



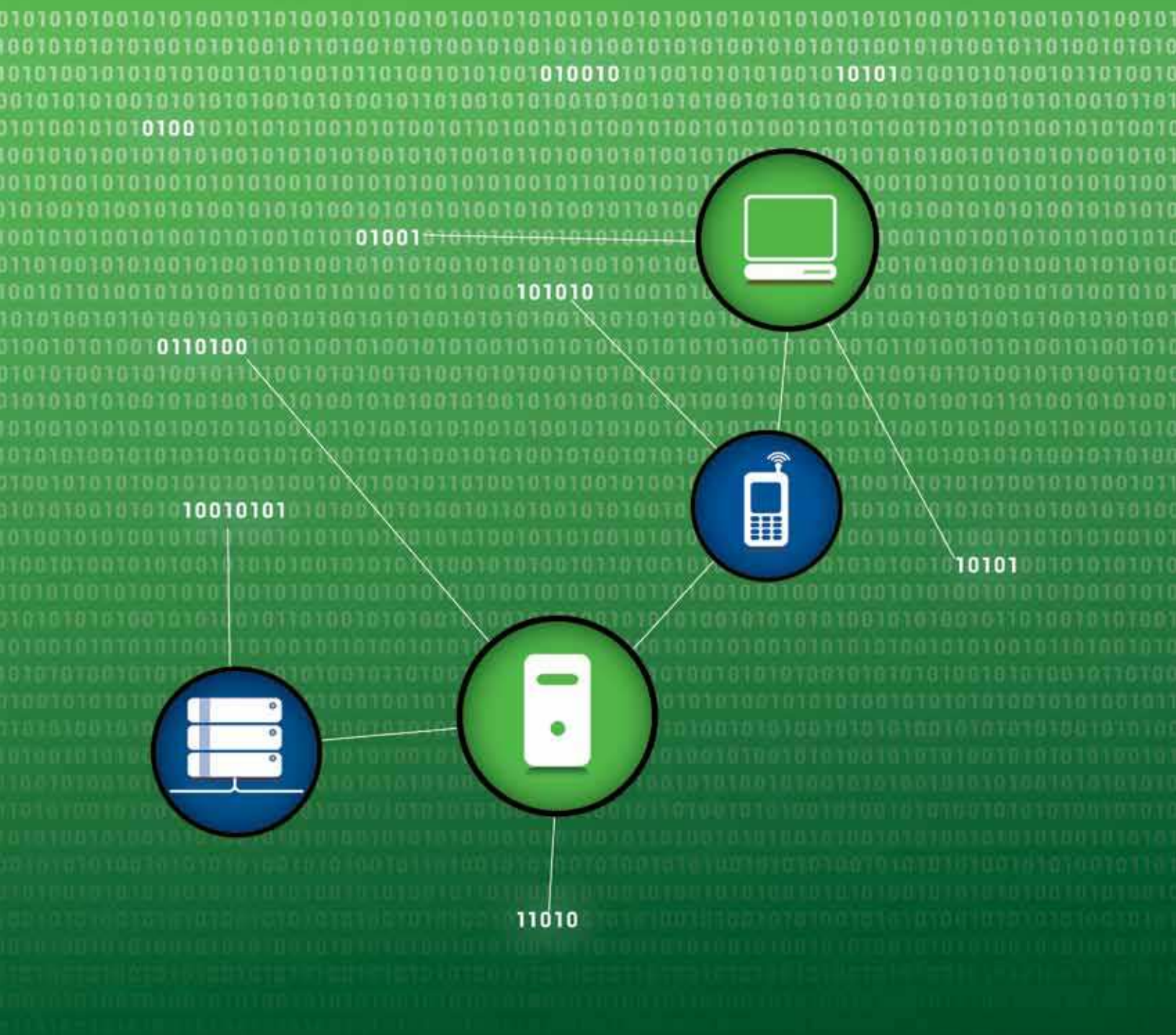
# REGIONAL COMPUTER FORENSICS LABORATORY

# RCFL

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009







# CONTENTS

<b>FOREWORD.....</b>	<b>3</b>
----------------------	----------

## **PART I**

1.0 Introduction .....	5
2.0 Program Accomplishments—10 Years .....	7
3.0 FY09 Accomplishments .....	9
4.0 Funding .....	19
5.0 Casework/Investigations .....	21
6.0 NAS Report Analysis .....	29
7.0 Looking Ahead to FY10 .....	33

## **PART II**

Chicago RCFL .....	36
Greater Houston RCFL .....	38
Heart of America RCFL .....	40
Intermountain WEST RCFL .....	42
Kentucky RCFL .....	44
Miami Valley RCFL .....	46
New Jersey RCFL .....	48
North Texas RCFL .....	50
Northwest RCFL .....	52
Philadelphia RCFL .....	54
Rocky Mountain RCFL .....	56
San Diego RCFL .....	58
Silicon Valley RCFL .....	60
Western New York RCFL .....	62

<b>ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.....</b>	<b>64</b>
-----------------------------	-----------







# FOREWORD

The Regional Computer Forensics Laboratories (RCFL) had another spectacular year. At the close of Fiscal Year 2009 (FY09), 14 RCFLs were fully operational, with two more under construction. During FY09, five RCFLs earned accreditation from the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB), raising the number of accredited laboratories in the program to 12. We also now have 130 participating agencies working with the RCFL Program—giving them access to valuable resources to combat crimes involving digital evidence.

Since the opening of the first RCFL 10 years ago in San Diego, we have provided law enforcement with the highest quality digital forensics services possible. This past February, the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences issued a landmark study on the state of forensic science across multiple disciplines, including digital forensics. We appreciate the authors' time and attention to digital forensics—and are pleased to report that many of their recommendations had been implemented through policy and practice within the RCFL Program years ago. Section 6.0 of this publication presents more detail concerning this important topic.

This year, the RCFL Program supported successful prosecutions involving almost every imaginable criminal act. Support included processing digital evidence and testifying in numerous trials regarding alleged sexual exploitation of children, an elected official's fraud case in Pennsylvania, and an environmental protection case involving a shipping company that spilled 50,000 gallons of oil into the San Francisco Bay. Overall, RCFLs conducted more than

6,000 examinations on behalf of 689 law enforcement agencies across 17 states. We also processed more than 2,300 Terabytes (TB) of digital evidence—the equivalent of the contents of 230 academic libraries.

The magnitude and diversity of our casework, as these examples and others in this report clearly show, reflect the growing prominence of digital evidence in criminal and terrorist investigations. An organization on the forefront of fighting crime for well over a century, the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), recognized the RCFL Program's commitment during its 116th annual conference by adopting a resolution to enhance local law enforcement's abilities in all aspects of computer forensics. The IACP "...recommended to Congress that funding is made available to...establish additional Regional Computer Forensics Laboratories." We were honored to be named in an official resolution by this esteemed organization.

In these times of fiscal constraint, although we too have limited resources, we have never experienced a shortage of innovation or commitment. Moreover, we are constantly striving to strengthen efficiency by automating some processes, streamlining procedures, introducing better technologies, and vigilantly adhering to the highest quality standards possible—all while maintaining objectivity in everything we do. These very qualities comprise our own unique brand, which is backed by a decade filled with groundbreaking and noteworthy accomplishments. With this legacy behind us—we look forward to reaching even more ambitious milestones ahead.

— SSA Bryan Tepper, Unit Chief  
RCFL National Program Office

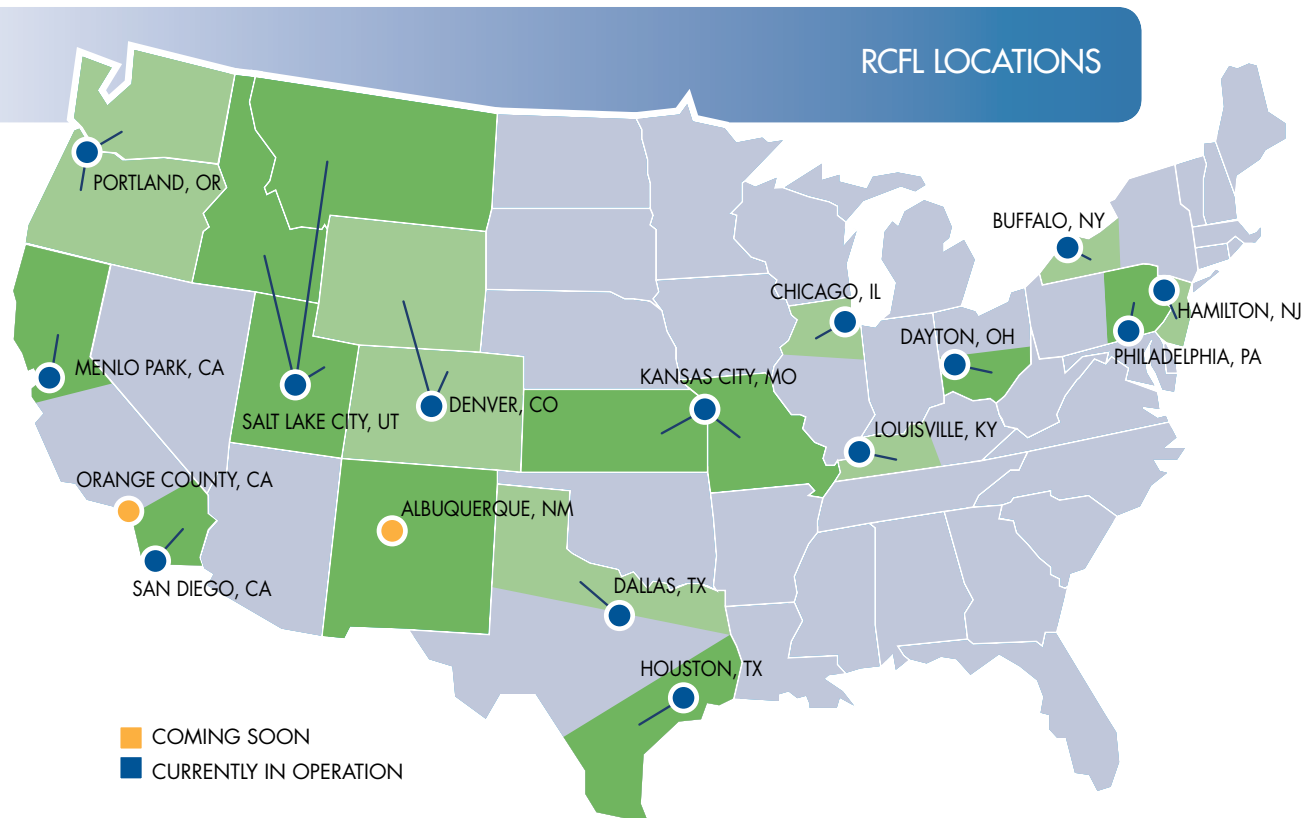




## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

A Regional Computer Forensics Laboratory (RCFL) is a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) sponsored full-service digital forensics laboratory and training center. Each RCFL is devoted entirely to the examination of digital evidence in support of criminal and national security investigations, and its services are available to law enforcement agencies at the federal, state, and local level located within an RCFL's designated service area. The program is funded and administered by the FBI's Operational Technology Division (OTD), which supports the Bureau's criminal investigative and intelligence-gathering efforts by supplying a

wide range of sophisticated technological equipment, examination tools and capabilities, training, and specialized experience. Personnel from the program's 130 participating agencies manage and operate each laboratory. In Fiscal Year 2009 (FY09), 14 RCFLs were in full operation, with two more facilities being planned for Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Orange County, California. This report presents the accomplishments and progress of the RCFL Program for FY09, which covers the period from October 1, 2008, to September 30, 2009.







## 2.0 PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS—10 YEARS

In FY09, the program marked the 10-year anniversary of the opening of its first RCFL in San Diego, California. Considered a pilot project, the San Diego RCFL (SDRCFL) sparked a movement that would bring scores of law enforcement agencies nationwide into partnership with the FBI and formed the foundation for a national RCFL Program. Over the course of a single decade, RCFLs have changed the way law enforcement meets its digital forensics needs—raising the level of excellence for digital forensics services and training to new heights, and providing much needed expertise across many types of criminal and national security investigations.

Other major milestones in the program's 10-year history include—

- **Accreditation**—According to the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB), the RCFL Program is the most accredited digital forensics laboratory network in the world. The North Texas RCFL (NTRCFL) was the first federal laboratory in the country to earn accreditation from ASCLD/LAB in digital evidence and multimedia in 2004, while the Intermountain West RCFL (IWRCL) was the first



FBI Director Robert S. Mueller, III, addresses the media during a press conference held at the San Diego RCFL on May 22, 2008.

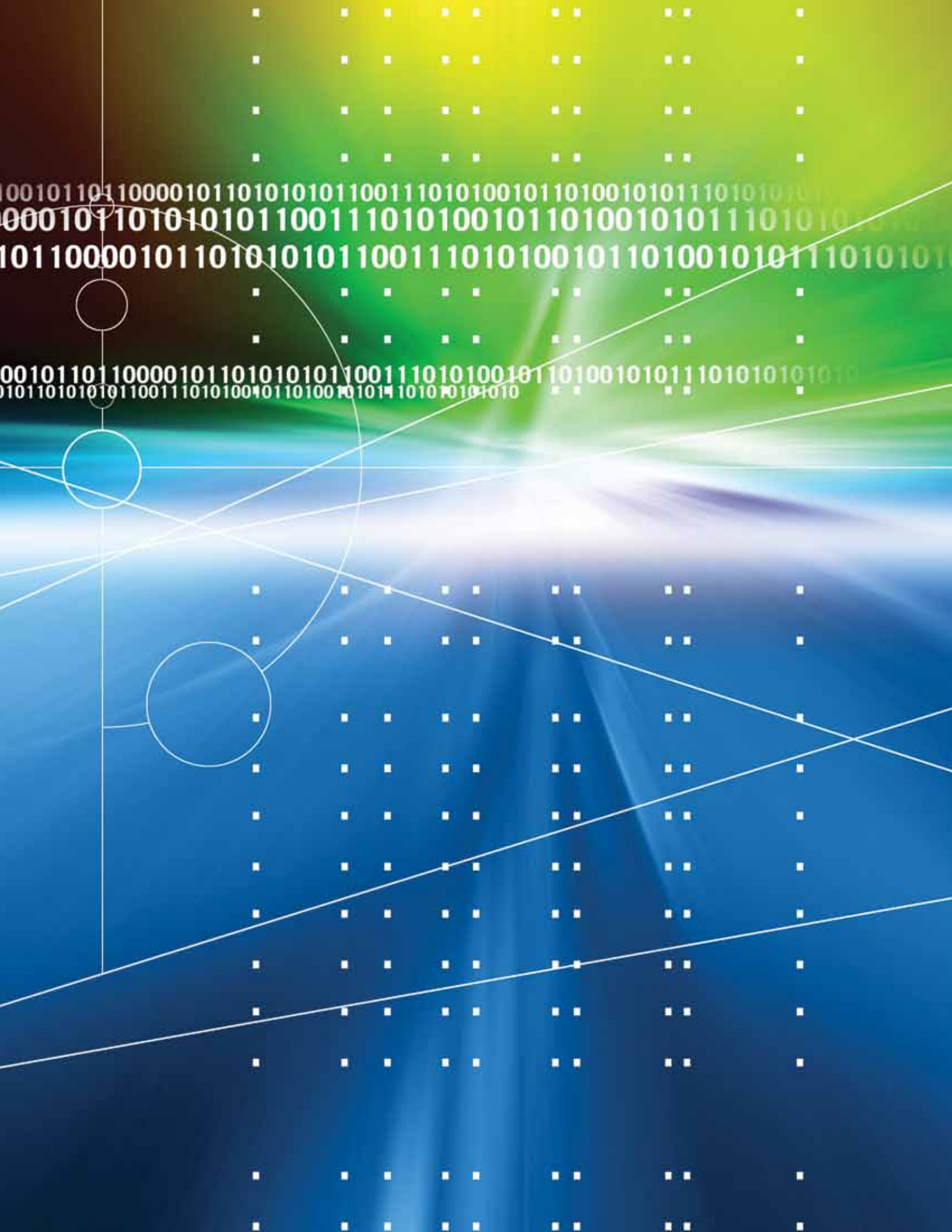


New Jersey Law enforcement officials watch the Webinar in the New Jersey State Police Technology Center where the NJRCFL is located.

