageScan training more widely available to the law enforcement community.

Coming in FY07: Web-Based Training

Since its inception, the RCFL Program's National Steering Committee has strongly urged the FBI to use its resources to raise awareness of digital forensics among the law enforcement community. With 665,000 officers working in law enforcement today, the most reasonable and economical way to achieve this goal is through Web-based training. Therefore, the RCFL Program is working on the following approaches to bring digital forensics training directly to the offices, stations, and precincts of our nation's first responders—

Webinars—A webinar is a seminar conducted over the World Wide Web. Through this technology, the RCFL NPO plans to offer condensed versions of some of its day-long courses—one- or two-hour blocks highlighting some of the key points concerning the proper care and handling of digital evidence—and providing follow-up materials so that students can continue their studies.

Interactive Slide Shows—With approximately 2.5 million hits to the RCFL Program's Web sites in FY06, the NPO is planning to unveil a series of interactive "slide shows" to enhance each visitor's learning experience, starting in FY07. Because digital forensics and technology are constantly changing, the purpose of these slide shows is to give law enforcement personnel a preview of unfolding trends and practical tips they can use in properly handling and processing digital evidence.

To members of the RCFL Program, the practice of conducting outreach means seeking outside views and opinions while regularly sharing important information with stakeholders. The program established and maintains several vehicles to reach this objective, including advisory boards, and Web sites, and added a Speaker's Bureau during FY06. These initiatives are detailed below—

Local Executive Boards (LEB)—Each RCFL has a corresponding LEB that includes one representative from each of the participating agencies. The LEBs provide operational guidance and oversight of the RCFL with which they are affiliated, but they do not have any independent legal status. During FY06, there were 14 LEBs* in operation. (See the Acknowledgements section for a complete list of all agencies participating in the LEBs.)

National Steering Committee (NSC)—This intergovernmental advisory committee is composed of elected government officials or their representatives, and/or employees of federal, state, and local government agencies who have expertise in the science of digital forensics. The NSC meets in the spring and fall to hear from the RCFL Directors about the issues affecting them at the field level while also discussing important initiatives that are national in scope.

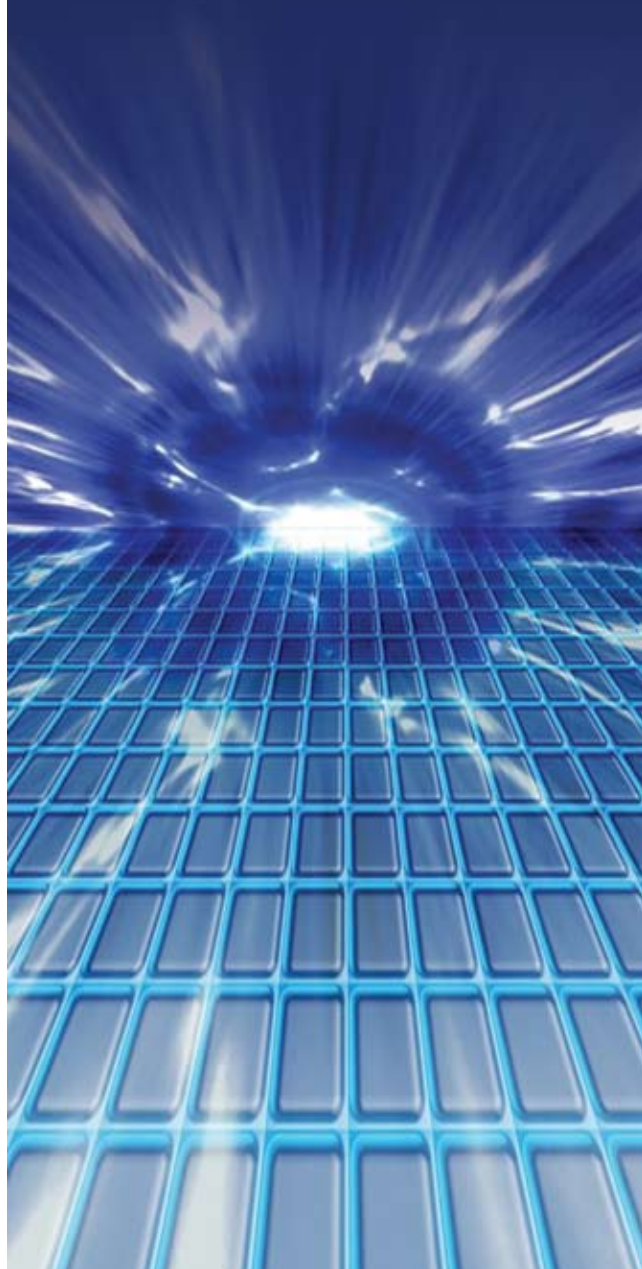
*Thirteen RCFLs were operating in FY06; however, the KRCFL, although not yet open, did have its LEB in place, and its members met periodically during that time.



Members of the NSC tour the SVRCFL's Evidence Intake Room. Pictured here in the laboratory's classroom, SVRCFL Director Chris Beeson briefs the NSC about their training capabilities.

"Law enforcement is at its best when we work together and share information and resources regularly. RCFL personnel have done this from the program's very beginning—and it's this most basic practice that is helping us meet the incredible challenges facing law enforcement today."

—Rank Sheriff David A. Weaver,
Douglas County, CO, Sheriff's
Office



Members of the NSC

The Committee's diverse membership is as follows—

Craig Chval	Assistant Attorney General, Missouri Attorney General Office, representing the National Association of Attorneys General
Michael Barbery	Special Agent/Director Research, IRS-Criminal Investigation, Electronic Crimes Technology & Support Center
Gerard J. Cocuzzo	NSC Co-Chair, FBI RCFL NPO Unit Chief
Howard Cox	Trial Attorney, Computer Crime & Intellection Property Section, U.S. Department of Justice
John Douglass	Chief, Overland Park, Kansas, Police Department, Member, Heart of America RCFL Executive Board
Gerald Heaton	Prosecuting Attorney, Logan County, Ohio, representing the National District Attorneys Association
Ron Hickman	Constable, Harris County, Texas, Precinct 4, Member, Greater Houston RCFL Executive Board
Russell B. Laine	Chief, Algonquin, Illinois Police Department, representing the International Association of Chiefs of Police
Gary T. Maha	Sheriff, Genesee County, New York; representing the National Sheriff's Association
Patrick Meehan	U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, representing the U.S. Attorneys Association
Ken Privette	Special Agent in Charge, representing the U.S. Postal Inspection Service
Dr. Sujeet Sheno	Professor, University of Tulsa, representing the Governor of Oklahoma
(Co-chair)	
LTC Jeff Salyards	Director, Defense Computer Forensics Laboratory; representing the Department of Defense

RCFL Speakers Bureau—This service, introduced in FY06, provides a convenient way for organizations to request that representatives from the RCFL network speak at their events. By logging onto www.rcfl.gov, visitors can access the Speakers Bureau online, fill out a request form, and receive a response in a timely manner. Visitors can

also send a request to speakersinfo@rcfl.gov. Since the Speakers Bureau opened, RCFL personnel have appeared at events sponsored by academic institutions, including colleges, universities, and high schools; private industry; and trade and professional associations.

The RCFL Program is a relatively young initiative, having just marked its seventh anniversary. In its early days, the emphasis was on increasing the number of RCFLs; establishing a structure by which the laboratories would operate; and implementing a standardized set of rules, procedures, and practices to ensure the quality of each laboratory's services and products. The results of these efforts have led to creation of a unique national network of digital evidence facilities whose personnel have amassed a long list of notable achievements, successes, and technological breakthroughs. Moreover, because the RCFL Program places such a high value on partnerships between the FBI and other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, the overall level of digital forensics expertise throughout the community has risen dramatically, thanks to this effort.

Nonetheless, despite an outstanding record, the same challenges remain year after year—and if not addressed in a serious and thoughtful manner, according to Unit Chief Gerard J. Cocuzzo, "...the RCFL Program of today may be very different than the RCFL Program of tomorrow." These challenges are explained below and listed in rank order.

Challenge #1: Increase the Number of Participating Agencies

The Issue: Theoretically, there are no actual permanent RCFL personnel—participating agencies, those organizations that enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the FBI, detail or assign their personnel to staff each laboratory. These individuals report to an RCFL for a designated length of time (typically two to three years) but remain on the payroll of their home agencies, and return to those agencies once their assignment is completed. (Note: Some detailees and their agencies can extend their participation beyond the initial commitment of two to three years.)

To date, approximately 110 agencies have partnered with the RCFL Program. If one compares that number with the more than 4,000 law enforcement agencies that reside in the RCFL Program's collective service area, the numbers reveal the disparity—approximately 95 detailees are supplying urgently needed digital forensics expertise to thousands of their colleagues. If the program is to maintain the same level of excellence, more participating

"The RCFL Program of today may be very different than the RCFL Program of tomorrow."