RCFL to earn international accreditation in 2008 for the same disciplines.

- **Training**—RCFL personnel have trained approximately 31,500 law enforcement professionals in various digital forensics tools and techniques since FY03. And in FY07, the RCFL National Program Office (NPO) hosted a webinar for approximately 3,200 participants worldwide about digital evidence handling and management.
- **Honors**—The program was named a semi-finalist in Harvard University's Innovations in American Government Annual Awards—the second FBI initiative in 18 years to reach this point.
- **Research & Development**—As technology innovators, RCFL personnel have helped develop dozens of tools, and hardware and software products to aid law enforcement.







## 3.0 FY09 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FY09 was another banner year for the RCFL Program. A brief description of our major accomplishments for the period follows.

**Accreditation**—In FY09, the Northwest, Philadelphia, Kentucky, Greater Houston, and Chicago RCFLs earned accreditation from ASCLD/LAB in digital evidence and multimedia—raising the number of accredited RCFLs to 12. According to ASCLD/LAB's Web site, "Accreditation is part of a laboratory's quality assurance program, which should also include proficiency testing, continuing education, customer liaison, and other programs to help the laboratory provide more effective overall service. The accreditation process is an intensive assessment which evaluates the qualifications of all laboratory personnel; the laboratory's operational and technical policies, practices, and procedures; and the laboratory's quality management system."

- **Backlog Reduction**—An RCFL places a service request in backlog if it has been unassigned for more than 30 days and/or an examination has not been completed within 60 days. The RCFL NPO made it a priority to reduce the number of requests in backlog—and the laboratory staff responded in kind. In FY09, 12 of 14 RCFLs reduced their backlogs, with nine laboratories reporting a drop of 20 percent or more. This is a noteworthy and important accomplishment attributable to several factors, including streamlined administrative processes, an increase in staff, availability of Asset Forfeiture Funds (AFF) resources for overtime, and hard work and commitment from the Examiners and RCFL laboratory directors.



**NWRCFL (L–R)**—NWRCFL staff members are shown here with OTD Quality Manager Rick Lester, NWRCFL Laboratory Director Andy Schroder, and OTD Digital Evidence Section Chief Gregg Motta.



**PHRCFL**—Standing with members of the PHRCFL, ASCLD/LAB Executive Director Ralph Keaton presents PHRCFL Director J.P. McDonald with a framed accreditation certificate.



**GHRCL LEB (L–R)**—Chief Rob Hauck (Tomball Police Department), Chief Robert Gracia (Rosenberg Police Department), Lieutenant Lisa Bujnoch (Houston Police Department), Constable Ron Hickman (Harris County Constable Precinct 4), Major Mike Wong (Harris Sheriff Department), Assistant Chief "Bud" Corbett (Pasadena Police Department), and SAC Richard "Rick" Powers (Houston FBI Special Agent in Charge) and their accreditation plaque.

## FY09 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AT A GLANCE

A summary of program work accomplishments for FY09 follows:

■ **Agency Requests: 689**

Number of agencies that requested RCFL assistance

■ **Service Requests Received: 5,616**

Number of requests for assistance received by all RCFLs

■ **Examinations Conducted: 6,016**

Number of digital forensics examinations conducted by RCFL personnel—55 percent were non-FBI cases

■ **Terabytes (TB) Processed: 2,334\***

A TB is a unit of measurement for data storage capacity equal to 1,000 gigabytes

■ **Field Services: 415**

Number of on-site operations conducted by law enforcement for which RCFLs provided assistance

■ **Training Conducted: 5,404**

Number of law enforcement personnel trained by the RCFL/Computer Analysis Team (CART) staff in various digital forensics techniques

■ **Examiner Testimony in Court: 92**

Number of times RCFL Examiners testified in court and/or hearings

- **Opened New Laboratory**—Although the Miami Valley RCFL (MVRCL) officially began operations in 2006, the laboratory was located within the cramped confines of the FBI's Dayton Residence Agency (RA). This situation changed for the better on January 29, 2009, when the FBI opened a newly constructed RA that included dedicated space for the MVRCL. Special Agent in Charge (SAC) Robert Bennett hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new office, and members of the media and the local law enforcement community toured the RCFL.



As part of the Dayton Resident Agency's opening festivities, MVRCL Director Dave Barnes gives the media a tour of the RCFL.

\*To understand how large a single TB is, an academic library on average contains the equivalent of two TBs. In FY09, the RCFL Program processed 2,334 TBs of data—the equivalent of 1,167 academic libraries.



## TREND WATCH—MEDIA TYPES

In FY09, RCFL personnel completed 6,016 examinations on a wide assortment of electronic devices or “media.” The following table presents the number of media processed by RCFLs in FY09 and provides a window into criminal and consumer trends. Criminals use technological devices as part of their daily routines, not to mention illegal enterprises. As technology uses change and evolve, the price tags for mass storage devices fall as sales of high-capacity devices rise. As certain electronics become more (or less) popular with consumers, the frequency with which they appear at RCFLs often tracks with specific sales trends. And, because RCFL personnel are always looking for new ways to increase efficiency (given our limited resources), changes in policy, along with the introduction of self-service tools, such as cellular telephone kiosks (CPIK), are also having a positive impact. The cellular telephone kiosks are a forensically tested and validated limited self-help solution designed to meet 90 percent of the needs of investigators, but ultimately not

supplanting instances where a full forensic examination will be necessary to obtain data that the tool is not designed to recover.

Although the overall number of media examined by RCFLs has declined since FY06, the total number of TBs continues to climb annually. This is an important trend that can be interpreted in two different ways:

- 1) Productivity**—The sheer number of TBs processed by RCFLs each year indicates strong productivity because TBs measure data storage capacity.
- 2) Increased Capacity**—The RCFL NPO applies several different methodologies to measure productivity and tracks the number of media types processed by RCFLs for this reason. Electronic devices are both getting smaller and offering increased storage capacity. Therefore, the amount of data RCFLs must review and process continues to rise. In FY09, the RCFL Program nearly doubled the number of TBs processed compared with only two years ago.

MEDIA TYPE	TOTAL MEDIA PROCESSED FOR FY09	COMPARED WITH FY08	POLICY/TRAINING/SELF SERVICE TOOL
CD/DVD	14,028	↓	<b>Policy</b> —Several RCFLs instituted policies that limit or eliminate these submissions.
Cellular Telephone	1,690	↓	<b>Policy/Self-Service Tool</b> —Several RCFLs enacted policies that require agencies to conduct a preliminary examination of the telephone using the CPIK. In many cases, a full examination is not necessary because investigators recover the information they need through the CPIK.
*iPhone®	263	N/A	<b>Other</b> —This is the first year iPhones® and similar “smart phones” were tracked in their own category. With sales of these devices accounting for 25 percent of total handset sales, Examiners may very well see more of them. The Consumer Electronics Association (CEA) predicts that smart phones will capture 41 percent of the market by 2013.
CPUs	684	↑	N/A

MEDIA TYPE	TOTAL MEDIA PROCESSED FOR FY09	COMPARED WITH FY08	POLICY/TRAINING/SELF SERVICE TOOL
Digital Camera	148	↑	<b>Other</b> —Sales of digital cameras are slightly up for 2009 compared with 2008, as price tags dip.  Source: CEA
Digital Media Player	95	↑	N/A
Flash Media	2,820	↓	N/A
Floppy Disk	4,104	↓	<b>Policy</b> —Several RCFLs instituted policies that either limit or eliminate these submissions.  <b>Self-Service Tool</b> —Eventually, RCFLs will have a self-service tool to review loose media such as floppy disks.
Global Positioning System (GPS)	54	↔	<b>Other</b> —Sales of GPSs remained flat for 2009. The CEA attributes this to market segmentation, e.g., navigation features on cellular telephones or fixed navigation screens in vehicles.
Hard Disk Drive	15,630	↓	<b>Other</b> —Computers (laptops and desktops) are the items most frequently submitted to RCFLs for examination—more than any other media type. Because the storage capacity of average hard drives is increasing, users can have just one large drive instead of several smaller devices. Therefore, although RCFLs are receiving fewer of them, this has not reduced the amount of data Examiners must review.
Personal Digital Assistant (PDA)	96	↓	<b>Other</b> —Sales of PDAs continue to slide as consumers switch to smart/cellular telephones.  Source: CEA
Tape	586	↑	N/A
<b>Total Media Processed</b>	<b>40,198</b>	↓	<b>N/A</b>





## TRAINING

In FY09, RCFL/CART personnel trained a total of 5,404 law enforcement personnel in various digital forensics techniques and tools. Although most RCFLs contain classrooms to facilitate hands-on learning, the program is not restricted to teaching students in-house. Courses such as ImageScan, which are offered at all RCFLs, are also taught on-site upon request—free of charge. ImageScan is a software tool created by members of the FBI's CART specifically for “knock & talk” situations relating to child exploitation investigations. Once deployed, the software quickly identifies and isolates images on a suspect's computer and stores them on a universal serial bus (USB) device—without altering any files on the computer. The ImageScan tool consists of a CD and a USB device.

“This is a great program and makes an initial investigation much easier.”

—ImageScan Survey Participant

## TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS

- In FY09, ImageScan was taught to 1,887 students.
- Ninety-three percent of ImageScan users gave the software high marks.

“Both times, I used the software because the suspects would not confess. After receiving consent and running the software, as soon as a thumbnail image of a movie file appeared, both suspects then confessed to downloading, possessing, saving, and distributing contraband.”

—ImageScan Survey Participant



Pictured here is a group of CART-certified ImageScan instructors.

## INTERNSHIPS

The RCFL Program hosted 17 student interns who worked at 12 RCFLs during summer 2009. Three FBI internship programs comprise the RCFL's initiative—the Honors Internship Program (HIP), the Volunteer Internship Program (VIP), and the Cooperative Internship Program. RCFL interns have consistently given the program positive reviews because of the interesting and challenging project work, the opportunity to learn from and be mentored by the nation's top digital forensics experts, and the unique experience of working in an RCFL.

Typically, RCFL internships begin the first Monday in June and end the second Friday in August. Some of the projects successfully completed by RCFL interns during summer 2009 included—

- **Greater Houston RCFL (GHRCL)**—Interns created a case management system to streamline the efforts of Examiners.
- **New Jersey RCFL (NJRCFL)**—Interns conducted a comprehensive review of the NJRCFL's casework by reviewing adjudication information and sentences imposed. They also searched for correlations between digital evidence and sentences, and
- between prosecutorial jurisdictions and sentences, and compared federal and state child pornography sentences. The interns compiled the statistics and findings into a database that they created. Because the database was designed to run percentages, NJRCFL management can see the proportion of cases of a particular type were prosecuted and the outcome.
- **New Mexico RCFL (NMRCL)**—Interns tested new technology equipment to determine compatibility with evidentiary needs.
- **North Texas RCFL (NTRCL)**—Interns wrote computer scripts and created databases to increase efficiency in the examination process.
- **Philadelphia RCFL (PHRCFL)**—Interns re-imaged training room computers to enhance performance and fulfilled the annual verification requirements of critical FBI CART-issued equipment.
- **Northwest RCFL (NWRCL)**—Interns worked with the NWRCL staff to develop a list of generic “grep” search terms\* and syntax for use in live searches by Examiners. In addition, the interns compared the processing of casework on various operating systems using a variety of software tools.

The RCFL Interns class of 2009 is pictured here with SSA Shelia Teague (far left) and RCFL Unit Chief, SSA Bryan Tepper (far right).



\* Wikipedia defines “grep” as a command line text search utility originally written for UNIX. The grep command searches files or standard input globally for lines matching a given regular expression and prints them to the program's standard output.

- **San Diego RCFL (SDRCFL)**—The intern worked with SDRCFL staff to design a Case Agent Investigative Review (CAIR) Management System (CMS) database that gives Examiners increased capabilities, including requesting a volume on the Storage Area Network (SAN), and requesting the end user be contacted to view findings via CAIR. It also allows the Operations Manager to review the progress of the case and approve release of the CAIR product for review by the Case Agent.
- **Silicon Valley RCFL (SVRCFL)**—The intern worked with technical personnel at the SVRCFL to conduct extensive testing on hard drive duplicators. The validation was conducted to identify whether occasional errors occurring in the field could be repeated in a laboratory setting. The validation included imaging more than 43 TB of data comprising more than 400 test sessions. At the conclusion of the testing, the intern identified several recurring problems, including missing, blank, or “scrambled” capture logs, as well as compatibility problems with imaging some Serial Advanced Technology Attachment hard drives manufactured in 2008 and 2009.

## ASSET FORFEITURE FUND

The RCFL Program’s partnership with the Department of Justice’s (DOJ) Forfeiture and Seized Property Unit to receive AFF resources progressed in FY09, as the following program activities and accomplishments illustrate—

- **Provided Overtime Compensation**—AFF resources provide overtime compensation to sworn detailees assigned to RCFLs from state and local participating agencies. Being able to earn overtime enables the RCFL staff to support activities that take place outside normal operating hours, e.g., executing a search warrant or responding to emergency calls. It also allows the staff to work longer hours to complete their assignments more quickly and focus on reducing the laboratory’s backlog, which is explained further in the next bullet.
- **Reduced Backlog**—Twelve of 14 RCFLs reduced their backlogs, with nine laboratories reporting a drop of 20 percent or more. This accomplishment is attributable to several factors, with overtime compensation helping immensely, allowing Examiners to devote extra hours outside their normal work time to reducing the backlog. In FY09, 506 requests were placed in backlog—a drop of 280 requests from the previous year.
- **Leased Motor Vehicles**—The RCFL NPO provided 100 leased motor vehicles to sworn state/local detailees during FY09. Moreover, RCFL personnel participated in 415 on-site operations. Having a vehicle at their disposal enabled Examiners to quickly respond to last-minute and/or emergency requests for digital forensics assistance.
- **Purchased Equipment**—During FY09, the RCFL staff collectively examined more than 40,000 pieces of media, ranging from laptop computers to digital cameras, video recorders, and more. To do this work, RCFL Examiners must have access to the latest tools, technologies, hardware, and software. This year, for the first time, the RCFL NPO applied AFF resources to reimburse state and local agencies for equipment purchases, which greatly benefited the program overall.
- **Provided Cellular Telephones**—The RCFL NPO applied AFF resources to issue 100 cellular telephones to RCFL personnel.



## NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (NAC)

In early FY09, the NAC held its kickoff meeting and officially began setting priorities and deliberating on pressing issues facing the RCFL Program. The NAC is composed of one representative from each RCFL selected from the 130 state, local, and federal participating agencies, and provides advice and guidance to the RCFL NPO. During FY09, the NAC made revising the RCFL site selection its top priority. With RCFLs scheduled to open in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Orange County, California, there are no plans at this writing to establish RCFLs in other regions of the country. However, should the FBI receive congressional authorization and funding to expand the RCFL network in the future, the RCFL NPO will include and evaluate the criteria recommended by the NAC and apply them to the site-selection process.

**FY10 Priority—Develop Future Business Model**—A key issue being considered by the NAC for FY10 is the development of a future business model and strategy, known as “Transitional RCFLs.” Under this model, the FBI, subject to funding, will seek partnerships with the forensics divisions of state or local law enforcement agencies that are already operating accredited crime laboratory facilities, and have available space within these facilities to host an FBI-sponsored digital evidence laboratory. Construction costs, along with Examiner training and certification are at FBI expense. This arrangement would last for a specified number of years, whereby the FBI would turn control of the laboratory over to the host but would maintain a professional association with and level of support to the laboratory, resources permitting. Benefits of the Transitional RCFL Project include—

- **Avoids expensive commercial lease costs for space**—Such costs unavoidably create limits on program growth and the number of participating agencies that could be involved in other locations if those costs were not annually incurred.

## NAC MEMBERSHIP

NAC MEMBER	RCFL AFFILIATION
Miami Valley Regional Crime Laboratory Director Kenneth M. Betz	MVRCFL
Chief Chris Burbank	IWRCFL
Chief Dennis Burns	SVRCFL
Lt. Eric Davenport	NWRCFL
Chief John Douglass, NAC Co-Chair	HARCFL
Assistant Chief Steve Dye	NTRCFL
District Attorney Michael Green*	PHRCFL
Constable Ron Hickman	GHRCFL
Lt. David Jones	NJRCFL
Dr. Deborah Keeling	KRCFL
Sgt. Mia Ogliore	CGRCFL
Chief Scott Patronik	WNYRCFL
Chief Paula Robinson	SDRCFL
Dr. Alessandro Seazzu	NMRCFL
SSA Bryan Tepper, Co Chair, RCFL Unit Chief	RCFL NPO
Chief Paul M. Walters	OCRCFL
Sheriff David Weaver	RMRCFL

\*Assigned an Examiner to the PHRCFL

- **Creates an alignment with existing state or local crime laboratories**—To maximize internalization of capabilities.
- **Encourages involvement of personnel from the forensic components of each participating agency**—To create a sustainable state/local knowledge base, and to increase return on training and certification investment for some personnel whose career path do not require them to return to patrol status for advancement.

“[The RCFL Program] is a model for the world. That’s the plan and expectation.”

—Santa Ana Police Chief Paul Walters

## OCRCFL MOU SIGNING EVENT

On July 22, 2009, the Orange County RCFL (OCRCFL) held a press conference to announce the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between its participating agencies and the FBI. An MOU is the legal basis for the operation of an RCFL. This document vests general control of all RCFL operations with the Local Executive Board (LEB) subject to forensic policies, procedures, and qualifications set by FBI headquarters. The LEB comprises a coalition of federal, state, and local law enforcement organizations, also known as participating agencies. The OCRCFL’s participating agencies include the FBI, through its Los Angeles Division and FBI Headquarters; Anaheim Police Department; Fullerton Police Department; Irvine Police Department; Newport Beach Police Department; Orange County District Attorney’s Office; Orange County Sheriff’s Department; Santa Ana Police Department; and the Westminster Police Department.

Following the announcement, OCRCFL Examiners gave the media demonstrations of the laboratory’s various capabilities. Planning and construction activities for the OCRCFL are continuing in FY10.



Members of the OCRCFL and its participating agencies are shown here with ASAC Gina Osborn (center). To her immediate right is former ADIC Sol Hernandez, and OCRCFL Director Jason Weiss (far right).



OCRCFL Examiner Nhan Nguyen gives the media a demonstration of the laboratory’s capabilities.



RCFL Unit Chief Bryan Tepper being interviewed on camera.

9.8

8.6

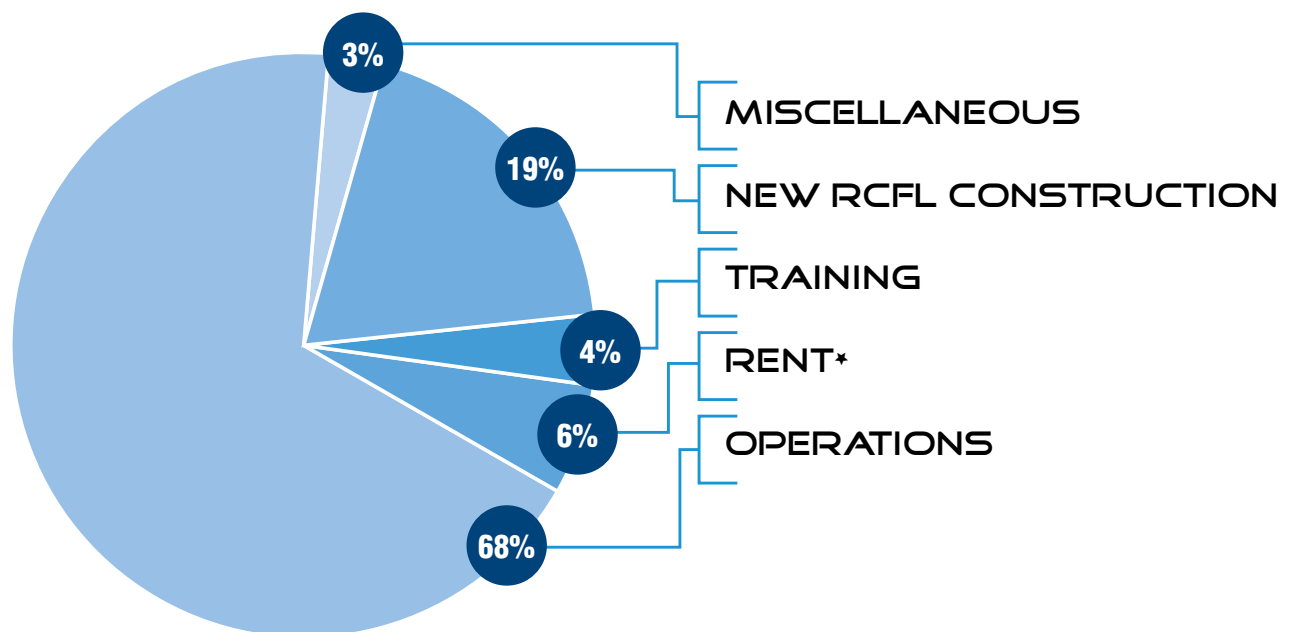
7.0





## 4.0 FUNDING

In FY09, funds from the RCFL Program's annual operating budget were used to operate and establish 16 RCFLs and to support the activities of the RCFL NPO. The pie chart below shows the percentage of funding dedicated to each activity:



\* Rent costs include only costs for the RCFLs that are paid by the NPO out of the RCFL budget. Total lease space cost for all RCFLs for FY09 totaled six percent of the program's budget. The balance of this amount has been absorbed into the FBI's general budget.



>> SUB<sub>stnc</sub>®

## 5.0 CASEWORK/INVESTIGATIONS

RCFLs across the country supported many investigations during FY09. The case studies that follow are illustrative of the many different types of investigations for which the program provides digital forensics expertise.

### NATIONAL NEWS

#### SHIPPING COMPANY PAYS STEEP FINE FOR POLLUTING SAN FRANCISCO BAY

The SVRCFL supported the successful investigation of Fleet Mgt. Ltd., a Hong Kong-based ship management firm. The company pled guilty to obstruction of justice, making false statements, and negligent discharge of oil, after one of its ships spilled more than 50,000 gallons of fuel into the San Francisco Bay. The ship was sea bound when it hit the San Francisco Bay Bridge in dense fog on November 7, 2007. An investigation was launched, and SVRCFL Examiners were called to image (make exact copies of a computer's hard drive) nearly a dozen computers located on the vessel. Because the ship was in dry dock, there was no electricity, making it especially challenging for the Examiners during the imaging phase. The Examiners persevered and had portable generators delivered to their location, enabling them to complete the task on time. During the investigation, up to four Examiners were assigned to the case. One of their most important findings was the discovery of altered navigation charts stored on one of the ship's computers after the crash occurred. A DOJ press release dated August 13, 2009, stated that in addition to changes to the navigation charts, "Other records, including false passage planning checklists, were also created after the fact. This information was proven or confirmed as a result of the forensic examination."



Photo courtesy of Friends of Five Creeks

**Workers with NRC Environmental Services spread a containment boom near their offices in Alameda.**

#### BANK BOMBINGS KILL VETERAN OFFICERS

On December 12, 2008, authorities rushed to the West Coast Bank in Woodburn, Oregon, after an employee found a bomb on the premises that later detonated and killed first responders Senior Trooper William Hakim and Captain Tom Tennant. Trooper Hakim was a member of the Oregon State Police—a participating agency in the NWRCFL. Shortly thereafter, authorities arrested 33-year old Joshua Turnridge and his father, 58-year old Bruce Turnridge, and charged them with aggravated murder of the officers. The NWRCFL assisted in the coordination of digital evidence on scene, which included seizures from numerous locations of vitally important digital video information. NWRCFL Examiners also processed the remains of a





Photo courtesy of the Officer Down Memorial Page

**Pictured here is Senior State Trooper Bill Hakim. The Oregon Senate passed a resolution honoring Trooper Hakim in 2009 for his "more than three decades of loyalty, sacrifice, and bravery to public service and the impeccable common welfare of the people of Woodburn and all Oregonians."**

computer and 18 cellular telephones. Marion County prosecutors said the Turnridges' trial will likely start in September 2010 and the death penalty will be sought.

## THE CHILD ONCE KNOWN AS "BABY GRACE"

On a summer's day in 2007, a fisherman discovered a plastic box on an abandoned island in Galveston Bay—about 50 miles south of Houston. Inside were the unidentified remains of a small child who authorities called "Baby Grace." The individuals who did this wanted to keep her name a secret—but DNA testing and publicity surrounding the case would eventually reveal Baby Grace's true identity—and theirs. Three weeks later, Baby Grace was positively identified as Riley Ann Sawyers. Kimberly Trenor, Riley's mother, and her husband Royce Clyde Ziegler III, were



**This undated photo released by Sheryl Ann Sawyers shows her granddaughter Riley Ann.**

arrested a month later and charged with capital murder. Ms. Trenor had moved to Texas from Ohio after meeting Mr. Ziegler online—taking Riley with her. When questioned, Ms. Trenor claimed she had received a letter from the Ohio Child Protective Services Department, and as a result, gave Riley to a social worker from the agency. Ms. Trenor denied to authorities that she had written the purported letter herself; however, when her computer was sent to the GHRCFL for examination, Examiners recovered the deleted document. GHRCFL Examiners testified at Ms. Trenor's trial regarding their findings, and on February 3, 2009, she was convicted and sentenced to life in prison. Mr. Ziegler denied being home with Ms. Trenor at the time of Riley's murder. However, the GHRCFL staff examined his computer and recovered evidence of Web-surfing and Internet searches—all indicated someone was using Mr. Ziegler's computer at the time of the murder. He too received a life sentence. The Hitchcock, Texas, City Commission renamed the place where Baby Grace was found as "Riley's Island" in memory of the little girl.

## U.S. TERRORIST ATTACK FOILED

The FBI had Najibullah Zazi in its sights since January 2009 for his involvement in a string of suspicious activities that eventually led to his arrest. The indictment against the 24-year old Afghan immigrant stated that between August 1, 2008, and September 21, 2009, "Zazi knowingly and intentionally conspired with others to use one or more weapons of mass destruction." The FBI reported on its Web site that Zazi received "detailed bomb-making instructions in Pakistan, purchased components of improvised explosive devices, and traveled to New York City on September 10, 2009, in furtherance of his criminal plans." A motion filed by DOJ offices in New York and Colorado stated that agents learned that Zazi allegedly conducted extensive research on the Internet regarding components of explosive devices. The FBI also reported that when

agents lawfully searched Zazi's laptop computer, they found bomb-making instructions and Internet searches for hydrochloric acid. Moreover, while under surveillance during July and August 2009, Zazi and three others were recorded in a beauty supply store in Denver purchasing unusually large quantities of items used to make a highly volatile substance. RMRCFL Examiners processed the videotapes from the beauty supply store and also helped execute search warrants at two different locations in Colorado. RMRCFL Examiners processed several pieces of digital media and continue to support the investigation.

### PRE-SCHOOLER LEADS AUTHORITIES TO DARK DISCOVERY

The Maryland couple who found a four-year-old boy all alone at an Interstate rest stop quickly realized something was wrong and called police. William Nelson knew his address and told authorities that an armed man broke into his house and shot his mother, Jenny. The suspect, Charlie Myers, faces a slew of felony charges, including aggravated murder and gross sexual imposition involving a child under 13. Two weeks prior to the assault on the Nelson family, Myers allegedly stole their car from a parking garage. The Nelsons reported the car stolen, but, according

to press reports, Myers tracked down the family's address and drove to their home on January 2, 2009, with the intent to rob them. He allegedly entered the home and proceeded to carry out his plan, but Jenny Nelson broke free after being tied up and stabbed Myers in the back. According to press reports, he allegedly shot her twice in the abdomen, killing her, and fled the home with some of the family's belongings, including two computers and Jenny's BlackBerry® telephone, and William. The FBI determined that two calls were made from Jenny's telephone after her murder and traced the location to an apartment in Columbus, Ohio. After obtaining a search warrant, agents arrested Charlie Myers and found Jenny's computers and cellular telephone. The MVRCL examined the two computers, and located MapQuest® directions on Myers' computer from his apartment to the victim's residence. Myers initially confessed to the murder but changed his plea to not guilty. He is awaiting trial—prosecutors are seeking the death penalty. On May 20, 2009, the Ohio House voted 95–0, to approve and send to the Senate legislation that would remove an owner's home address from the owner's vehicle registration form. It is believed that Myers obtained the Nelsons' address from their registration card. Press reports stated that the legislation was inspired by the shooting death of Jenny Nelson.

## PUBLIC CORRUPTION

### DALLAS CITY HALL CORRUPTION CASE

In June 2005, federal agents swept into Dallas City Hall and executed search warrants against several sitting officials, including the mayor. Just over two years later, federal indictments against Mayor Don Hill, his wife, and 15 others were announced. Their trial began in June 2009. The NTRCFL supported the large-scale investigation from the outset, examining numerous pieces of electronic equipment over a four-year period. Those charged are accused of helping a private real estate developer win low-income housing contracts worth millions, and either aiding in the bribery and/or personally profiting from it. If convicted, the suspects all face certain jail time and may have to pay sizable fines to the federal government.