—SSA Gerard J. Cocuzzo, RCFL NPO
Unit Chief

agencies are needed to help meet law enforcement's rising demand for RCFL services.

The Forecast: The program has not reached the point where services and training are being scaled back because of personnel shortfalls—yet. However, to prepare for such an event, some RCFL Directors, in consultation with their LEBs, are discussing ways they can provide the same high-quality service with a smaller staff. This might result in longer wait times for service requests, or the RCFLs may have to limit their availability by assisting only their participating agencies; or not conducting examinations on some electronic devices such as cellular telephones, PDAs, video equipment; or accepting outside requests for assistance purely on a case-by-case basis.

The Solution: The RCFL NPO and the RCFL Laboratory Directors realize that the only way to keep pace with the ever-increasing demand for services is to increase the number of participating agencies. Therefore, those RCFL customers and others in the designated service areas that are not yet participating agencies are needed to assist RCFLs with providing efficient services to our customers. To reach prospective participating agencies, the RCFL NPO is working closely with the NSC to educate its constituents about the many participation benefits, which have recently been expanded to include compensation for overtime pay and the use of RCFL-issued cellular telephones and vehicles while on duty, at no cost to the participating agency.

Challenge #2: **Increase Efficiency With Existing Resources**

The Issue: All RCFLs share two common challenges. First, they are experiencing a steady increase in demand for their services, and second, because electronic devices across the board have greater storage capacity, Examiners must sort through reams of data to fulfill requests—resulting in either backlogs or longer processing times. Therefore, RCFL personnel from Buffalo to San Diego must find viable ways to increase efficiency and enhance their level of service but must do so with the limited resources at their disposal.

The Forecast: The CAIR System and the Storage Area Network (SAN) tools are two ways that RCFL Program managers are boosting the program's efficiency. Once an RCFL Examiner places his/her digital forensics examination results in the CAIR System or on a SAN, the investigator, if he/she has access, can immediately review this informa-



tion online. The HARCFL is the only laboratory that offers the CAIR System to its state and local customers; the NWRCL and NJRCL are just beginning the process of bringing this service to their full clientele. In these situations, participating agencies from the state and local levels provided the funding to make the CAIR System available to everyone in the service area—and that may be the continuing model if the RCFL Program remains at its current funding levels.

The Solution: Although the CAIR System and the SAN tool represent significant and important technological breakthroughs, even with broad implementation, technology alone cannot increase the program's efficiency. However, technology combined with an increase in personnel could have a powerful and positive impact on the program. With additional Examiners on hand to process the service requests, and more efficient methods and tools in place to make this information available to investigators once it is processed, both backlogs and processing times will be reduced. As the only RCFL, so far, to make the CAIR System available to its state and local customers, the HARCFL reports that this tool has helped significantly reduce the number of hours the Examiners devote to each case, enabling the laboratory as a whole to complete a record number of cases each month in a more timely manner.





RCFL SAN DIEGO

WWW.SDR CFL.ORG

Year Established:
1999

Laboratory Director:
Randall L. Bolelli

Service Area: San Diego and Imperial Counties

Number of Agencies in Service Area:
80

Participating Agencies

- California Highway Patrol
- Chula Vista Police Department
- Department of Homeland Security—
 - Immigration and Customs Enforcement
 - Customs and Border Protection
- Federal Bureau of Investigation—San Diego Division
- Naval Criminal Investigative Service
- San Diego County District Attorney's Office
- San Diego Police Department
- San Diego Sheriff's Department
- U.S. Attorney's Office—Southern District of California
- U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration

Progress and Accomplishments

It was another extremely busy year for the SDR CFL, as it witnessed a 24-percent increase in forensic service requests—receiving nearly 1,000 requests for assistance from area law enforcement and examining 105.3 terabytes of digital evidence. To understand just how voluminous 100 terabytes is—it is the equivalent of 4.5 billion pages of printed text.

Although the SDR CFL staff continues to struggle with constrained laboratory space, SDR CFL Director Bolelli and his staff are keeping pace with the strong demand for their services by employing several approaches. They are meeting previously stated goals, including the addition of three new Examiners, welcoming back the Chula Vista Police Department as a participating agency, fully integrating the SAN into all laboratory functions, implementing an automated Evidence Control System, and integrating the CAIR System into the laboratory's array of services.

To better help first responders in the field, the SDR CFL created two printed resources on the proper collection of PDAs and audiovisual devices. Both documents were well received by law enforcement personnel.

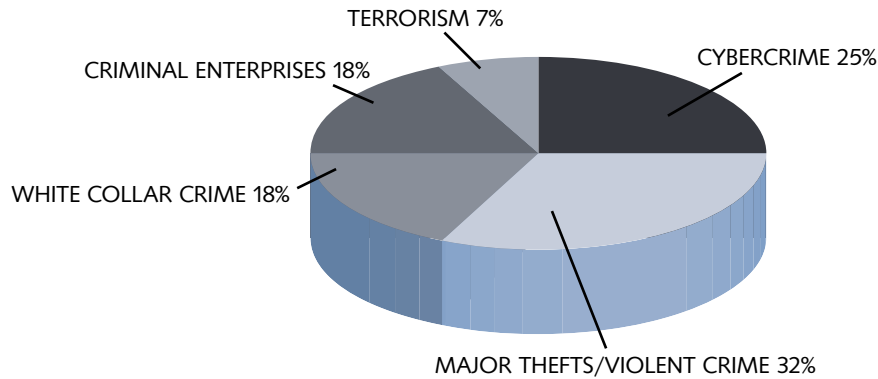
Casework

The SDR CFL's contributions to investigations involving ex-Congressman Randy "Duke" Cunningham and an international child pornography ring resulted in convictions. In addition to these high-profile investigations, the following tables display the SDR CFL's accomplishments during FY06—

Accomplishments

Number of service requests received:	986
Number of pieces of media examined:	5,138
Participation in on-site operations:	18
Number of examinations performed:	629

Customer Requests by Crime Classification



Training

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques:	360
Number of RCFL detailees that received FBI-sponsored training in FY06:	22

Personnel

Total number of detailees:	22
RCFL staff that returned to home agencies:	4
New detailees:	5

Moving Forward

Because of the steady increase in demand for service, Laboratory Director Bolelli, in consultation with the LEB and the RCFL NPO, has set the following goals for the SDRCL in FY07—

- **Increase Staffing Levels**—Add at least two Examiners in FY07, and in response to the rise in the number of requests for video examinations, add and certify at least one Examiner to perform this work
- **Enhance Efficiency**—Fully integrate and expand the CAIR System for use by the laboratory's customers
- **Seek ASCLD/LAB Accreditation**—Conduct ASCLD/LAB pre-inspection activities and apply for final accreditation in 2007.





RCFL NORTH TEXAS

WWW.NTRCFL.ORG

Year Established: 2000

Laboratory Director:

Michael S. Morris

Service Area:

North Texas, including the Dallas-Fort Worth region

Number of Agencies in Service Area:

573

Participating Agencies

- Dallas Police Department
- Federal Bureau of Investigation—Dallas Division
- Garland Police Department
- Grand Prairie Police Department
- Plano Police Department
- Richardson Police Department
- Texas Attorney General's Office
- U.S. Attorneys Office—Northern District of Texas

Progress and Accomplishments

Entering their sixth year in business, the NTRCFL staff members, under the guidance of Laboratory Director Mike Morris, continued building on their earlier successes, focusing much of their research and development efforts on completing a phased upgrade to the SAN technology tool.

Because the NTRCFL played such an integral role in the creation of the FBI's CAIR System, Special Agent Charles Mallery received one the FBI's Director's highest awards for his contributions to the development of this important initiative. As is the case with all RCFLs, the NTRCFL is seeking outside funding so it can bring the CAIR System to its state and local customers throughout North Texas.