Pictured here is Dallas City Hall.

### INVESTIGATION OF FORMER GOVERNOR BLAGOJEVICH CONTINUES

On December 9, 2008, the FBI arrested then-Governor Rod Blagojevich of Illinois on political corruption and bribery charges in a pre-dawn raid at his home. On April 2, 2009, he was formally indicted on federal fraud charges. The CGRCFL staff is supporting the investigation and has processed numerous pieces of

digital media to date, traveling to several locations to process digital media on-site. This is not the first time the CGRCFL has supported a high-profile investigation involving an elected official. In 2006, then Illinois Governor George Ryan was convicted on corruption charges and is currently serving a six and a half year prison sentence. Mr. Blagojevich's trial is expected to begin in spring 2010. He pled not guilty to all charges.

### STATEWIDE INVESTIGATION SNAGS NEW JERSEY POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS LEADERS

On July 23, 2009, a massive public corruption and international money laundering investigation grabbed front-page news—because the people in law enforcement's grasp included not only prominent public and political officials but religious leaders as well. A press release issued by the FBI's Newark Division on July 24, 2009, said the early-morning arrests involved 300 agents in 54 locations in New York and New Jersey—resulting in 44 individuals being charged in a federal investigation involving public corruption and a high-volume, international money laundering operation. NJRCFL Examiners were part of this group and



Photo by FBI photographer Audrey Liss

Pictured here are some of the 44 suspects charged in the statewide public corruption investigation in New Jersey.



responded to multiple locations throughout the state. They worked closely with search teams to identify, preserve, and secure digital evidence. During a press conference, FBI Newark SAC Weysan Dunn said the charges were “unprecedented because of the number and prominence of the individuals involved. This case uncovered a web of corruption that spanned the state too.” The investigation is ongoing.

### UPDATE: CASE CLOSED—FORMER STATE SENATOR FOUND GUILTY

One of Pennsylvania’s most powerful and wealthiest public figures, Vincent J. Fumo, was sentenced on July 14, 2009, to 55 months in federal prison after a five-month trial in which he was convicted on all 137 counts against him. The PHRCFL provided digital forensics expertise in support of the high-profile investigation, which began in 2003, when the FBI and the Internal Revenue Service began investigating the former lawmaker.

### UPDATE: CASE CLOSED—LAST CUNNINGHAM ASSOCIATE CONVICTED

In 2005, former war hero turned Congressman turned convict Randy “Duke” Cunningham was sentenced to eight years in federal prison on public corruption charges. However, Mr. Cunningham did not commit his crimes alone—he had help from some well-placed friends and associates, including Kyle “Dusty” Foggo, once the third highest official with the Central Intelligence Agency. In February 2009, Foggo admitted in court to abusing his government position by hiring companies and individuals with whom he had concealed personal relationships. In return, he received a 37-month jail sentence. The SDRCL processed more than 12 TBs of data during the multi-year investigation.

## PROTECTING COMMUNITIES

### “SCARECROW BANDITS” JAILED

The NTRCFL supported the investigation of a bank robbery ring dubbed the “Scarecrow Bandits,” whose members were captured by the FBI and local police on June 2, 2008, after a two-year crime spree. The defendants earned their nickname because they wore floppy hats, flannel shirts, and bandannas in early robberies. However, despite the playful moniker, they were highly organized and became increasingly violent. By the end of their spree, the gang had robbed 21 banks in North Texas and stolen approximately \$300,000. On August 13, 2009, after a two-week trial, the five defendants were found guilty in federal court on several bank robbery and firearms charges.



Shown here is a picture of two of the “Scarecrow Bandits” in action.

Prosecutors called 75 witnesses, including senior NTRCFL Examiner Donald Wills, who presented his

digital forensics findings such as text messages, photographs, and call logs obtained from the examination of 14 cellular telephones—one of which was recovered by authorities from a sewer system. The suspect, fleeing arrest, flushed it down a toilet, but the NTRCFL was able to recover digital evidence from the device. The convicted robbers face sentencing in January 2010.

## ARSONISTS TERRORIZE A CITY

The nearly 11,000 residents of Coatesville, Pennsylvania, were terrorized for two years by a series of fires that caused damage valued in the millions. Although four men were arrested between 2007 and 2008, the fires continued, and on January 24, 2009, an entire block of 15 row houses burned to the ground, thrusting Coatesville into the national spotlight. Shortly thereafter, the Chester County Arson Task Force was formed and charged with finding the culprits. They fulfilled their mission—on February 18, 2009, police arrested Roger Barlow Jr., 19, and Mark Gilliam, 20. Barlow was charged with arson, aggravated assault, and related acts, while Gilliam is facing a federal count for attempting to burn down a restaurant. The maximum penalty for a single arson conviction is 20 years. The PHRCFL assisted the task force and processed multiple computers, cellular telephones, and other electronic devices—completing the examinations expeditiously with little lead time. The investigation is ongoing.



Photo courtesy of Coatesville PD Sgt Chris McEvoy

The burned row houses in the city of Coatesville, Pennsylvania.

## DOUBLE MURDERER FOUND GUILTY

On September 10, 2009, Dennis Mickjale Potts, 25, was convicted of two counts of first degree murder for the strangling death of his 10-month-old son and the child's mother, his ex-girlfriend. An SDRCL Examiner testified in court regarding the examination of



Shown here are victims Tori Vienneau, then 22, and her son Dean, then 10 months.

Potts' computer, which revealed Internet search terms on "getting out of child support," "paternity tests," and "getting away with murder" shortly before the killings. The SDRCL Examiner also learned that Potts used his computer to alter two lines of his cellular telephone bill and changed the entry to make it appear he was in a different location at the time of the murders. Potts' trial in San Diego Superior Court lasted three weeks, with the jury of nine men and three women finding him guilty of conspiracy to obstruct justice in addition to murder. Potts is expected to receive a life sentence without the possibility of parole.

## MAN THREATENS TO DESTROY AREA LANDMARKS AND MAJOR AIRPORT

Personnel from a dozen law enforcement agencies at the federal, state, and local levels were involved with the investigation and successful prosecution of Frederick D. Purvis, who sent a series of e-mail messages under the name "Abdul Yohanish" threatening to blow up the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport, Paul Brown Stadium—home of the Cincinnati Bengals, four bridges spanning the Ohio River, and the Argosy Casino. MVRCL and KRCFL personnel assisted on the searches that led to Mr. Purvis' arrest, and on June 25, 2009, he pled guilty to one count of making a bomb threat in the Southern District of Ohio and one count of making a bomb threat in the Eastern District of Kentucky. Mr. Purvis was sentenced in U.S.



Paul Brown Stadium and the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport were supposedly targeted for destruction by Frederick Purvis, who pled guilty to making bomb threats against these landmarks.



District Court in Cincinnati to 30 months imprisonment for the threatening e-mails and must serve six years of supervised release after his prison term ends. No bombs were found at any of the sites.

## COED MURDERED; LOCAL MAN RECEIVES DEATH PENALTY

Jodi Sanderholm and Justin Thurber had but one thing in common—they both hailed from Arkansas City or “Ark City,” Kansas. Jodi, 19, was a full-time student and

a member of the Cowley College Danceline, where she caught the attention of Mr. Thurber, who authorities referred to as a team “groupie.” After leaving dance practice on January 5, 2007, Jodi stopped by a local sandwich shop where Mr. Thurber worked.



Jodi Sanderholm, age 19

That was the last time anyone saw her. After a frantic four-day search, her body was found in a remote wildlife area—her car was 12 miles away submerged in a lake. Justin Thurber was taken into custody one day after Jodi’s disappearance. According to press reports, he had several restraining orders against him and was accused by one of Jodi’s teammates of following her. The HARCFL examined computers used by Mr. Thurber and conducted an examination of video surveillance evidence collected from numerous sites. Justin Thurber, charged with capital murder and aggravated kidnapping, went to trial in 2009—he was convicted on all counts and sentenced to death. The Kansas Legislature passed “Jodi’s Law,” which strengthens the legal definition of stalking and increases the punishment if someone is convicted. The New Mexico legislature also passed a “Jodi’s Law” to help law enforcement combat stalking in their state.

## CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN

### CHILDREN IN BABYSITTER’S CARE HARMED

While working as a babysitter in the San Diego suburbs, Aaron Zendejas allegedly allowed others to molest the children, ages 3 to 10, in his care. Jared Ravin Yaffe, his alleged accomplice, was charged with abusing the children and videotaping the acts. Yaffe fled the country, but was later found in Brazil and extradited to San Diego where he faces multiple

felony charges, state charges of child sexual assault and kidnapping, and federal charges of unlawful flight to avoid prosecution. He pled not guilty and faces up to 129 years in jail. Zendejas also faces charges of child molestation, manufacturing child pornography, kidnapping, and committing a sex crime with a minor. He too pled not guilty. The SDRCL is supporting the investigation and examined both men’s computers and cellular telephones. Published press reports stated



police found many images of children engaged in sexual acts on both Yaffe's and Zendejas' personal computers and cellular telephones. San Diego police are still searching for more victims—five children have been identified so far, the youngest being three years old. The investigation is ongoing.

## GUILTY VERDICT FOR PREDATOR WHO PROCLAIMED INNOCENCE

Throughout his trial, Daniel Keck claimed his accusers, all children—conspired against him, and they were responsible for producing the images and video found on his computer and digital camera, not him. The jury disagreed, and found Keck guilty of three counts of rape, five counts of gross sexual imposition, two counts of kidnapping, 11 counts of illegal use of a minor in nudity-oriented material or performance, and eight counts of pandering. MVRFCFL Director Dave Barnes testified at Keck's trial, explaining how he conducted a computer forensics examination of the defendant's personal computer and digital camera, and located child pornography on the computer, along with hidden images and videos. SA Barnes said the Internet browser history indicated the person using the computer spent time surfing between travel sites and a photo-sharing Web site where child pornography was viewed. Keck was sentenced to 70 years in prison. The jury also ruled that Keck's residence, computer, and digital camera should be forfeited to the state because they were used in the commission or facilitation of crimes against children.

## FETAL THEFT IN OREGON

The FY05 RCFL Annual Report contained a story about the violent death of a young pregnant woman, Bobbi Jo Stinnett, whose baby was cut from her womb. Sadly, she died, but thankfully, her baby girl survived. HARCFL Examiner Jeff Owen played a key role in the investigation, locating the murderer's Internet Protocol address, which led authorities to her location, and the baby's. In June 2009, a similar case of fetal theft played out in Oregon, with the young mother-to-be, Heather Snively, 21, and her son, John Steven, losing their lives. The suspect in this case is Korena Roberts, 27, who, according to press reports, faked a pregnancy for months. Roberts met Ms. Snively on Craigslist where the two exchanged e-mails regarding baby clothes. Roberts' neighbors reported seeing the two women at her residence two weeks before the murder, and it was there that Roberts' boyfriend found the lifeless infant and a bloody crime scene. After he called 9-1-1, police came to the house and then returned after Roberts was brought to the hospital and doctors determined she had not given birth. Authorities found Ms. Snively's body in the crawl space of Roberts' home. According to the medical examiner, she died from "blunt force" and "sharp force injuries" to her stomach. Roberts was charged with Ms. Snively's murder, but not the infant's because Oregon law requires that it be shown the baby drew at least one breath outside the womb before separate charges could be considered. Autopsy results could not prove this occurred. NWRCFL Examiners reported to the crime scene, imaged the suspect's computer, and later imaged the victim's computer for examination. Roberts is being held in the Washington County Jail and faces the death penalty. The investigation is ongoing.

## 6.0 NAS REPORT ANALYSIS

On February 18, 2009, the National Research Council of the National Academies of Science (NAS) published a report entitled *Strengthening Forensic Science in the United States: A Path Forward*. Congress commissioned the report in response to calls from the forensics community for an in-depth analysis of the state of the science by an objective body of experts. Four years in the making—the report contains 13 recommendations aimed at strengthening forensic science across multiple disciplines and highlights many challenges facing the law enforcement community today.

The NAS report focused much-needed attention on the many complex challenges facing all forensic science practitioners. By implementing many of the recommendations years before the report was issued, the RCFL Program has set and maintained the highest standards possible for the practice of digital forensics. We have also devoted a significant share of our resources to educating our colleagues and peers about the role of digital evidence in criminal investigations, which was one of the recommendations made in the report.

### NAS RECOMMENDATIONS AND RCFL BEST PRACTICES

DOJ endorsed many, but not all of the recommendations made in the NAS report, as explained by Kenneth E. Melson, Acting Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, in testimony before the Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security on May 19, 2009. A sampling of the DOJ-endorsed recommendations from the NAS report that are applicable to the RCFL Program follow, along with the specific program best practices with which they align.

### NAS RECOMMENDATION: LABORATORY ACCREDITATION AND PRACTITIONER CERTIFICATION

Laboratory accreditation and individual certification of forensic science professionals should be mandatory, and all forensic science professionals should have access to a certification process. In determining appropriate standards for accreditation and certification, the National Institute of Forensic Science (NIFS) should take into account established and recognized international standards, such as those published by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). No person (public or private) should be allowed to practice in a forensic science discipline or testify as a forensic science professional without certification. Certification requirements should include, at a minimum, written examinations, supervised practice, proficiency testing, continuing education, recertification procedures, adherence to a code of ethics, and effective disciplinary procedures. All laboratories and facilities (public or private) should be accredited, and all forensic science professionals should be certified, when eligible, within a time period established by NIFS.

#### RCFL BEST PRACTICE

Since the RCFL Program's inception, it has been the Program's policy to certify individual Examiners and to obtain laboratory accreditation through an outside body such as ASCLD/LAB. To date, 12 RCFLs have earned this distinction, with the IWRCFL and the NTRCFL both obtaining ASCLD/LAB's international accreditation.

All Examiners must earn CART certification, which can take, on average, nine to 15 months. Every Examiner

trainee participates in an individualized training program that takes into account his/her work experience, and every individual can take as much as seven weeks of classroom training while undergoing extensive on-the-job-coaching by seasoned Examiners and taking self-paced work and a competency test. RCFL trainees may not conduct examinations independently until they earn their CART certification. The RCFL Program provides approximately \$13,000 for training during an Examiner's first year, \$9,800 during the second year, and approximately \$8,900 thereafter for continuing education courses. Moreover, the CART certification process trains Examiners how to testify in court and culminates in a moot court exercise in which trainees practice testifying before real prosecutors and are cross-examined, videotaped, and critiqued. RCFL Examiners are often required to testify under oath about how they conducted a forensic examination—in FY09, RCFL Examiners testified 92 times in court and/or hearings.

### NAS RECOMMENDATION: STRONGER QUALITY ASSURANCE AND CONTROL PROCEDURES

Forensics laboratories should establish routine quality assurance and quality control procedures to ensure the accuracy of forensic analyses and the work of forensics practitioners. Quality control procedures should be designed to identify mistakes, fraud, and bias; confirm the continued validity and reliability of standard operating procedures and protocols; ensure that best practices are being followed; and correct procedures and protocols that are found to need improvement.

### RCFL BEST PRACTICE

All RCFL personnel adhere to a strict set of standard operating procedures (SOP) as required by the FBI and to maintain ASCLD/LAB accreditation. This has always been a program best practice to ensure objective, consistent, quality examinations in support of pretrial legal proceedings and testimony in court.

### NAS RECOMMENDATION: SUPPORT FOR HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE FORENSIC SCIENCES

To attract students in the physical and life sciences to pursue graduate studies in multidisciplinary fields critical to forensic science practice, Congress should authorize and appropriate funds to the NIFS to work with appropriate organizations and educational institutions to improve and develop graduate education programs designed to cut across organizational, programmatic, and disciplinary boundaries. To make these programs appealing to potential students, they must include attractive scholarship and fellowship offerings. Emphasis should be placed on developing and improving research methods and methodologies applicable to forensic science practice and on funding research programs to attract research universities and students in fields relevant to forensic science. NIFS should also support law school administrators and judicial education organizations in establishing continuing legal education programs for law students, practitioners, and judges.



RCFL BEST PRACTICE

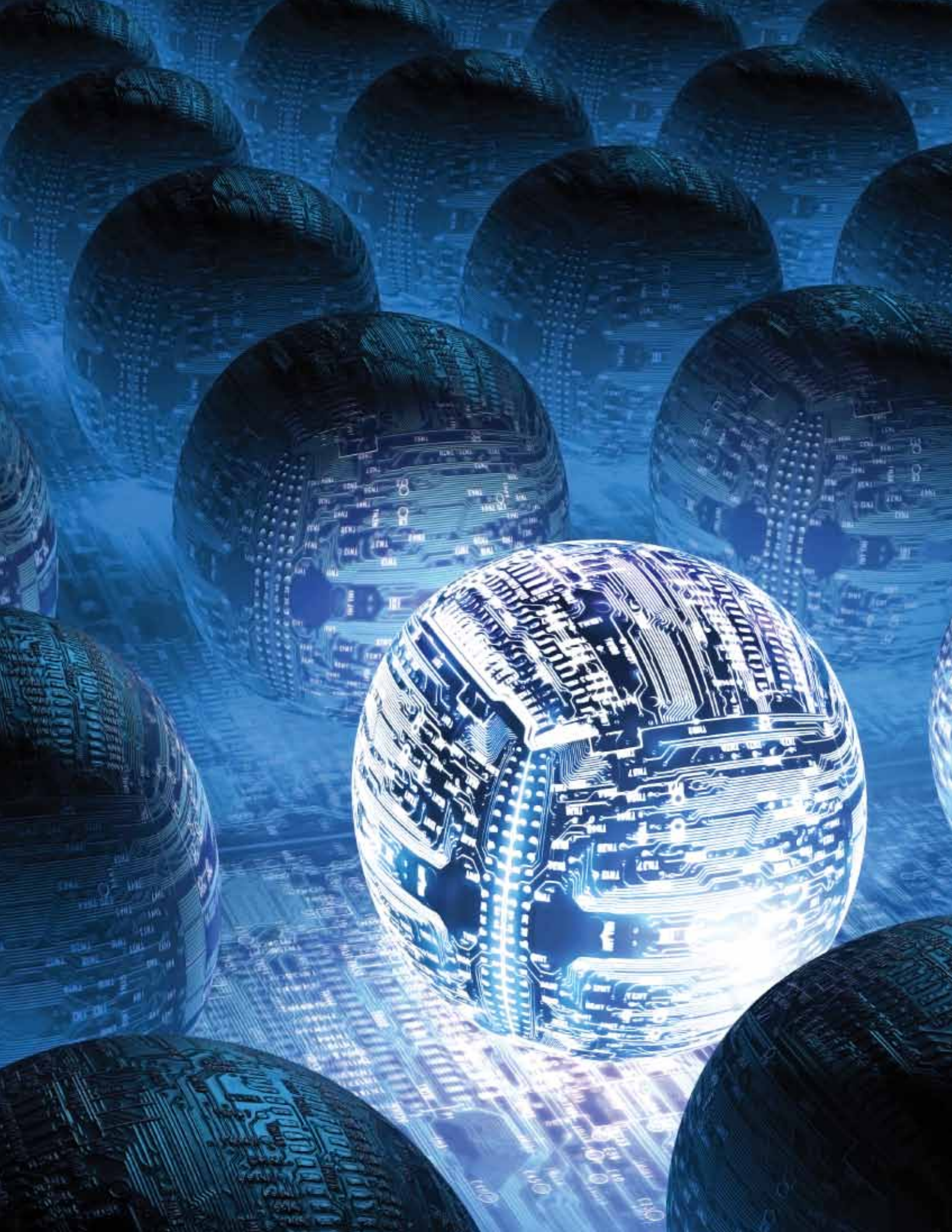
In FY06, the RCFL NPO, in cooperation with the FBI's Human Resources Division, launched the RCFL Internship Program, which focuses primarily on recruiting college juniors, seniors, and graduate students to work at selected RCFLs. Since the initiative began in 2007, 46 college students successfully completed internships at RCFLs—12 were hired upon graduation as FBI employees. In 2007, the NPO established the RCFL Cooperative (Co-op) Pilot through a partnership with the University of Louisville's Speed School of Engineering. Under the Co-op, two interns are assigned to the Kentucky RCFL (KRCFL), which is physically located on the campus. The students work at 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. To date, the KRCFL is the only such laboratory located on a college campus, but that will change once the New Mexico RCFL opens on the grounds of the University of New Mexico.

In addition to its various internship opportunities, the RCFL Program created its Continuing Education Series in 2007, which is an ongoing virtual training initiative that supplies timely information and useful tips on digital evidence practices and procedures. The Series offers webinars, webcasts, and written publications free of charge to members of the law enforcement community and government personnel.









## 7.0 LOOKING AHEAD TO FY10

The RCFL NPO will strive to complete the following projects and initiatives during FY10, in cooperation with the RCFLs as they manage their own day-to-day operations and individual projects:

### CONTINUING EDUCATION SERIES

Increasingly, the RCFL Program is focusing its efforts on providing online training resources to reach a wider audience of law enforcement professionals. Furthermore, with many municipalities facing budget cuts, offerings such as webinars and webcasts are the most economical way to obtain training because travel is not involved. During FY09, the RCFL NPO finalized plans to present a webinar entitled “Managing Mobile Forensics: What Every Peace Officer Must Know.” The purpose of the webinar is to provide a basic understanding about—

- The importance of handheld devices in criminal investigations
- How to properly identify, handle, and preserve digital evidence on mobile telephones, flash media, and other common handheld devices
- Legal issues surrounding mobile forensics
- Investing in data recovery tools.

### ABOUT OUR INSTRUCTORS

With access to some of the top experts in the digital forensics working for the RCFL Program and the FBI’s CART Unit, the NPO can request that these individuals serve as instructors and share their knowledge and expertise with the law enforcement community. The mobile forensics webinar instructors are Sergeant Alan Lee, an Examiner from the San Jose Police Department, assigned to the SVRCFL; and Curtis Thomas, an Electronics Engineer and Digital Forensics Examiner with CART. Both were selected because of their in-depth knowledge of mobile forensics, along with their wide expertise in a range of other common handheld devices, including iPods/MP3 players, gaming devices, GPSs, PDAs, flash media, USB devices, and digital cameras. Given the popularity of these devices, it is critical to have basic information about how they work and how to properly handle them at crime scenes. The webinar will provide this information and make the presenters available to answer participant questions.



## OPENING NEW RCFLs



Shown here is the outside of the NMRCFL's future home.



Pictured here is the future site of the OCRCFL.

### NEW MEXICO RCFL (NMRCFL)

NMRCFL Director Darrin Jones reached a major milestone with the signing of the MOU with the laboratory's participating agencies during FY09. With this legal document in place, the participating agency representatives are working together to formulate various plans, processes, and policies for the laboratory.

### ORANGE COUNTY RCFL (OCRCFL)

In addition to finalizing its MOU in FY09, the OCRCFL staff successfully completed 6,000 training hours for Examiner trainees, which included CAIR and ImageScan. The staff also participated in on-site operations and is working in temporary space assigned at the Anaheim Police Department where monthly meetings and training take place. OCRCFL Director Jason Weiss hopes to open for business in FY10, barring any unforeseen challenges or construction delays.

# PART 2 C



# CHICAGO RCFL

WWW.CHICAGORCFL.ORG



**YEAR ESTABLISHED:** 2003

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**  
John Dziedzic

**SERVICE AREA:**  
Northern Illinois

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES IN SERVICE AREA:**  
364

## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- Chicago Inspector General's Office
- Chicago Police Department
- Cook County Sheriff's Office
- FBI—Chicago Division
- Joliet Police Department
- Lombard Police Department
- Palatine Police Department
- University of Illinois at Chicago Police Department



## PROGRESS REPORT

The CGRCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY09 follow—

**59:** Number of agencies that requested assistance

**48:** Local

**9:** State

**2:** Federal

**419:** Number of service requests received

**962:** Number of pieces of media examined

**397:** Number of examinations completed

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

## TOP FIVE CUSTOMER REQUESTS BY CRIME CLASSIFICATION

- ■ ■ ■ ■ Obscenity
- ■ ■ ■ ■ Homicide
- ■ ■ ■ Sexual Assault
- ■ ■ Exploitation/Enticement
- ■ ■ Fraud



## NOTABLE NEWS

### Protecting the Community: Former Musician Found Guilty of Murder

—It took a jury less than six hours to find Steven Zirco guilty of the murders of Mary Lacey and her mother, Margaret Ballog. The CGRCFL supported the successful prosecution. Prosecutors primarily presented circumstantial evidence, including cellular telephone records, and a CGRCFL Examiner testified about his findings for three hours during the 10-day trial. The CGRCFL staff examined Mr. Zirco's and Ms. Lacey's computers and found Internet searches for "GHB" also known as the date rape drug, and other search terms, including "hire a mercenary" and "hire a hitman." Prosecutors believe that Mr. Zirco killed Ms. Lacey to obtain \$500,000 from a life insurance policy, and that her mother simply was in the wrong place at the wrong time. Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY09 GOALS



**Earn ASCLD/LAB Accreditation**—The CGRCFL earned ASCLD/LAB accreditation on August 20, 2009.



**Reduce Backlog**—The staff successfully reduced the backlog by streamlining its administrative reporting procedures and holding weekly staff meetings to discuss cases in backlog. Their efforts resulted in a 40-percent reduction.



**Streamline Operations**—The CGRCFL implemented an online system for service requests during FY09.



### Implement a New Service Request Policy—

In consultation with its Local Executive Board (LEB), the CGRCFL Director established a priority service request policy for incoming cases from non-participating agencies in the service area. This policy was approved by the LEB and implemented during FY09.



### Increase the Ranks—

The Joliet Police Department joined the CGRCFL in FY09.



### Perform Upgrades—

The staff completed the SAN upgrades and increased the laboratory's storage capacity and overall efficiency. A SAN 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. This increased capacity is especially important for the CGRCFL because it is one of the few laboratories in the national network that tests new hardware for possible deployment program-wide.

## GOALS FOR FY10

**Implement the CAIR System**—To increase efficiency and enhance customer service.

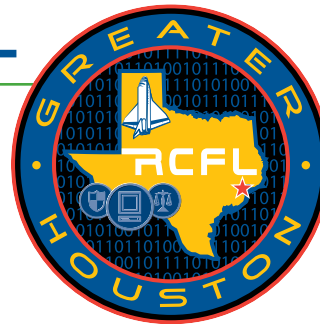
**Complete an Internal Audit**—To remain in compliance with OTD and ASCLD/LAB requirements.

**Grow the Ranks**—Add at least one new participating agency; hold an open house in FY10 to educate local law enforcement about the benefits of RCFL participation.

**Raise Examiner Goals**—Increase the existing requirement of 28 cases per Examiner per fiscal year to 40 cases. The new requirement will take into account the skill level of each Examiner and be adjusted accordingly for trainees and new staff.

# GREATER HOUSTON RCFL

WWW.GHRCFL.ORG



**YEAR ESTABLISHED:** 2005

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:** SSA  
Ryan Dusek

**SERVICE AREA:** Southern Texas

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES IN SERVICE AREA:**  
320

## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- FBI—Houston Division
- Harris County Precinct 4 Constable's Office
- Harris County Sheriff's Office
- Houston Police Department
- Pasadena Police Department
- Rosenberg Police Department



The GHRCFL staff with its ASCLD/LAB accreditation plaque.

## PROGRESS REPORT

The GHRCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY09 follow—

**35:** Number of agencies that requested assistance

**33:** Local

**2:** Federal

**326:** Number of service requests received

**1,207:** Number of pieces of media examined

**392:** Number of examinations completed

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

## TOP FIVE CUSTOMER REQUESTS BY CRIME CLASSIFICATION

- ■ ■ ■ ■ Exploitation/Enticement
- ■ ■ ■ Homicide
- ■ ■ Fraud
- ■ Sexual Assault
- Sexual Offense

## NOTABLE NEWS

**Backlog Reduction**—The GHRCFL was recognized by the RCFL NPO for its efforts to reduce its backlog by streamlining its administrative processes and implementing a case management system to better track cases and Examiner workloads.

**Second Kiosk Added**—Because of the overwhelmingly positive response to the introduction of the cellular telephone kiosk, the GHRCFL established a second station for use by investigators.

**Protecting the Community: Former Employee Convicted of Unauthorized Intrusion**—LifeGift is a non-profit organization that assists more than 200 hospitals throughout Texas by recovering organs and tissues for people needing transplants. Danielle Duann was its Information Technology (IT) Director for two years before being fired for unspecified reasons. She retaliated by erasing donor records, invoices, databases, and more, in order to harm the non-profit, and attempted to hide her tracks by deleting logs and disabling monitoring systems. Nonetheless, information found within LifeGift's computer network traced Ms. Duann's illegal access to the system directly to her residence. A criminal investigation was launched, and the GHRCFL staff examined LifeGift's computers—successfully retrieving several files deleted by Ms. Duann. She pled guilty to one count of unauthorized intrusion, was sentenced to two years in prison, and ordered to pay more than \$94,000 in restitution to the organization.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY09 GOALS



**Apply for ASCLD/LAB Accreditation**—The GHRCFL was awarded accreditation on June 10, 2009.



**Increase the Number of Participating Agencies**—Because of the economic crisis faced by many municipalities in south Texas, area police departments were unable to join or reassign an officer to the GHRCFL. Nonetheless, interest remains high in the Houston law enforcement community in joining the program.



### **Complete Installation of the CAIR System**—

The GHRCFL has acquired most of the components to complete the installation of the CAIR System and is awaiting final approval from OTD to move forward in FY10. In the interim, the GHRCFL implemented an in-house CAIR System to help meet its customers' needs.