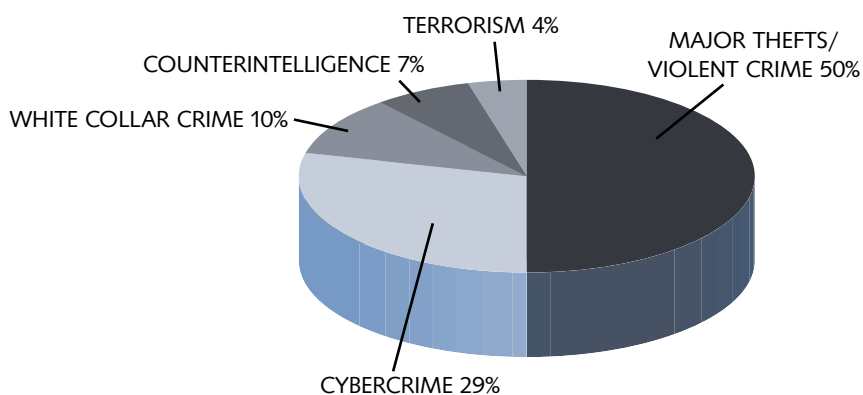
Casework

In addition to its ambitious research and development projects, the NTRCFL experienced another productive year, as demonstrated by its casework accomplishments during FY06 shown in following tables—

Accomplishments

Number of service requests received:	458
■ Local: 253	
■ State: 10	
■ Federal: 195	
Number of pieces of media examined:	11,608
Participation in on-site operations:	57
Number of examinations performed:	414

Customer Requests by Crime Classification



Training

Number of law enforcement officers training in various digital forensics tools and techniques:	932
Number of RCFL detailees that received FBI-sponsored training in FY06:	6

Personnel

Total number of detailees:	13
RCFL staff that returned to home agencies:	1
New detailees:	1

Moving Forward

In consultation with its LEB and the RCFL NPO, Laboratory Director Morris has set the following goals for the NTRCFL in FY07—

- **Increase the Number of Participating Agencies**—Add at least one participating agency to the NTRCFL roster
- **Guide the ASCLD/LAB Transition**—Begin transitioning from the ASCLD/LAB Legacy Program to the International Program
- **Increase Efficiency**—Make the virtualized processing of digital evidence more widespread and user friendly by applying new technologies that improve workflows and enable investigators to review digital evidence using multiple, yet isolated networks.





WWW.CHICAGORCFL.ORG

Year Established: 2003

Laboratory Director:

Rick Voss

Service Area: Northern Illinois

Number of Agencies in Service Area:

364

Participating Agencies

- Cook County Sheriff's Office
- Federal Bureau of Investigation—Chicago Division
- Kane County Sheriff's Office
- Illinois Attorney General's Office
- Illinois State Police
- Palatine Police Department
- University of Illinois at Chicago Police Department
- U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration
- U.S. Attorney's Office—Northern District of Illinois
- Will County Sheriff's Office
- Will County State's Attorney's Office

Progress and Accomplishments

The CGRCFL's support of several major public corruptions investigations culminated in guilty verdicts for ex-Governor George Ryan and one of Mayor Daley's former top executives. CGRCFL Examiners also supported a child pornography investigation in which the defendant was sentenced to 20 years in jail. These hard-won convictions were the result of many hours of work by the CGRCFL's Examiners and Laboratory Director Rick Voss. Director Voss has also strived to raise awareness about the RCFL Program; laboratory personnel conducted dozens of presentations before law enforcement agencies throughout their service area in Northern Illinois. One of the many initiatives they discussed was providing the CAIR System to their state and local customers. To enhance the laboratory's services, during FY06, CGRCFL personnel successfully designed, purchased, and implemented a sensitive but unclassified state and local forensic network to make the laboratory's digital forensics results more easily accessible for these customers.

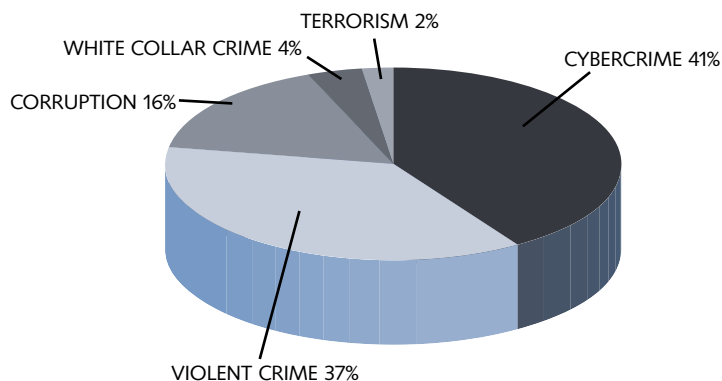
Casework

The following tables display the CGRCFL's accomplishments during FY06—

Accomplishments

Number of service requests received:	171
Number of pieces of media examined:	4,800
Participation in on-site operations:	110
Number of examinations performed:	309

Customer Requests by Crime Classification



Training

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques:	207
Number of RCFL detailees that received FBI-sponsored training in FY06:	17

Personnel

Total number of detailees:	20
RCFL staff that returned to home agencies:	4
New detailees:	2

Moving Forward

In consultation with its LEB and the RCFL NPO, Laboratory Director Voss set the following goals for the CGRCFL in FY07—

- **Prepare for and Seek ASCLD/LAB Accreditation.**
- **Enhance Training Opportunities**—Coordinate with the North East Metropolitan Regional Training Center to implement approximately two classes per month at the CGRCFL for law enforcement personnel within the service area, along with bi-annual classes for law enforcement personnel working in remote portions of the service area. To help former Examiners maintain their skills, launch an Associate Examiner Program.
- **Identify and Train** at least one Examiner in PDA/cellular telephone and Apple/Macintosh certification, and ensure that all Examiners maintain their CART certification.
- **Provide Educational Tools to Area Law Enforcement**—Complete work on a digital evidence training brochure for wide distribution throughout the CGRCFL's service area.
- **Increase the Number of Participating Agencies**—Add at least one participating agency, while maintaining the number of current Examiners and/or replacing with new detailees as their assignments end.
- **Strengthen LEB Participation**—Use face-to-face meetings and virtual communications tools such as e-mail voting, interviews, and conference calls.
- **Begin Development of a Mobile Laboratory**—Explore funding and design options for a mobile laboratory.





RCFL

HEART OF AMERICA

WWW.HARCFL.ORG

Year Established: 2003

Laboratory Director:

Kevin Steck

Service Area: Kansas and the Western Two-Thirds of Missouri

Number of Agencies in Service Area:
867

Participating Agencies

- Federal Bureau of Investigation—Kansas City Division
- Jackson County, Missouri Sheriff's Office
- Johnson County, Kansas Sheriff's Office
- Kansas Bureau of Investigation
- Kansas City, Kansas, Police Department
- Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department
- Lawrence, Kansas, Police Department
- Lenexa, Kansas, Police Department
- Missouri State Highway Patrol
- North Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department
- Overland Park, Kansas, Police Department

Progress and Accomplishments

Although the HARCFL's greatest accomplishment during FY06 was the implementation of the CAIR System for its state and local law enforcement customers, there were other significant achievements that also bear mentioning, starting with the introduction in FY06 of a one-day workshop entitled "A First Responder's Guide to Computer Recovery." This course was specifically designed for investigators and detectives with non-technical backgrounds, providing them a working knowledge of computers, the Internet, emerging technology, and computer-related information needed to support ongoing investigations. During the workshop, students are taught how to prepare and execute related search warrants and how to testify in court; and practical exercises give attendees hands-on experience for subsequent use in the field.

In the FY05 Annual Report, the HARCFL made launching a professional virtual network one of its primary goals. The laboratory met this goal with the creation of the Midwest Digital Evidence Working Group. The group is composed of approximately 40 members from the local law enforcement community and uses video conferencing and a "listserv" as its primary means of communication. During the year, members had the opportunity to participate in "moot court" training in conjunction with the Kansas City District Attorney's Association annual conference, and efforts to expand the group's membership will continue throughout FY07.

Always seeking ways to do business better, the HARCFL developed and implemented a unique Case Management System, which increases an Examiner's efficiency through a variety of administrative functions, such as case tracking, and a function allowing case-related information to be archived electronically. The Case Management System is now being used by several other RCFLs in the national network.

Casework

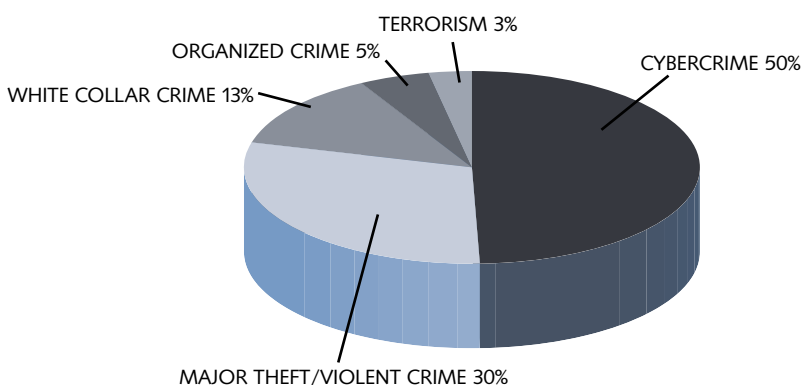
The following tables display the HARCFL's accomplishments during FY06—

Accomplishments

Number of service requests received:	406
Number of pieces of media examined:	9,303
Participation in on-site operations:	12
Number of examinations performed:	374

continued on page 41

Customer Requests by Crime Classification



Participating Agencies (cont.)