### **Provide More Training Opportunities**—

The GHRCFL met this goal and is regularly used by myriad agencies. It provided the following training opportunities to federal, state, and local law enforcement:

- The GHRCFL team regularly conducts ImageScan and CAIR training.
- CART instructors use the GHRCFL classroom to certify new Examiners and provide continuing education.
- FBI recruiting personnel have conducted new Agent testing in the GHRCFL classroom.

Criminal Justice Information Services and the Texas Department of Public Safety provided computer-based instruction to more than 40 law enforcement personnel in the Texas Law Enforcement Data Exchange and the Law Enforcement National Data Exchange Systems at the GHRCFL.



### **Increase the Number of Officers Trained**—

GHRCFL instructors trained 43 officers in FY09 regarding digital forensics tools and techniques, an increase compared with FY08.

## GOALS FOR FY10

**Fully Install the SAN**—To increase efficiency.

**Complete the Implementation of the CAIR System**—To enhance customer service.

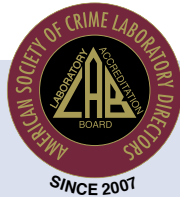
**Reduce the Backlog**—By an additional 15 percent.

**Grow the Ranks**—Add at least one new participating agency to the roster.



# HEART OF AMERICA RCFL

WWW.HARCFL.ORG



**YEAR ESTABLISHED:** 2003

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:** SSA  
Lou Ann Stovall

**SERVICE AREA:** Kansas and the  
Western Two-Thirds of Missouri

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES IN SERVICE AREA:**  
867

## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- FBI—Kansas City Division
- Grandview, Missouri Police Department
- Independence, Missouri Police Department
- 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
- Leavenworth County Sheriff's Office
- Lee's Summit, Missouri Police Department
- Lenexa, Kansas Police Department
- Missouri State Highway Patrol
- North Kansas City, Missouri Police Department
- Olathe, Kansas Police Department
- Overland Park, Kansas Police Department
- Platte County, Missouri Sheriff's Office
- Shawnee County, Kansas Sheriff's Office
- Topeka, Kansas Police Department
- U.S. Attorney's Office—
  - District of Kansas
  - Western District of Missouri
- U.S. Department of Agriculture—Office of the Inspector General

## PROGRESS REPORT

The HARCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY09 follow—

**72:** Number of agencies that requested assistance

**59:** Local

**9:** State

**4:** Federal

**620:** Number of service requests received

**3,640:** Number of pieces of media examined

**876:** Number of examinations completed

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

## TOP FIVE CUSTOMER REQUESTS BY CRIME CLASSIFICATION

■ ■ ■ ■ ■ Homicide

■ ■ ■ ■ ■ Sexual Assault

■ ■ ■ Dangerous Drugs

■ ■ Sexual Offense

■ Assault

## NOTABLE NEWS

### **New Laboratory Director Selected**

In September 2009, SSA Lou Ann Stovall was appointed as the new HARCFL laboratory director—the first woman in the RCFL Program’s history to serve in this capacity. SSA Stovall began her government career with the Internal Revenue Service after earning a Master in Business Administration. After working as an Internal Auditor for seven years, she joined the FBI and became a Special Agent in 1997. SSA Stovall held several positions with the Kansas City Division before becoming the HARCFL Director.



Lou Ann Stovall

**Forensic Programming Challenge (FPC)**—The HARCFL created the bi-annual competition, which is open to undergraduate students in Missouri and Kansas. Southwest Baptist University captured the Spring 2009 Challenge for developing an automated LimeWire program. The winner of the Fall Challenge, which required participants to develop a disc-wiping utility, will be announced during the second half of FY10. HARCFL Director Lou Ann Stovall said, “The Challenge has given us great opportunities to form excellent contacts with area colleges. It has also generated a great deal of interest in the FBI’s Honors Internship Program, and we are excited to continue hosting these events to recognize talented college students while strengthening our ties to academia in our area. It’s a win-win for everyone.”

**Significant Backlog Reduction**—The HARCFL reduced its backlog by 60 percent in FY09 by making extensive use of its cellular telephone kiosk for cellular telephones and videos. The online submission policy for non-participating agencies has also increased efficiency, along with training area law enforcement personnel in basic digital evidence-handling procedures to curtail submissions.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY09 GOALS



### **Establish the Associate Laboratory**

Because it has one of the largest service areas on record, the HARCFL, along with the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI), Shawnee County, Kansas Sheriff’s Office, and Topeka, Kansas Police Department, began collaborating in 2008 to form an associate laboratory, with the KBI providing laboratory space at no cost. Work on the project continued in FY09 but was impeded somewhat because of slow progress remodeling the future site of the laboratory and budget constraints faced by the participating agencies involved in the project. Completing the Associate Laboratory remains a goal for FY10.



### **Enhance Cellular Telephone Kiosk Offerings**

To help manage its workload, the HARCFL actively encouraged area law enforcement to take advantage of the laboratory’s self-service kiosk to preview cellular telephones whenever possible. These efforts paid off. During FY09, the kiosk was used 228 times—examining 290 telephones. In addition, 34 kiosk visits involved video reviews and copying CDs/DVDs.



### **Maintain a 60-Day Turnaround Time**

The HARCFL reduced its turnaround time for submitted requests for assistance from 60 days to 23 days on average.

## GOALS FOR FY10

**Enhance Kiosk Service Offerings**—Establish and implement new examination and kiosk solutions for GPS devices and live memory capture.

**Expand Training**—Offer new training classes tailored for investigators and digital forensics Examiners.

**Broaden Outreach Efforts**—Continue plans to present a basic digital evidence class to police academy cadets in the metropolitan area.

**Complete the Associate Laboratory**—Continue work on establishing an associate laboratory to better assist law enforcement agencies in rural areas.

# INTERMOUNTAIN WEST RCFL

WWW.IWRCFL.ORG



**YEAR ESTABLISHED:** 2003

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**  
SSA Michael Jensen

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

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES IN SERVICE AREA:**  
400

## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

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

## PROGRESS REPORT

The IWRCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY09 follow—

**97:** Number of agencies that requested assistance

**71:** Local

**14:** State

**12:** Federal

**491:** Number of service requests received

**4,831:** Number of pieces of media examined

**769:** Number of examinations completed

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

## TOP FIVE CUSTOMER REQUESTS BY CRIME CLASSIFICATION

Exploitation/Enticement

Fraud

Homicide

Dangerous Drugs

Sexual Assault



## NOTABLE NEWS

### Protecting the Community: Suspect Evades Police; Eventually Captured

The IWRCFL is supporting an investigation by the Utah Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, which arrested Jonathan Toole on February 12, 2009, on suspicion of sexual exploitation and evading a police officer. Toole, 26, had online conversations with an undercover agent posing as a young girl and allegedly asked to meet her for a sexual encounter. Toole showed up at the meeting place, allegedly realized that law enforcement was there to arrest him, and escaped by driving up to 100 mph through a crowded residential area. Concerned that continuing the chase might endanger innocent bystanders, the ICAC agents obtained a search warrant for his home where he was arrested without incident. The IWRCFL examined the digital evidence obtained from Toole's home as a result of the search warrant. "This was a very dangerous situation for the public and potentially to any child who may have been in contact with this suspect," said Attorney General Mark Shurtleff, a member of the IWRCFL's Local Executive Board. The investigation is ongoing.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY09 GOALS



### Achieve ASCLD/LAB International Accreditation

In FY09, the IWRCFL became the first RCFL and the 71st laboratory in the world to earn international accreditation by ASCLD/LAB.



### Complete the Installation of CAIR System

The IWRCFL staff completed installation of the CAIR System in FY09.



**Reduce the Backlog**—With 179 requests in backlog, the IWRCFL aggressively tackled the situation—reducing the number by the end of FY09 to 18.



### Increase Laboratory Capabilities in the Areas of Audio and Video Forensic Analysis

Two Examiners completed FBI training in this discipline and earned certification as Forensic Audio Video Program video technicians.



### Add at Least One New Participating Agency

The Sandy City Police Department, an original member of the IWRCFL, rejoined the laboratory in FY09 as a participating agency.

## GOALS FOR FY10

**Launch the CAIR System**—With implementation of the CAIR System completed, the laboratory staff will promote its use for its state/local customers in its vast service area encompassing Utah, Idaho, and Montana.

**Obtain ASCLD/LAB Accreditation**—Specifically in the audio/visual sub-discipline.

**Grow the Staff**—Add three new CART-certified Examiners.

**Increase Productivity**—By at least 10 percent.



**YEAR ESTABLISHED:** 2006

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**  
Mike Viergutz

**SERVICE AREA:**  
Kentucky

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES IN SERVICE AREA:**  
420

## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- Department of Criminal Investigations
- FBI—Louisville Division
- Kentucky State Police
- Louisville Metro Police Department
- University of Louisville

## PROGRESS REPORT

The KRCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY09 follow—

**15:** Number of agencies that requested assistance

**11:** Local

**2:** State

**2:** Federal

**122:** Number of service requests received

**2,753:** Number of pieces of media examined

**110:** Number of examinations completed

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

## TOP FIVE CUSTOMER REQUESTS BY CRIME CLASSIFICATION

- ■ ■ ■ ■ Exploitation/Enticement
- ■ ■ ■ ■ Homicide
- ■ ■ ■ Dangerous Drugs
- ■ Sexual Offense
- Fraud

## NOTABLE NEWS

**AMBER Alerts**—The KRCFL supported two AMBER Alerts during FY09. According to the DOJ's Web site on this topic, the AMBER Alert™ Program is a voluntary partnership between law enforcement agencies, broadcasters, transportation agencies, and the wireless industry, to activate an urgent bulletin in the most serious child-abduction cases. The goal of an AMBER Alert is to instantly galvanize the entire community to assist in the search for and the safe recovery of the child.

**Protecting the Community: Anonymous Tip Leads to Arrest as Part of Project Safe Childhood**—On July 9, 2009, Edward Lee Dewey, 46, of Louisville, Kentucky, pled guilty to charges of receiving and possessing child pornography. On August 26, 2008, Louisville Metro Police (LMPD), a participating agency in the Kentucky RCFL (KRCFL), acted on an anonymous tip that Dewey had child pornography on his computer. The LMPD executed a search of Dewey's home and seized numerous CDs and videos, which were brought to the KRCFL for examination and confirmed to contain images and videos of child pornography. Dewey was sentenced to 30 years in federal prison. This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched by the DOJ to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse.

**Online Crimes Against Children Earn Lengthy Jail Sentences**—The KRCFL supported the multi-agency investigation of Joseph Robert Leitner, 62, on charges that he possessed child pornography. The investigation was conducted by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the Kentucky State Police (a participating agency in the KRCFL), and the Lexington Division of Police. The laboratory staff processed and analyzed large volumes of data in Leitner's possession. He

eventually pled guilty to charges that he possessed more than 30,000 images of child pornography. Leitner received a 15-year federal prison term and agreed to forfeit his home.

**Significantly Reduced Backlog**—During FY09, the KRCFL reduced its backlog by nearly 50 percent.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY09 GOALS



**Pursue ASCLD/LAB Accreditation**—The KRCFL earned accreditation in March 2009.



**Implement the CAIR System**—The staff completed the installation of the CAIR System and made this service available to its state and local customers throughout the State of Kentucky.



**Grow the Ranks**—The KRCFL did not add a new participating agency during FY09, but this remains a goal for FY10 and beyond.

## GOALS FOR FY10

**Increase the Number of Participating Agencies**—By two.

**Install the SAN**—As part of the CAIR System.

**Launch the Micro-Lab Network**—Make operational the eight "Micro-Labs" throughout the state for pre-processing digital evidence.

**Add Training Offerings**—Increase ICAC/computer examination training opportunities for law enforcement personnel in the KRCFL's service area.





**YEAR ESTABLISHED:** 2006

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**  
SA Dave Barnes

**SERVICE AREA:**  
Southern Ohio

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES IN SERVICE AREA:**  
183

## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- Dayton Police Department
- FBI—Cincinnati Division, Dayton Field Office
- Lebanon Division of Police
- Miami Valley Regional Crime Laboratory

## PROGRESS REPORT

The MVRCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY09 follow—

**36:** Number of agencies that requested assistance

**29:** Local

**2:** State

**5:** Federal

**192:** Number of service requests received

**1,600:** Number of pieces of media examined

**176:** Number of examinations completed

## TOP FIVE CUSTOMER REQUESTS BY CRIME CLASSIFICATION

■■■■■ Obscenity

■■■■■ Fraud

■■■■ Family Offense

■■■ Dangerous Drugs

■ Burglary

## NOTABLE NEWS

---

### **Protecting the Community: High School Coach**

**Arrested**—Marc Norman Greenberg, 32, was a prominent attorney and high school girls basketball coach, but on May 4, 2009, life as he knew it abruptly ended when FBI agents arrested him at his law office. A few weeks later, he was indicted by a grand jury on 12 felony counts for sending sexually explicit messages and videos over the Internet. The complaint against Greenberg alleges that during the period of February through April 2009, he used computers at his home and office to engage in graphic sexual conversations and transmitted obscene video images. Greenberg allegedly sent these images to individuals he believed were young girls, but were actually detectives working undercover. Greenberg is no longer the coach of the Chaminade-Julienne Girls Basketball team, and the charges against him do not include any illegal conduct when he served in that role. The MVRCL is supporting the ongoing investigation, and Greenberg's trial is scheduled for March 10, 2010. Conviction on each count carries a maximum punishment of 10 years imprisonment, the possibility of supervised release over his lifetime, and the requirement to register as a sexual offender.

**Homicide in Rural Area**—The small town of Greenville, Ohio, is best known for having Annie Oakley as one of its most famous residents and for once serving as the base of operations for famed Shawnee Tribal Chief Tecumseh in the 18th century. However, it is also the place where 54-year-old Patrick Cheadle was found dead in a van on November 3, 2009. Authorities initially ruled his death as suspicious, but it soon became a multi-state homicide

investigation. The MVRCL examined cellular telephones associated with the investigation and is providing additional digital forensics support as needed. To date, two suspects have been arrested in Mr. Cheadle's death, as the investigation continues with possible court dates in 2010.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY09 GOALS

---



### **Increase the Number of Participating Agencies**

—The MVRCL welcomed the Lebanon Division of Police as a participating agency, meeting its goal of adding at least one new partner to its ranks.



**Reduce the Backlog**—Although the laboratory set a goal of decreasing the backlog by 18 percent, it surpassed all expectations and is close to erasing it altogether. By the end of FY09, the MVRCL had seven cases in backlog and is working to reduce this number to zero.

## GOALS FOR FY10

---

**Collaborate with Local Partners**—Work with representatives of the nearby Air Force Institute of Technology and personnel at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base to develop projects and training that address the various organizations' common challenges.

# NEW JERSEY RCFL

WWW.NJRCFL.ORG



**YEAR ESTABLISHED:** 2004

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:** SSA  
Ronald Menold II

**SERVICE AREA:**  
New Jersey

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES IN SERVICE AREA:**  
550

## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

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

## PROGRESS REPORT

The NJRCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY09 follow—

**64:** Number of agencies that requested assistance

**51:** Local

**11:** State

**2:** Federal

**605:** Number of service requests received

**2,278:** Number of pieces of media examined

**510:** Number of examinations completed

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

## TOP FIVE CUSTOMER REQUESTS BY CRIME CLASSIFICATION

- ■ ■ ■ ■ Exploitation/Enticement
- ■ ■ ■ ■ Homicide
- ■ ■ ■ ■ Fraud
- ■ ■ ■ ■ Robbery
- ■ ■ ■ ■ Sexual Assault



## NOTABLE NEWS

**Significantly Reduced the Backlog**—During FY09, the NJRCFL reduced its backlog by more than half.

**Provided Critical Expertise**—A police detective executing a search warrant at a suspected child pornographer's home called the NJRCFL with a question: The suspect's computer was on and running an encryption program. Now what? Situations such as these are not uncommon. Encryption prevents anyone without the password from accessing the files; therefore, if the computer is turned off, data may never be accessible again. After discussing the situation further, it was decided the expertise of a computer forensics Examiner was needed, and two members of the NJRCFL went on-site and successfully performed an important procedure before shutting the computer down and bringing it to the RCFL for further examination. Examinations involving encryption are often extremely labor intensive; in this case, the Examiners worked overnight and provided investigators with the data they needed to charge the suspect. The investigation is ongoing.

**Online Crimes Against Children Earn Lengthy Jail Sentences**—Russell Christie moderated a Web site devoted to child pornography and sex with children. His online career came to a crashing halt when he was arrested by FBI agents in summer 2006 for these activities. The NJRCFL supported the criminal investigation—examining more than 200 pieces of media totaling approximately 600 gigabytes. Mr. Christie went to trial in 2009 where three NJRCFL Examiners testified regarding their findings. The jury found him guilty on six counts of advertising child pornography, one count of receipt of child pornography, and one count of possession of child pornography. At age 51, Mr. Christie was sentenced to 90 years in federal prison—a virtual life sentence.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY09 GOALS



### **Enhance the Quality Management System—**

The NJRCFL, deeply committed to maintaining the Quality Management System, appointed a full-time Quality Manager (QM) to evaluate operations and adjust laboratory administration and operational processes. The QM has successfully completed ASCLD/LAB training, as the laboratory staff prepares to apply for international accreditation by ASLCD/LAB.

## GOALS FOR FY10

**Reduce the Backlog**—By at least 15 percent.

### **Enhance the Quality Management System—**

Continue to seek ways to increase efficiency and enhance quality throughout all aspects of the laboratory's operations.

### **Review Options for CAIR Implementation—**

The NJRCFL is querying its state and local customers to determine whether the laboratory should proceed with installing the CAIR System for their use.

# NORTH TEXAS RCFL

WWW.NTRCFL.ORG

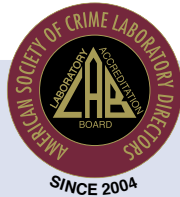


**YEAR ESTABLISHED:** 2000

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**  
SA Michael S. Morris

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

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES IN  
SERVICE AREA:** 573



## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- Dallas Police Department
- Denton County District Attorney's Office
- FBI—Dallas Division
- Garland Police Department
- Grand Prairie Police Department
- Plano Police Department

## PROGRESS REPORT

The RCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY09 follow—

**63:** Number of agencies that requested assistance

**53:** Local

**7:** State

**3:** Federal

**577:** Number of service requests received

**4,016:** Number of pieces of media examined

**543:** Number of examinations completed

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

## TOP FIVE CUSTOMER REQUESTS BY CRIME CLASSIFICATION

- ■ ■ ■ ■ Exploitation/Enticement
  - ■ ■ ■ Sexual Assault
    - ■ ■ Fraud
      - ■ Homicide
        - Sexual Offense

## NOTABLE NEWS

**Reduced the Backlog**—The NTRCFL reduced its backlog by half during FY09.

**Continued Partnership with Mexico**—The NTRCFL continued working with Mexican law enforcement authorities and conducted training for several officers in the program's digital and video forensics tools and techniques.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY09 GOALS



### **Gain ASCLD/LAB International**

**Accreditation**—In FY09, the NTRCFL met its goal of achieving international accreditation from ASCLD/LAB—becoming the second RCFL in the program to reach this milestone, and the first to earn accreditation in digital evidence under Legacy and the International program.



### **Add at Least One New Participating**

### **Agency**

—The NTRCFL did not achieve this goal, but will continue seeking new opportunities with potential participating agencies within its service area.

## GOALS FOR FY10

**Expand the CAIR System**—Investigate the option of installing a CAIR System for use by state and local customers.

**Increase the Number of Participating Agencies**—By at least one.







**YEAR ESTABLISHED:** 2005

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**  
Andy Schroder

**SERVICE AREA:**  
Oregon and Southwest Washington

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES IN SERVICE AREA:**  
109

## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- Beaverton, Oregon Police Department
- Bonneville Power Administration
- Clark County, Washington Sheriff's Office
- FBI—Portland Division
- Gresham, Oregon Police Department
- Hillsboro, Oregon Police Department
- Multnomah County, Oregon Department of Community Justice
- Oregon State Crime Laboratory
- Oregon State Police
- Portland, Oregon Police Bureau
- Washington County Sheriff's Office

## PROGRESS REPORT

The NWRCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY09 follow—

**25:** Number of agencies that requested assistance

**21:** Local

**1:** State

**3:** Federal

**266:** Number of service requests received

**765:** Number of pieces of media examined

**224:** Number of examinations completed

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

## TOP FIVE CUSTOMER REQUESTS BY CRIME CLASSIFICATION

- Exploitation
- Homicide
- Sexual Assault
- Counterfeiting
- Larceny



NWRCFL Director Andy Schroeder takes questions from reporters during the press conference announcing the lab's accreditation.



An NWRCFL Examiner explains some of the laboratory's capabilities to a reporter.

## NOTABLE NEWS

**Reduced the Backlog**—The NWRCFL reduced its backlog by approximately 50 percent during FY09.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY09 GOALS



**Earn ASCLD/LAB Accreditation**—The NWRCFL earned accreditation in FY09, becoming the eighth RCFL to reach this goal. On February 11, 2009, a press conference was held to make the announcement, which was well attended by the local media.



**Implement the CAIR System**—This goal was met, and the CAIR System is operational. The NWRCFL is currently working with its state and local customers to promote the tool and broaden access to it. With a service area encompassing all of Oregon and southwest Washington State, the CAIR System will make accessing the laboratory's findings much more convenient.



### **Increase the Number of Participating Agencies**

—The NWRCFL did not meet this goal, but will continue seeking new partnerships with potential participating agencies in its service area.



### **Reduce Turnaround Times**

—The length of time needed to complete a forensic examination remained the same; however, the laboratory staff cut the backlog by nearly half with 25 such requests in FY09 compared with 46 in FY08.

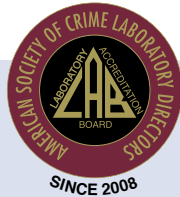
## GOALS FOR FY10

**Increase Participation**—To accommodate the growing caseload, the NWRCFL will continue seeking new partners to join it as participating agencies at the state, local, and federal level in the region.

**Reduce the Backlog**—By at least 15 percent.

# PHILADELPHIA RCFL

WWW.PHRCFL.ORG



**YEAR ESTABLISHED:** 2006

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**  
SSA 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
- FBI—Philadelphia Division
- Lancaster City Bureau of Police
- Lower Merion Township Police Department
- Lower Providence Township Police Department
- Montgomery County (PA) District Attorney's Office
- Philadelphia Police Department

## TOP FIVE CUSTOMER REQUESTS BY CRIME CLASSIFICATION

- Sexual Assault
- Fraud
- Homicide
- Robbery
- Assault

## PROGRESS REPORT

The PHRCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY09 follow—

**41:** Number of agencies that requested assistance

**33:** Local

**4:** State

**4:** Federal

**377:** Number of service requests received

**1,696:** Number of pieces of media examined

**429:** Number of examinations completed

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

## NOTABLE NEWS

**Earned ASCLD/LAB Accreditation**—The PHRCFL was officially accredited by ASCLD/LAB in the field of computer forensics of digital and multimedia evidence on December 6, 2008. A press conference and presentation ceremony was held on April 7, 2009, followed by an open house for members of the local law enforcement community.

**Installed a Cellular Telephone Kiosk**—A kiosk was installed and made available to area law enforcement starting in February 2009.

**Received Additional Certifications for Examiners**—Two PHRCFL Examiners were certified in the Forensic Audio/Video Program Field Pilot program. Because the number of case submissions involving video forensics continues to rise annually, both Examiners will continue refining their skills in this area and will attend additional digital video forensics training during FY10.






PHRCFL Director JP McDonald answers a reporter's question as SAC Janice K. Fedarcyk looks on with RCFL Unit Chief Bryan Tepper.


**Conducted Outreach**—PHRCFL Laboratory Director JP McDonald gave a well-received presentation at the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association's Annual Education and Training conference on July 29, 2009, regarding the RCFL's capabilities, policies, and procedures. This was part of the continuing outreach effort to educate local law enforcement about digital evidence and to encourage them to become participating agencies.


**Protected the Community: Alleged Prostitution Ring Busted**—The PHRCFL provided critical support to an investigation involving an alleged prostitution ring operating out of a private home. Two PHRCFL Examiners participated in a search of the home—seizing and processing multiple computers along with 10 cellular telephones. In March 2009, three suspects were charged in federal court with operating a multi-state, Internet-based prostitution ring. The investigation is ongoing.


## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY09 GOALS

 **Provide Diverse Training Opportunities**—The PHRCFL offered a variety of digital forensics courses and workshops addressing a range of technical topics and issues, including ImageScan, CAIR, FBI Intelligence Analysts training, search and seizure of digital evidence, multiple sessions of Regional County Detective Schools, Virtual Computer Forensics, CPIK training for users and administrators, Access Data

Windows forensics, Victim Service Training, Microsoft Windows Media Technology course, Impulse Control Software training, Computer Forensics 101 and 102, JNET Facial Recognition Software training, Cybercrime Institute for first responders and network investigations, Forensic Accountant Certification, and Police Office Orientation.

 **Broaden the Forensics Services Offerings**—As explained above, the PHRCFL is committed to offering training that is both timely and diverse. During FY09, the staff introduced a two-day basic forensics course for police officers and investigators entitled "Computer Forensics 101 and 102."

 **Expand the CAIR System**—In May 2009, the PHRCFL completed a major upgrade to the SAN that involved installation of new servers and backbone switches, a new backup tape library, and more than 100 TBs of storage space. The laboratory staff is also evaluating the possible purchase of a new state/local CAIR system.

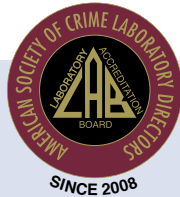
 **Increase the Number of Participating Agencies**—The Delaware County District Attorney's Office assigned a new Examiner to the PHRCFL who has contributed toward managing the laboratory's workload. No new agencies joined the PHRCFL in FY09.

## GOALS FOR FY10

**Enhance Productivity**—Increase the number of cases processed by 10 percent.

**Grow the Staff and/or the Number of Participating Agencies**—Identify and recruit at least one partner agency or expand existing agency participation to increase the number of forensic Examiners or administrative support. The addition of trained Examiners to the staff will ensure a rapid and effective response to future requests for assistance from law enforcement.

**Seek New Partnerships**—Continue cultivating working relationships among law enforcement, the private sector, academia, and other government agencies by serving as a focal point for the exchange and dissemination of information and by fostering solutions to common challenges faced by these entities.



**YEAR ESTABLISHED:** 2006

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**  
SSA Sean K. O'Brien

**SERVICE AREA:**  
Colorado and Wyoming

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES IN SERVICE AREA:**  
269

## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- 18th Judicial District Attorney's Office
- Adams County, Colorado Sheriff's Office
- Arapahoe County, Colorado Sheriff's Office
- Arvada, Colorado Police Department
- Aurora, Colorado Police Department
- Colorado Bureau of Investigation
- Denver, Colorado District Attorney's Office
- Denver, Colorado Police Department
- Douglas County, Colorado Sheriff's Office
- FBI—Denver Division
- Golden, Colorado Police Department
- Jefferson County Colorado Sheriff's Office

## PROGRESS REPORT

The RMRCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY09 follow—

**59:** Number of agencies that requested assistance

**50:** Local

**6:** State

**3:** Federal

**339:** Number of service requests received

**1,995:** Number of pieces of media examined

**283:** Number of examinations completed

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

## TOP FIVE CUSTOMER REQUESTS BY CRIME CLASSIFICATION

- ■ ■ ■ ■ Child Pornography/Exploitation
- ■ ■ ■ ■ White Collar Crime
- ■ ■ Child Sexual Assault
- ■ Homicide
- Computer Hacking

## NOTABLE NEWS

### Online Crimes Against Children Earn Lengthy Jail Sentences

The RMRCFL supported an investigation originally launched by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) of a Web site operator who sold subscriptions of still and video child pornography. As a result, one of the Web site's subscribers, Kenneth Dean Sturm, 48, came under investigation and was subsequently charged and tried in U.S. District Court of Colorado. Two RMRCFL Examiners testified during the nine-day trial regarding the examinations they conducted on two computers owned by Mr. Sturm. He was convicted and faces 10 to 20 years for possession of child pornography with a prior conviction for sexual abuse, and another 15 to 40 years for receiving child pornography between January 2005 and May 2006, with a prior conviction for sexual abuse. A sentencing date in U.S. District Court has not been set.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY09 GOALS



**Fully Install the SAN**—The RMRCFL staff successfully installed the SAN hardware and subsequently increased its storage capacity by several TBs.



**Decrease Backlog**—This goal was not met in FY09.

## GOALS FOR FY10

**Grow the Ranks**—Add at least one new participating agency.

**Reduce the Backlog**—By 18 percent.







**YEAR ESTABLISHED:** 1999

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**  
SSA Craig Porter

**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
- El Cajon Police Department
- Escondido Police Department
- FBI—San Diego Division
- La Mesa Police Department
- National City Police Department
- Naval Criminal Investigative Service
- Oceanside Police Department
- San Diego County District Attorney's Office
- San Diego Police Department
- San Diego Sheriff's Department
- U.S. Attorney's Office—Southern District of California

## TOP FIVE CUSTOMER REQUESTS BY CRIME CLASSIFICATION

- Homicide
- Exploitation/Enticement
- Sexual Offense
- Fraud
- Sexual Assault

## PROGRESS REPORT

The SDRFCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY09 follow—

**28:** Number of agencies that requested assistance

**14:** Local

**5:** State

**9:** Federal

**699:** Number of service requests received

**2,551:** Number of pieces of media examined

**619:** Number of examinations completed

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

## NOTABLE NEWS

**Welcomed Several New Participating Agencies**—The SDRFCFL welcomed an impressive five new participating agencies in FY09—El Cajon Police Department, Escondido Police Department, La Mesa Police Department, National City Police Department, and Oceanside Police Department.