- Platte County, Missouri, Sheriff's Office
- Shawnee County, Kansas, Sheriff's Office
- U.S. Attorney's Office—
 - Western District of Missouri
 - District of Kansas
- U.S. Department of Agriculture—Office of the Inspector General

Training

The HARCFL assisted five of its detailees in receiving their FBI CART certification—within one year of being assigned to the laboratory. This was a major undertaking because training a new Examiner is time intensive, with each new Examiner is assigned a senior Examiner as a mentor. The senior Examiner, in addition to mentoring duties, must also maintain his/her caseload. It is a delicate balancing of needs and priorities, but Laboratory Director Steck attributes this success to the trainees' commitment and the senior Examiners' dedication to helping them reach their goals.

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques:	297
Number of RCFL detailees that received FBI-sponsored training in FY06:	20

Personnel

Total number of detailees:	24
RCFL staff that returned to home agencies:	1
New detailees:	1
Number of Associate Examiners:	1

Moving Forward

In consultation with the LEB and the RCFL NPO, Laboratory Director Steck has set the following goals for the HARCFL in FY07—

- **Seek ASCLD/LAB Accreditation**—Obtain ASCLD/LAB certification—the pre-inspection phase was completed in FY06.
- **Reconfigure Laboratory Space**—Since opening in 2003, the HARCFL has expanded the number of staff members and its service offerings. In response, the laboratory is modifying its current office space to accommodate five additional Examiners and those individuals participating in the Associate Examiner Program, and expanding its classroom to seat approximately 24 students. In addition, the State of Missouri will provide grants to local law enforcement agencies so they can dedicate investigators and forensic Examiners in support of state task forces to address cases involving the online sexual exploitation of children. Efforts are underway to use this grant funding to increase the number of Examiners assigned to the laboratory as part of the state initiative.
- **Enhance Services**—As a recognized leader in digital forensics throughout Kansas and Missouri, the HARCFL will continue enhancing its products and services. By providing access to the CAIR System to all investigators and prosecutors, and by offering its series of core training courses to law enforcement officers, the HARCFL is demystifying the science of digital forensics while promoting a collaborative approach among investigators, forensics Examiners, and prosecutors in its service area.



RCFL NEW JERSEY

WWW.NJRCFL.ORG

Year Established: 2004

Laboratory Director:

Larry Depew

Service Area: New Jersey

Number of Agencies in Service Area:

550

Participating Agencies

- Essex County Prosecutor's Office
- Federal Bureau of Investigation—Newark Division
- Franklin Township Police Department
- Jersey City Police Department
- New Jersey Office of the Attorney General
- New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice
- New Jersey State Police
- South Brunswick Township Police Department

Progress and Accomplishments

At the end of FY06, the NJRCFL completed its second year of operations and settled into its state-of-the-art laboratory space shared with the state's traditional forensics science laboratory. The facility and partnership, which includes an FBI-sponsored Mitochondrial DNA laboratory, was lauded by Thomas A. Brettell, Ph.D., New Jersey's Director of the Office of Forensic Sciences, who said, "What's unique about this facility is that all this is under one roof.... I'm not aware of another lab in the country that offers all these services in one place."

The NJRCFL staff also made significant inroads toward achieving ASCLD/LAB accreditation and is expected to receive this standing in early FY07.

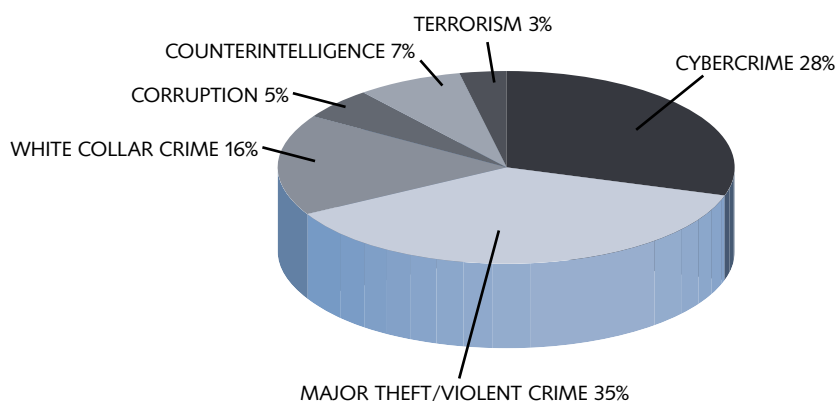
Casework

The following tables display the NJRCFL's accomplishments during FY06—

Accomplishments

Number of service requests received:	403
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Federal: 122 ▪ State: 127 ▪ Local: 154 	
Number of pieces of media examined:	6,698
Participation in on-site operations:	85
Number of examinations performed:	381

Customer Requests by Crime Classification



Training

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques:	988
Number of RCFL detailees that received FBI-sponsored training in FY06:	25

Personnel

The NJRCFL has the most Examiners in the RCFL Program, with two CART Examiners and four more detailees from area law enforcements expected to join the staff in FY07.

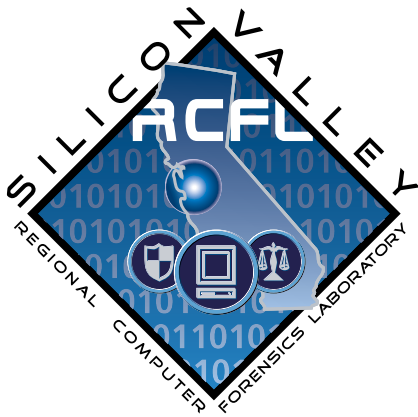
Total number of detailees:	23
RCFL staff that returned to home agencies:	0
Number of Associate Examiners:	2

Moving Forward

In consultation with the LEB and the RCFL NPO, Laboratory Director Depew has set the following goals for the NJRCFL in FY07—

- **Earn ASCLD/LAB Accreditation**—By earning this prestigious accreditation, the NJRCFL will enhance the laboratory's high-quality service offerings and products.
- **Implement the FBI SAN**—This tool helps RCFLs increase efficiency.
- **Fund and Requisition** of a state/local SAN.
- **Implement a Laboratory Information Management System** in collaboration with the Office of Forensic Science for all 550 law enforcement agencies operating in New Jersey.
- **Reduce Backlog**—Continue to reduce the backlog of examination requests.





RCFL SILICON VALLEY

WWW.SVRCFL.ORG

Year Established: 2004

Laboratory Director:

Chris Beeson

Service Area: Alameda, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara Counties

Number of Agencies in Service Area:
91

Participating Agencies

- Alameda County Sheriff's Office
- Federal Bureau of Investigation—San Francisco Division
- Palo Alto Police Department
- San Jose Police Department
- San Mateo County Sheriff's Office
- Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office

Progress and Accomplishments

As an accomplished presence in the nation's most prestigious high-tech community, the SVRCFL continued expanding its service offerings while supporting several high-profile investigations such as BALCO, and convicted child molester Dean Schwartzmiller, who after assaulting minors over a 35-year period, faces life in prison.

To strengthen its operations, Laboratory Director Chris Beeson and his staff implemented a new Imaging Team concept, trained two Examiners on Macintosh computer systems, trained two Examiners for UNIX computers systems, participated in the national Quality Assurance System, implemented the CAIR System for FBI employees, and put into effect an online customer satisfaction survey on its Web site.

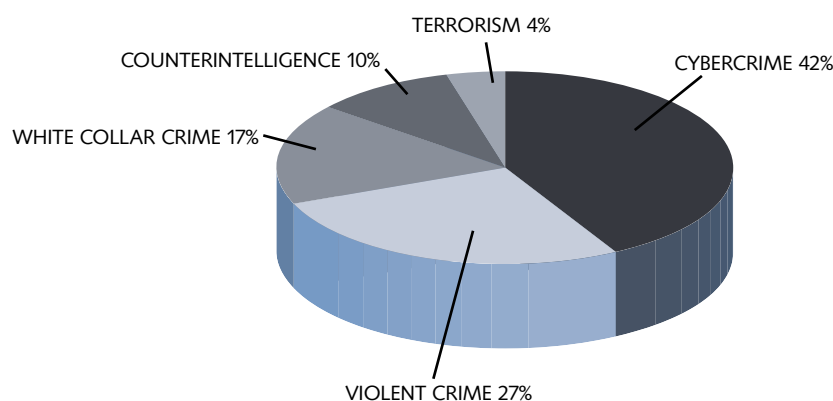
In addition to these achievements, the SVRCFL pursued ASCLD/LAB accreditation and expects to earn this standing in FY07. The staff also added more law enforcement training to its course list, including a digital evidence seizure and handling class designed for first responders.

Casework

The following tables display the SVRCFL's accomplishments during FY06—

Accomplishments	
Number of service requests received:	304
Number of pieces of media examined:	3,232
Participation in on-site operations:	76
Number of examinations performed:	228

Customer Requests by Crime Classification



Training

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques:	341
Number of RCFL detailees that received FBI-sponsored training in FY06:	5

Personnel

Total number of detailees:	13
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Moving Forward

In consultation with the LEB and the RCFL NPO, Laboratory Director Beeson set the following goals for the SVRCFL in FY07—

- **Increase the Number of Participating Agencies**—To assist with its growing caseload, add at least two participating agencies to keep pace with demand.
- **Enhance Services**—Enable state and local customers to use the CAIR System and seek alternative funding resources for this purpose. Other related goals include—
 - Reduce the backlog/turn-around time
 - Use the customer feedback survey feedback to enhance and customize the laboratory's services.
- **Strengthen Training Opportunities**—Broaden training opportunities for participating agencies, including conducting post certification classes and training for students at local police academies. Also, provide for updating the skills and training for SVRCFL staff at a minimum of 80 hours per year.
- **Increase Efficiency**—Migrate the SVRCFL's current system to a full laboratory information management system.
- **Participate in Policy Formulation**—Implement appropriate ASCLD/LAB and other professional organization recommendations regarding policies, procedures, training, equipment, and reporting.





WWW.GHRCFL.ORG

Year Established: 2005

Laboratory Director:

Dennis Williams

Service Area: Southern Texas, including Harris County, Beaumont, Galveston, Huntsville, College Station, and Corpus Christi

Number of Agencies in Service Area:
320

Participating Agencies

- Federal Bureau of Investigation—Houston Division
- Harris County Precinct 4 Constable's Office
- Harris County Precinct 5 Constable's Office
- Harris County Sheriff's Office
- Houston Police Department
- Pasadena Police Department
- Tomball Police Department

RCFL

GREATER HOUSTON

Progress and Accomplishments

For the GHRCFL staff, providing digital forensics expertise for the largest corporate fraud investigation in American history, also known as Enron, was a major challenge. By the end of FY06, the staff processed a mind-boggling 31 terabytes of data. However, supporting Enron was not their only responsibility. The GHRCFL serves law enforcement in the fourth largest city in America; therefore, turning all its attention to a single investigation was never an option. Instead, the staff focused its efforts on enhancing the laboratory's service offerings, and as a result, five Examiners received certificates from FBI Director Mueller for their excellent work and close cooperation with officers from other law enforcement agencies. To better meet the needs of its customers, the GHRCFL certified its Examiners to conduct examinations on cellular telephones and PDAs. Overall, by the end of FY06, the GHRCFL assisted 32 different law enforcement agencies, processed 280 service requests, and assisted in 40 search warrants.

Because all RCFLs are required to seek ASCLD/LAB accreditation, the GHRCFL's Quality Manager, Assistant Director, and Laboratory Director attended ASCLD/LAB training and became certified ASCLD/LAB Inspectors. By doing so, the GHRCFL staff is strongly positioned to earn ASCLD/LAB accreditation for the laboratory when it relocates to its permanent space in FY07.

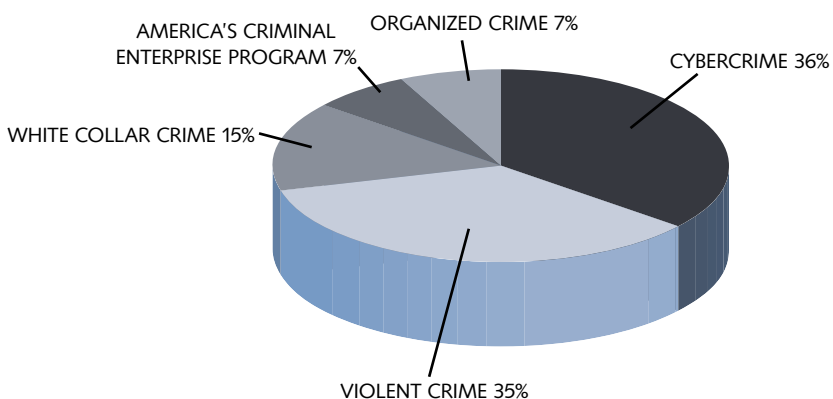
Casework

The following tables display the GHRCFL's accomplishments during FY06—

Accomplishments

Number of service requests received:	280
32 agencies submitted requests: 4 federal, 2 state, 26 local	
Number of pieces of media examined:	5,081
Participation in on-site operations:	128
Number of examinations performed:	245

Customer Requests by Crime Classification



Training

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques:	178
Number of RCFL detailees that received FBI-sponsored training in FY06:	15

Personnel

Total number of detailees:	12
RCFL staff that returned to home agencies:	1
New detailees:	0

Moving Forward

In consultation with the LEB and the RCFL NPO, Laboratory Director Williams has set the following goals for the GHRCFL in FY07—

- **Complete Laboratory Construction and Begin Operations in the Permanent Space**
- **Apply for ASCLD/LAB Accreditation**
- **Increase the Number of Participating Agencies**—Add two participating agencies by the close of FY07
- **Strengthen Quality of Services**—Enhance existing quality assurance procedures currently in place and implement a SAN and the CAIR System.





RCFL

INTERMOUNTAIN WEST

WWW.IWRCFL.ORG

Year Established: 2005

Laboratory Director:
Roger Call

Service Area: Utah, Idaho, and
Montana

Number of Agencies in Service Area:
400

Participating Agencies

- Ada County Sheriff's Office
- Billings Police Department
- Federal Bureau of Investigation—
Salt Lake Division
- Salt Lake City Police Department
- Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office
- Sandy City Police Department
- U.S. Attorney's Office—District of
Utah
- Utah Attorney General's Office
- Utah Department of Public Safety
- West Valley City Police
Department

Progress and Accomplishments

IWRCFL staff members celebrated their first full year of operations on July 6, 2006; during that time, they made their mark—supplying digital forensics expertise for several high-profile investigations, including that of Warren Steed Jeffs who, before his capture, was on the FBI's 10 Most Wanted list, and Joseph Duncan, who murdered an entire family and kidnapped and sexually assaulted the children. Duncan has been convicted on all state charges, and faces several federal charges for kidnapping and sexual assault. Jeffs is awaiting trial for his alleged crimes.

In addition to managing its heavy caseload, the IWRCFL launched the program's first Satellite Network to better reach its customers in remote areas of its vast 314,000-square-mile service area. The satellite locations have the same capabilities and service offerings, including training, as the IWRCFL, but on a smaller scale, and follow the same rules, standards, and methodologies established by the RCFL NPO. The Boise and Billings facilities are staffed by CART-certified Examiners, can provide technical assistance such as advice on preparing a search warrant or affidavit pertaining to the seizure or potential seizure of digital evidence, and on occasion, can deploy to off-site locations to execute a search warrant. The Montana laboratory now has a member of the Billings Police Department on staff because that organization joined the IWRCFL as a participating agency in FY06.

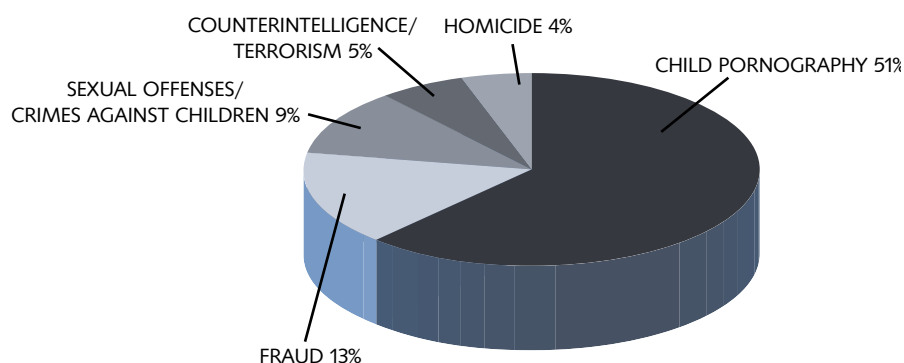
Casework

The following tables display the IWRCFL's accomplishments during FY06—

Accomplishments

Number of service requests received:	333
66 agencies submitted requests: 10 federal, 22 state, 44 local	
Number of pieces of media examined:	6,430
Participation in on-site operations:	90
Number of examinations performed:	348

Customer Requests by Crime Classification



Training

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques:	532
Number of RCFL detailees that received FBI-sponsored training in FY06:	10

Personnel

Total number of detailees:	14
RCFL staff that returned to home agencies:	2
New detailees:	2

Moving Forward

In consultation with the LEB and the RCFL NPO, Laboratory Director Call has set the following goals for the IWRCFL in FY07—

- **Increase Staff Levels**—To meet the increasing demand for digital forensics services, continue seeking additional participating agencies
- **Reduce Turnaround Time**—Thanks to new tools and technology, complete 20 percent more cases than the previous year
- **Expand Training**—Continue to expand training opportunities in the IWRCFL tri-state service area
- **Implement Fully Functional Network Infrastructure Systems**—In addition to the current forensics and review networks, acquire and develop a review network for use by state and local law enforcement agencies
- **Increase Services Offerings**—Because of the increased demand for examinations of video equipment, ensure that at least one Examiner earns certification in that discipline
- **Seek and Receive Lab Accreditation**—Seek ASCLD/LAB accreditation for the IWRCFL Satellite Network during FY07.





RCFL NORTHWEST

WWW.NWRCFL.ORG

Year Established: 2005

Laboratory Director:

R. Douglas Fabel

Service Area: Oregon and Southwest Washington

Number of Agencies in Service Area:
109

Participating Agencies

- Beaverton Police Department
- Clark County Sheriff's Office
- Federal Bureau of Investigation—Portland Division
- Gresham Police Department
- Hillsboro Police Department
- Multnomah County Sheriff's Office
- Oregon State Police
- Portland Police Bureau
- Washington County Sheriff's Office

Progress and Accomplishments

The NWRCFL noted its first full year in operation on September 9, 2006. The laboratory enjoyed a number of successes during the year, including the addition of the Clark County Sheriff's Office as a participating agency, and supported many different types of cases. Cases included the homicide of AUSA Thomas Crane Wales, and the investigation into the Earth Liberation Front and the Animal Liberation Front—both of these groups are alleged to have committed several serious crimes, including arson and murder throughout the Pacific Northwest.

The NWRCFL, along with many of its counterparts in the program, faces the challenge of not having enough staff on hand to manage the high demand for its digital forensics services. For instance, two Portland Police Bureau Examiners retired and have not been replaced; one Examiner returned to his home agency and is now enrolled in the Associate Examiner Program; and one Examiner will retire during the second quarter of FY07. Therefore, Laboratory Director Fabel and his LEB must not only replace these experienced Examiners, but train and mentor the new Examiners so they can reach the point of independently conducting examinations. This process, from start to finish, typically takes 18 to 24 months; however, the demand for service among the law enforcement community in the NWRCFL's service area is expected to rise, not fall. Even with the newest tools and technology at its disposal, the laboratory needs dedicated digital forensics professionals from law enforcement agencies throughout Oregon and southwest Washington to join them as colleagues.

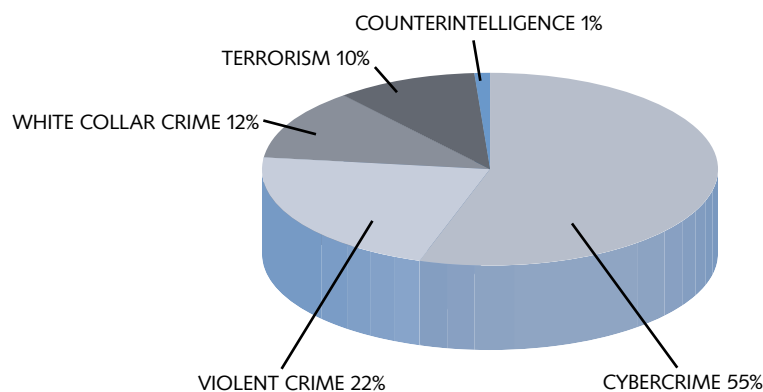
Casework

The following tables display the NWRCFL's accomplishments during FY06—

Accomplishments

Number of service requests received:	253
29 agencies requested assistance:	
2 federal agencies, 4 state, 23 local	
Number of pieces of media examined:	2,299
Participation in on-site operations:	90
Number of examinations performed:	255

Customer Requests by Crime Classification



Training

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques:	207
Number of RCFL detailees that received FBI-sponsored training in FY06:	12

Personnel

Total number of detailees:	12
RCFL staff that returned to home agencies:	3
Associate Examiners:	1
New detailees:	1 pending

Moving Forward

In consultation with the LEB and the RCFL NPO, Laboratory Director Fabel has set the following goals for the NWRCL in FY07—

- **Training**—Ensure adequate and appropriate training is provided to all Examiners, including specialty training (e.g. MAC OS, Linux OS, PDA/cellular telephone) in order to enhance the forensic capability of the laboratory; maintain CART certification; ensure Examiners-in-training complete classroom and court testimony requirements
- **Accreditation**—Continue seeking ASCLD/LAB accreditation, including conducting a pre-inspection using personnel from both the FBI and the RCFL Program, submitting an accreditation application, and scheduling an inspection audit.





RCFL ROCKY MOUNTAIN

WWW.RMRCFL.ORG

Year Established: 2006

Laboratory Director:
Christopher L. Buechner

Service Area: Colorado and Wyoming

Number of Agencies in Service Area:
147

Participating Agencies

- 18th Judicial District (CO), District Attorney's Office
- Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office
- Aurora Police Department
- Douglas County Sheriff's Office
- Denver Police Department
- Federal Bureau of Investigation—Denver Division

Progress and Accomplishments

On January 18, 2006, the RMRCFL became the 10th laboratory to enter the national RCFL network, and in doing so, increased the program's presence in the western part of the country to serve law enforcement agencies in Colorado and Wyoming. Speaking at a press conference announcing the RMRCFL's opening, Executive Assistant Director Kerry E. Haynes said, "We're here today because six agencies not only shared a vision of what could be, but committed valuable resources to build and equip this flagship facility. This RCFL embodies the concepts of partnership and technology—two of the most effective weapons we have to thwart and combat acts of terrorism—while also protecting our citizens from crimes that impact their lives everyday."

The RMRCFL merged with the Colorado Regional Computer Forensics Lab and in the process, created a strong, united partnership among law enforcement that is aiding in the mission to provide top-notch digital forensics services to area law enforcement. In addition to managing the facility, Laboratory Director Chris Buechner focused his efforts on developing a quality program to assure future ASCLD/LAB accreditation, and instituted a training program for both incoming and current Examiners on staff.

Casework

The following tables display the RMRCFL's accomplishments during FY06—

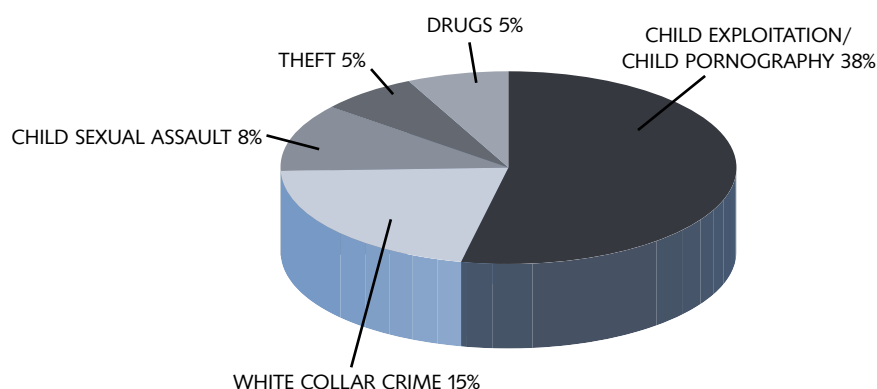
Accomplishments

Number of service requests received:	212
59 agencies requested assistance:	
4 federal, 9 state, 46 local	
Number of pieces of media examined:	1,177
Participation in on-site operations:	21
Number of examinations performed:	140



Shown here are EAD Kerry E. Haynes and RMRCFL Director Chris Buechner taking questions from the media during their opening day press conference.

Customer Requests by Crime Classification



Training

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques:	740
Number of RCFL detailees that received FBI-sponsored training in FY06:	11

Personnel

Total number of detailees:	11
RCFL staff that returned to home agencies:	1 part-time Examiner
New detailees:	2

Moving Forward

In consultation with the LEB and the RCFL NPO, Laboratory Director Buechner has set the following goals for the RMRCL in FY07—

- **Increase the Number of Participating Agencies**—To meet the increasing demand for digital forensics services in the region, continue to seek additional examiners from new agencies or increase the numbers of detailed examiners from existing participating agencies
- **Enhance Laboratory Services**—Install a SAN and the CAIR System to provide the RMRCL the ability to significantly increase the efficiency and turnaround time for cases
- **Diversify Service Offerings**—Attempt to train and certify an examiner in the discipline of audio and video forensics
- **Seek ASCLD/LAB Accreditation**—Conduct a self-inspection and an on-site assessment using personnel from both the FBI and the RCFL Program, submit an accreditation application, and schedule an inspection audit—all to be completed in FY07.





RCFL PHILADELPHIA

WWW.PHRCFL.ORG

Year Established: 2006

Laboratory Director:

J.P. McDonald

Service Area: Philadelphia and Eastern Pennsylvania

Number of Agencies in Service Area:
500

Participating Agencies

- Delaware County, PA, District Attorney's Office
- Federal Bureau of Investigation—Philadelphia Division
- Lower Merion Police Department
- Montgomery County (PA) District Attorney's Office
- Philadelphia Police Department

Progress and Accomplishments

After two years of planning and preparation, the PHRCFL held its first Executive Board meeting in March 2006. At the meeting, all the participating agencies entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the FBI. Following this milestone, the laboratory officially opened on July 6, 2006—making it the 11th facility to join the national RCFL network. Although the PHRCFL was only open for part of FY06, it was extremely productive. Accomplishments include—

- **Supported Several Complex Investigations**—Several PHRCFL Examiners testified during a child pornography trial. The defendant was convicted and subsequently sentenced to three years and 10 months in jail for distributing, receiving, and possessing child pornography.
- **Advanced the Program's R&D Efforts**—The PHRCFL staff successfully installed the SAN, which allows for expanded data storage capacity. Starting in FY07, the staff will implement the CAIR System. PHRCFL personnel also initiated research into detailed examinations of Global Positioning System devices, which are increasingly being submitted to RCFLs for examination.

Casework

The following tables display the PHRCFL's accomplishments during FY06—

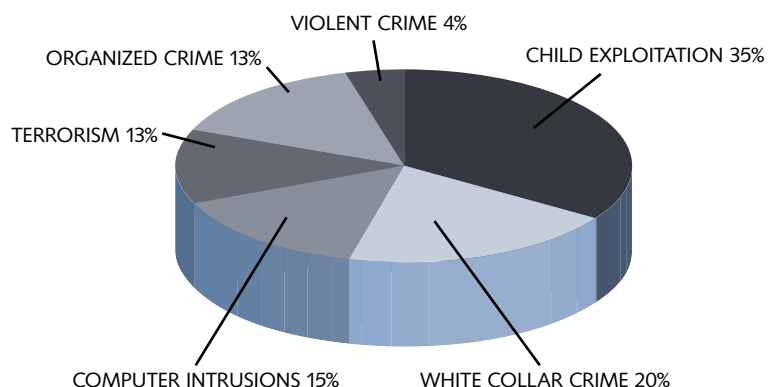
Accomplishments

Number of service requests received:	111
Number of pieces of media examined:	1,774
Participation in on-site operations:	89
Number of examinations performed:	125



PHRCFL Laboratory Director JP McDonald gives a demonstration in his facility's training room.

Customer Requests by Crime Classification



Training

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques:	182
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Number of RCFL detailees that received FBI-sponsored training in FY06:	11
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Personnel

Total number of detailees:	11
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Moving Forward

In consultation with the LEB and the RCFL NPO, Laboratory Director McDonald has set the following goals for the PHRCFL in FY07—

- **Enhance LEB Participation**—With the PHRCFL now officially open, devote more LEB time to management and operational issues, including setting of PHRCFL priorities, grant applications, R&D projects, and recruitment of additional participating agencies
- **Increase the Number of Participating Agencies and Examiners**—To help manage the growing caseload, as well as the complexity of digital examinations, continue seeking new partners to join the RCFL Program, with the goal of adding at least two new participating agencies and Examiners in FY07
- **Fully Implement the CAIR System**—Complete implementation to streamline the method in which investigators review evidence
- **Enhance Training Offerings**—Expand offerings to include a variety of high- and low-technology topics
- **Apply for ASCLD/LAB Accreditation**
- **Expand the PHRCFL's Services**—Fulfill the goal of certifying at least one Examiner in video and audio digital forensics.





WWW.WNYRCFL.ORG

Year Established: 2006

Laboratory Director:

Robert Kosakowski

Service Area: 17 Counties in Western New York

Number of Agencies in Service Area: 137

Participating Agencies

- Erie County Sheriff's Office
- Federal Bureau of Investigation—Buffalo Division
- Department of Homeland Security—
 - Immigration and Customs Enforcement
 - United States Secret Service
- New York State Attorney General's Office
- Niagara Falls Police Department

RCFL

WESTERN NEW YORK

Progress and Accomplishments

The WNYRCFL's greatest achievement in FY06 was its grand opening on September 7, 2006—becoming the 12th laboratory to enter the program. In a written statement, Kerry E. Haynes, Executive Assistant Director of the FBI's Science and Technology Branch said, "The WNYRCFL is capable of supporting nearly every type of criminal investigation imaginable—from crimes against children to terrorism. What's more, because of the laboratory's prime location and proximity to Canada, the Buffalo law enforcement community, along with the Border Patrol, now has another powerful resource at its disposal."

Casework

Although the laboratory was only open for three weeks in FY06, the following tables display the WNYRCFL's notable accomplishments during that period—

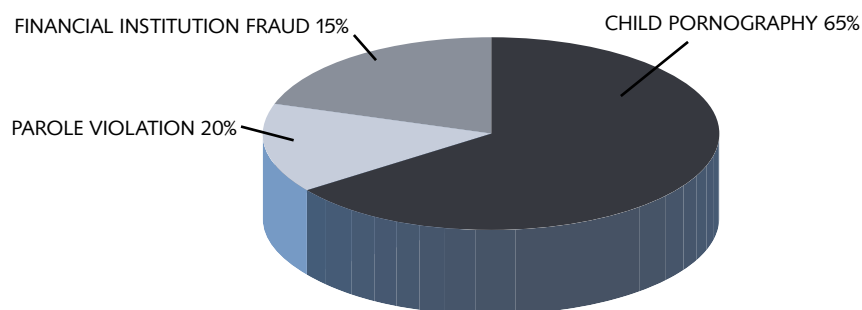
Accomplishments

Number of service requests received:	14
Number of pieces of media examined:	384
Participation in on-site operations:	3
Number of examinations performed:	54



WNYRCFL Laboratory Director Robert Kosakowski takes questions from reporters during the press conference announcing the opening of the lab.

Customer Requests by Crime Classification*:



* The WNYRCFL was officially open for approximately three weeks during FY06; therefore, because of the limited amount of work completed during that period, the crime types were categorized under three instead of five crime classifications.

Training

Number of law enforcement officers trained in various digital forensics tools and techniques:	53
Number of RCFL detailees that received FBI-sponsored training in FY06:	7

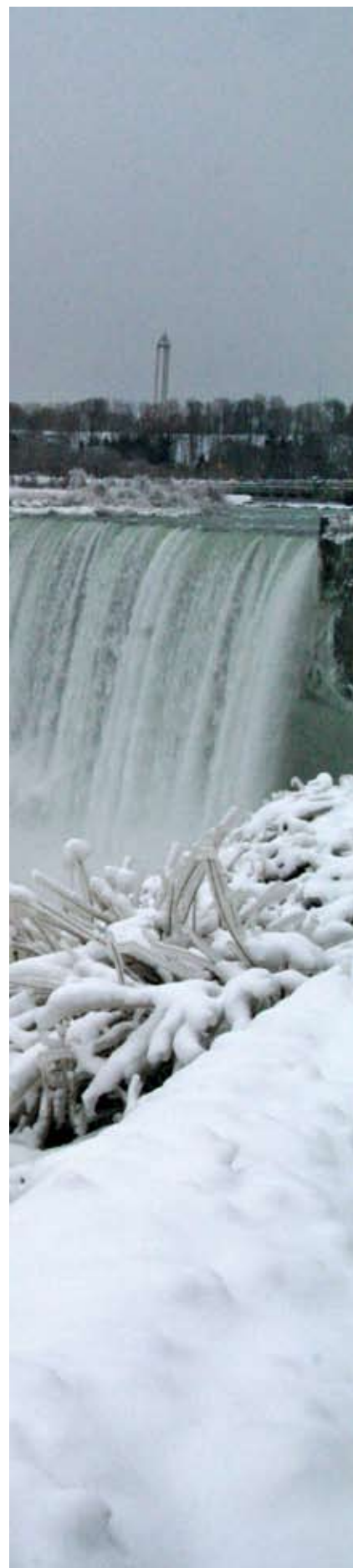
Personnel

Total number of detailees:	8
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Moving Forward

In consultation with the LEB and the RCFL NPO, Laboratory Director Kosakowski has set the following goals for the WNYRCFL in FY07—

- **Increase the Number of Participating Agencies and Examiners**—To help manage the ever-increasing caseload as well as the complexity of digital examinations, continue seeking new partners to join the RCFL Program, with the goal of adding at least two new participating agencies and Examiners in FY07
- **Acquire and Install a SAN**—To help reduce the laboratory's backlog, acquire and install a 16-terabyte SAN during the first quarter of 2007
- **Enhance Training**—Add offerings including a variety of high- and low-technology topics
- **Apply for ASCLD/LAB Accreditation**
- **Expand the WNYRCFL's Services**—Certify at least one Examiner in video and audio digital forensics.





WWW.MVRCFL.ORG

Year Established: 2006

Laboratory Director:

Dave Barnes

Service Area: Southern Ohio

Number of Agencies in the Service

Area: 183

Participating Agencies

- Miami Valley Regional Crime Laboratory
- Dayton Police Department
- Federal Bureau of Investigation—Cincinnati Division, Dayton Resident Agency

RCFL

MIAMI VALLEY

Progress and Accomplishments

The aptly named Miami Valley RCFL serves the law enforcement community in and around the greater Dayton region. Although the MVRCFL is currently located in space provided by the FBI's Dayton Resident Agency, the laboratory is relocating to its own specially designed digital forensics laboratory during the third quarter of FY07—a move the staff is eager to make given the growing caseload. With all MVRCFL Examiners having earned their CART certification, Laboratory Director Dave Barnes and his staff are assisting the Miami Valley law enforcement community in meeting its digital forensics needs and building on their earlier successes.

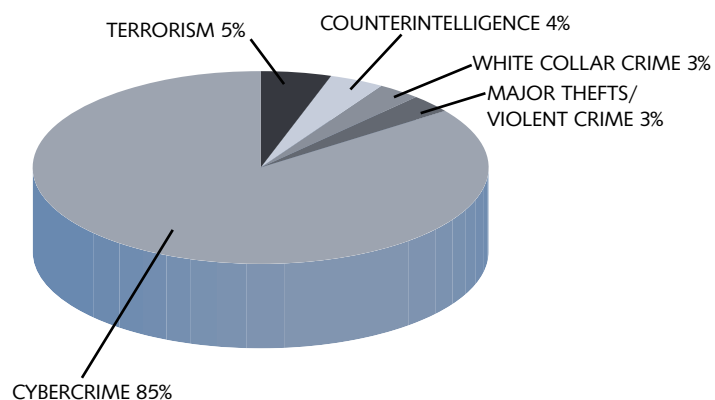
Casework

The following tables display the MVRCFL's accomplishments during FY06—

Accomplishments

Number of service requests received:	279
Number of pieces of media examined:	1,753
Participation in on-site operations:	10
Number of examinations performed:	131

Customer Requests by Crime Classification



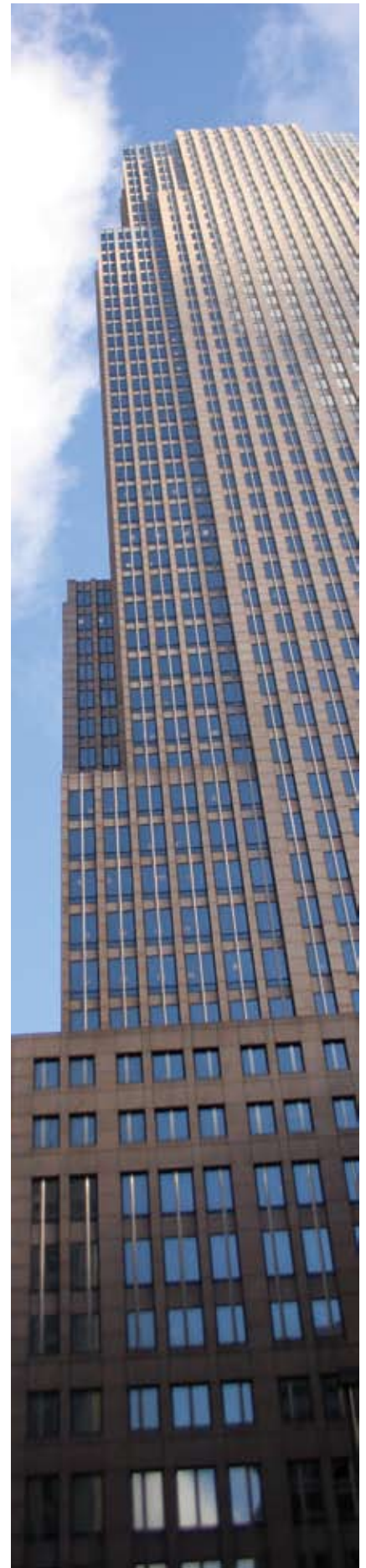
Personnel

Total number of detailees:	4
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Moving Forward

In consultation with the LEB and the RCFL NPO, Laboratory Director Barnes has set the following goals for the MVRCL in FY07—

- **Reduce the Laboratory's Backlog**—Continue to reduce the laboratory's backlog while maintaining the highest quality digital forensics examinations
- **Complete Laboratory Construction and Move into the New Space by the Close of FY07**
- **Increase the Number of Participating Agencies**—To assist with the increasing caseload, add at least one new participating agency in FY07
- **Apply for ASCLD/LAB Accreditation.**



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many thanks go to FBI Director Robert S. Mueller, III; Executive Assistant Director Kerry E. Haynes, Science and Technology Branch; and the Operational Technology Division's Assistant Director Marcus C. Thomas for their continuing support of the RCFL Program. We are also grateful to our colleagues whose contributions make this program so great: RCFL Laboratory Directors and dedicated staff; OTD Digital Evidence Section, including CART, Forensic Support Unit, FAVIAU, CEAU; and the governance board members serving on the LEBs and the NSC.

The RCFL NPO sends our sincerest thanks to the participating agencies from the local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies that comprise this program. Our strength is in you, and in you we thrive. In alphabetical order, our partners are—

- 18th Judicial District, District Attorneys Office
- Ada County Sheriff's Office
- Alameda County Sheriff's Office
- Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office
- Aurora (CO) Police Department
- Beaverton Police Department
- Billings Police Department
- California Highway Patrol
- Chula Vista Police Department
- Clark County Sheriff's Office
- Cook County Sheriff's Office
- Dallas Police Department
- Dayton Police Department
- Delaware County District Attorney's Office
- Denver Police Department
- Douglas County Sheriff's Office
- Erie County Sheriff's Office
- Essex County Prosecutor's Office
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
 - Buffalo Division
 - Chicago Division
 - Cincinnati Division
 - Dallas Division

"You have seen the darkest side of humanity. But this is some of the most important work we do."

—Robert S. Mueller III, FBI Director,
speaking before the 2006 Project Safe
Childhood Conference

- Dayton Resident Agency
- Denver Division
- Houston Division
- Kansas City Division
- Louisville Division
- Newark Division
- Philadelphia Division
- Portland Division
- Salt Lake City Division
- San Diego Division
- San Francisco Division
- Franklin Township Police Department
- Garland Police Department
- Grand Prairie Police Department
- Gresham Police Department
- Harris County Precinct 4 Constable
- Harris County Precinct 5 Constable's Office
- Harris County Sheriff's Office
- Hillsboro Police Department
- Houston Police Department
- Illinois Attorney General's Office
- Illinois State Police
- Jackson County, Missouri Sheriff's Office
- Jersey City Police Department
- Johnson County, Kansas Sheriff's Office
- Kane County Sheriff's Office
- Kansas Bureau of Investigation
- Kansas City, Kansas, Police Department

- Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department
- Kentucky Bureau of Investigation
- Kentucky State Police
- Lawrence, Kansas, Police Department
- Lenexa, Kansas Police Department
- Lexington Division of Police
- Louisville Metro Police Department
- Lower Merion Police Department
- Miami Valley Regional Crime Laboratory
- Missouri State Highway Patrol
- Montgomery County (PA) District Attorney's Office
- Multnomah County Sheriff's Office
- Naval Criminal Investigative Service
- New Jersey Office of the Attorney General
- New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice
- New Jersey State Police
- New York State Attorney General's Office
- Niagara Falls Police Department
- North Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department
- Oregon State Police
- Overland Park, Kansas Police Department
- Palatine Police Department
- Palo Alto Police Department
- Pasadena Police Department
- Philadelphia Police Department
- Plano Police Department
- Platte County, Missouri Sheriff's Office
- Portland Police Bureau
- Richardson Police Department
- Salt Lake City Police Department
- Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office
- San Diego County District Attorney's Office
- San Diego Police Department
- San Diego Sheriff's Department
- San Jose Police Department
- San Mateo County Sheriff's Office
- Sandy City Police Department
- Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office
- Shawnee County, Kansas, Sheriff's Office
- South Brunswick Township Police Department
- Texas Attorney General's Office
- Tomball Police Department
- U.S. Attorney's Office
 - District of Kansas
 - District of Utah
 - Northern District of Illinois
 - Northern District of Texas
 - Southern District of California
 - Western District of Missouri
- U.S. Department of Agriculture—Office of the Inspector General
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security
 - Customs and Border Protection
 - Immigration and Customs Enforcement
 - United States Secret Service
- U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration
- University of Illinois Police Department
- Utah Attorney General's Office
- Utah Department of Public Safety
- Washington County Sheriff's Office
- West Valley City Police Department
- Will County Sheriff's Office
- Will County State's Attorney's Office



To learn more about the RCFL Program,
go to www.rcfl.gov

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