**Reduced the Backlog**—The SDRFCFL reduced the number of requests placed in backlog by almost 100 percent.

**Responded to AMBER Alerts**—The SDRFCFL staff supported two investigations involving AMBER alerts.



**Installed the "Mini" SAN**—In 2008, the SDRFCFL joined forces with the ICAC in San Diego—which serves as the laboratory's satellite location—complete with the hardware, software, and security requirements of a full RCFL. In FY09, SDRFCFL staff designed, tested, and deployed a mini-SAN at the satellite location, which enables Examiners to produce results for posting on CAIR in record time. This capability is also generating a significant cost savings because large purchases of hard drives are no longer necessary thanks to the mini-SAN.



**Launched a Quarterly Newsletter**—To keep its clients and LEB members apprised of news, training events, and policy updates, the staff launched a quarterly newsletter that has received very positive reviews.

**Received Honors**—The SDRCL received the CART Certificate of Recognition for conducting a significant number of sub-specialty examinations for the period of January 2009–July 2009. The SDRCL also received its first annual ASCLD/LAB inspection certification.

## PROTECTING THE COMMUNITY

**Photographer Abuses Aspiring Young Models**—San Diego area photographer Gary Lee Whiteside, 66, used his photography business to exploit young girls and aspiring models. Instead of taking portfolio photographs, he posed the youngsters inappropriately and had sexual relations with seven girls. When hundreds of sexually charged photographs involving minors were discovered after Whiteside vacated his office space, authorities were contacted. Whiteside was suspected of molesting nine girls between the ages of 11 and 15 over a five-year period. SDRCL Laboratory Director Craig Porter processed more than 20 pieces of media in association with the investigation and testified in court for the prosecution. Whiteside pled guilty to four counts of lewd acts with a minor and received 60 years in prison for his crimes.

**Parolee Slays Elderly Man**—On October 27, 2009, Ralph Edward Gardner, 82, was found stabbed to death with an ice pick in addition to being beaten with a metal statue. The murder occurred just days after Rhonda Hill, 39, completed an eight-year jail sentence and parole for attacking her mother years before. According to press reports, shortly after her release, Ms. Hill had an affair with the victim. The SDRCL supported the murder investigation and recovered digital evidence that proved valuable to the prosecution. Police reports stated eyewitnesses saw Ms. Hill running from the apartment where Mr. Gardner's body was found. Ms. Hill pleaded guilty and must serve 35 years in jail before becoming eligible for parole.

**Lab Supports Successful Prosecution of Long-Running Case**—For the past six years, the SDRCL supported a complex investigation involving Peregrine Systems, a publicly traded software company based in San Diego. Founded in 1981, the firm achieved market dominance nearly 20 years later, but it all came crashing down in 2002 after an accounting scandal forced Peregrine into bankruptcy and resulted in criminal indictments for 11 senior managers, including the former CEO, vice president, and general counsel. Several executives received federal prison sentences or probation. The SDRCL devoted hundreds of hours of staff time to the investigation and participated in multiple search warrants at the company's site.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY09 GOALS



**Institute a Comprehensive Triage Process**—This process was successfully implemented in FY09 and is helping the staff prioritize examination work, narrow investigative requests, and maximize laboratory performance. As part of the implementation, a room was designated solely for conducting tasks associated with prioritization. Also, new CART SOPs were adopted to narrow investigative requests, thereby maximizing performance.



**Develop and Implement a Business Plan**—This plan was completed and implemented, with early results indicating that it is meeting the goal of ensuring the SDRCL has adequate resources to keep pace with technology and the increasing number of service requests. The plan required the SDRCL's participating agencies to support the laboratory by providing either a staff member(s) or funding.



### Expand CAIR System and Cellular Telephone

**Kiosk**—The staff successfully completed installation of the CAIR system with financial assistance provided by the San Diego District Attorney's Office. The system enables state and local customers to review the laboratory's findings in the convenience of their own offices. The staff manages each case in the system through a main portal, from beginning to end. This provides a more efficient way to track cases. The cellular telephone kiosk is also serving as a valuable resource, and to further promote its use and increase efficiency, the SDRCL introduced a new policy in FY09 requiring all agencies to review their cellular telephone data first via the kiosk before submitting the device for a full examination.

## GOALS FOR FY10

**Boost Server Room Capacity**—By situating all computer networks within the laboratory in one designated space.

**Broaden Training**—Develop and teach an audio/video training course for on-scene investigators. Also create and offer an Intermediate CAIR course for advanced users.

**Provide Forensic Resources for Peers**—Purchase a mobile forensics software kit for the San Diego FBI North County Office that can be used by all law enforcement task forces in the region.

**Increase the Number of Participating Agencies**—Continue to recruit potential partner agencies in the San Diego law enforcement community to join the SDRCL.

**Strengthen Services**—Augment the laboratory's forensic services by enhancing timeliness and productivity of the forensic examination processes by testing loose media such as USB devices through the Loose Media Kiosk. Doing so will improve turnaround time on case-specific support for all agencies.



**YEAR ESTABLISHED:** 2005

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**  
SSA 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
- FBI—San Francisco Division
- Newark Police Department
- Oakland Police Department
- Palo Alto Police Department
- San Jose Police Department
- Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office

## TOP FIVE CUSTOMER REQUESTS BY CRIME CLASSIFICATION

- Homicide
- Fraud
- Obscenity
- Assault
- Dangerous Drugs

## PROGRESS REPORT

The SVRCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY09 follow—

**41:** Number of agencies that requested assistance

**36:** Local

**3:** State

**2:** Federal

**368:** Number of service requests received

**1,262:** Number of pieces of media examined

**385:** Number of examinations completed

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

## NOTABLE NEWS

**SVRCFL Examiner Selected for International Training Event**—SVRCFL Examiner Alan Lee was selected from the national RCFL Program to serve as one of two instructors for a webinar on mobile forensics, scheduled for early FY10. Examiner Lee is a Sergeant with the San Jose Police Department where he began his career as a police officer in 1993. He was assigned to the SVRCFL in 2007 and earned FBI certification as a Computer Forensics Examiner, Cellular Phone Examiner, and MAC Examiner for the CART Unit. Examiner Lee's vast expertise and knowledge regarding digital and mobile forensics, as well as



Shown here are the 2009 Webinar presenters Alan Lee, an Examiner with the SVRCFL (left), and Curtis Thomas, with CART (right).

his years of experience as a law enforcement officer, make him an ideal choice for a webinar instructor.

**E-Newsletter Launched**—The SVRCFL began disseminating a quarterly e-newsletter to its participating agencies and other stakeholders to keep them informed about news, events, and training opportunities available at the laboratory.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY09 GOALS



**Launch Center of Excellence**—Progress on this concept continued in FY09, notably with development of a baseline forensic examination system using the MacPro desktops. SVRCFL personnel worked alongside FBI headquarters staff and various CART members to develop a single platform examination station for conducting analysis of most types of digital media. In line with this development and recognizing the capability of this hardware, SVRCFL personnel developed a self-paced study guide to implement and use the Mac workstations to their full capacity. This guide was adopted in its entirety and distributed nationwide to all CART Examiners for mandatory training purposes. Because of the SVRCFL Examiners' close proximity and professional relationships with Apple Inc.'s headquarters staff in the Silicon Valley, and deep knowledge and familiarity with Apple's products, they will continue to identify similar actionable projects that can benefit the RCFL and CART programs.



### **Recruit Additional Participating Agencies**—

The SVRCFL did not meet this goal, but will continue to seek potential partners to join the laboratory.

## GOALS FOR FY10

**Recruit Additional Participating Agencies**—The SVRCFL continues to recruit local agencies and inform them about the many benefits of joining the RCFL Program. The goal for FY10 is to add at least one new participating agency.

**Publish the E-Newsletter**—The inaugural edition of the e-newsletter was lauded by its recipients, and plans are to continue publication through 2010 and beyond.

**Enhance Forensic Services**—The SVRCFL staff identified several ways to accomplish this goal:

- **Decrease the Backlog**—By 20 percent from FY09.
- **Reduce Cycle Times**—By 20 percent from FY09.
- **Raise Examiner Productivity**—Change the required "minimum" service requests completed per Examiner from 20 to 30.
- **Increase Efficiency**—By using a "preview" SOP to determine whether a full forensic examination is required. The SOP provides investigators with the digital evidence results they need in the most efficient manner possible. The SVRCFL hopes to reduce the number of full examinations conducted by 10 percent in FY10.

### **Prepare for and Submit Application for International Accreditation from ASCLD/LAB**

**Continue Work on Center of Excellence**—By establishing one private partnership in furtherance of the Center, designing and securing an adequate funding source to build an all-Mac classroom within the SVRCFL (a first for the program), and identifying a technology solution to strengthen Mac forensics across the RCFL Program nationwide.



**YEAR ESTABLISHED:** 2003

**LABORATORY DIRECTOR:**  
SSA Robert Kosakowski

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

**NUMBER OF AGENCIES IN SERVICE AREA:**  
137

## PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- Amherst Police Department
- Buffalo Police Department
- Department of Homeland Security
  - Immigration and Customs Enforcement
  - United States Border Patrol
- Erie County Probation Department
- Erie County Sheriff's Office
- FBI—Buffalo Division
- New York State Attorney General's Office
- Niagara County Sheriff's Office
- Niagara Falls Police Department

## PROGRESS REPORT

The WNYRCFL's progress and accomplishments for FY09 follow—

**215:** Number of agencies that requested assistance

**43:** Local

**5:** State

**6:** Federal

**215:** Number of service requests received

**928:** Number of pieces of media examined

**303:** Number of examinations completed

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

## TOP FIVE CUSTOMER REQUESTS BY CRIME CLASSIFICATION

Exploitation

Homicide

Fraud

Sexual Assault

Dangerous Drugs



## NOTABLE NEWS

---

**Reduced the Backlog**—The WNYRCFL reduced its backlog by nearly 30 percent as a result of an increase in staffing and steady use of the cellular telephone kiosk by its customers.

**Assisted in Alleged “Honor Killing” Investigation**—Muzzamiel “Mo” Hassan was charged on February 24, 2009, with second degree murder in an alleged “honor killing” of his wife Assiya, 37. The World Health Organization defines honor killings as “murders of women by relatives who claim the victim brought shame to the family.” Mr. Hassan founded a television network, “Bridges TV” in 2004 to counter Muslim stereotypes following the events surrounding the September 11, 2001, attacks. Assiya was found beheaded at the TV station where both of them worked, located in an affluent suburb outside Buffalo. A few weeks earlier, Mr. Hassan was served divorce papers and an order of protection according to public records. WNYRCFL Examiner Joel Cancilla was one of the first officers to arrive on-scene and provided digital forensics services in support of the ongoing investigation.

## PULSE CHECK: STATUS OF FY09 GOALS

---



**Enhance Efficiency**—The WNYRCFL completed the installation of a SAN in May 2009.



**Increase the Number of Participating Agencies**—Expectations were surpassed in FY09, as the WNYRCFL welcomed four new participating agencies—the Department of Homeland Security–Border Control, Niagara County Sheriff’s Office, Buffalo Police Department, and Amherst Police Department.



**Earn ASCLD/LAB Accreditation**—The WNYRCFL staff continued preparing for accreditation and will submit an application to ASCLD/LAB in FY10.

## GOALS FOR FY10

---

**Complete CART Certification for New Examiners**—With the addition of four new participating agencies, the WNYRCFL also welcomed six new Examiners. The Examiners began the CART certification process in FY09 and are expected to complete the training and apprenticeship in FY10.

**Continue CAIR Implementation**—With the installation of the hardware and software complete, the staff is devoting its efforts to training state and local law enforcement on how to use the system and making final adjustments to ensure compliance with FBI requirements.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The RCFL Program thanks our many dedicated supporters for making FY09 another successful year—we are truly grateful to you. As always, the progress and accomplishments described in this report would not be possible without the continued support of the FBI and our participating agencies, including—



### CALIFORNIA

Alameda County Sheriff's Office  
 Anaheim Police Department  
 California Highway Patrol  
 Chula Vista Police Department  
 Department of Homeland Security—Immigration and Customs Enforcement  
 El Cajon Police Department  
 Escondido Police Department  
 FBI—

- Los Angeles Division
- San Diego Division
- San Francisco Division

Fullerton Police Department  
 Irvine Police Department  
 La Mesa Police Department  
 National City Police Department  
 Naval Criminal Investigative Service  
 Newark Police Department  
 Newport Beach Police Department  
 Oceanside Police Department  
 Orange County District Attorney  
 Orange County Sheriff's Department

Oakland Police Department  
 Palo Alto Police Department  
 Santa Ana Police Department  
 San Diego County District Attorney's Office  
 San Diego Police Department  
 San Diego Sheriff's Department  
 San Jose Police Department  
 Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office  
 U.S. Attorney's Office—Southern District of California  
 Westminster Police Department



### COLORADO

18th Judicial District Attorney's Office  
 Adams County Sheriff's Office  
 Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office  
 Arvada Police Department  
 Aurora Police Department  
 Colorado Bureau of Investigation  
 Denver District Attorney's Office  
 Denver Police Department  
 Douglas County Sheriff's Office  
 FBI—Denver Division  
 Golden Police Department  
 Jefferson County Sheriff's Office



## IDAHO

Ada County Sheriff's Office



## ILLINOIS

Chicago Inspector General's Office

Chicago Police Department

Cook County Sheriff's Office

FBI—Chicago Division

Joliet Police Department

Lombard Police Department

Palatine Police Department

University of Illinois at Chicago Police Department



## KANSAS

Johnson County Sheriff's Office

Kansas Bureau of Investigation

Kansas City Police Department

Lawrence Police Department

Leavenworth County Sheriff's Office

Lenexa Police Department

Olathe Police Department

Overland Park Police Department

Shawnee County Sheriff's Office

Topeka Police Department

U.S. Attorney's Office—District of Kansas

U.S. Department of Agriculture—Office of the  
Inspector General



## KENTUCKY

Department of Criminal Investigations

FBI—Louisville Division

Kentucky State Police

Louisville Metro Police Department

University of Louisville



## MISSOURI

FBI—Kansas City Division  
 Grandview Police Department  
 Independence Police Department  
 Jackson County Sheriff's Office  
 Kansas City Police Department  
 Lee's Summit Police Department  
 Missouri State Highway Patrol  
 North Kansas City Police Department  
 Platte County Sheriff's Office  
 U.S. Attorney's Office—Western District of Missouri



## MONTANA

Billings Police Department



## NEW JERSEY

Essex County Prosecutor's Office  
 FBI—Newark Division  
 Jersey City Police Department  
 Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office  
 New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice

New Jersey Office of the Attorney General  
 New Jersey State Police  
 Somerset County Prosecutor's Office



## NEW MEXICO

Albuquerque Police Department  
 Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office  
 FBI—Albuquerque Division  
 New Mexico State Police  
 University of New Mexico



## NEW YORK

Amherst Police Department  
 Buffalo Police Department  
 Department of Homeland Security—  
 ■ Immigration and Customs Enforcement  
 ■ United States Border Patrol  
 Erie County Probation Department  
 Erie County Sheriff's Office  
 FBI—Buffalo Division  
 New York State Attorney General's Office  
 Niagara County Sheriff's Office  
 Niagara Falls Police Department





## OHIO

Dayton Police Department  
 FBI—Cincinnati Division, Dayton Field Office  
 Lebanon Division of Police  
 Miami Valley Regional Crime Laboratory



## OREGON

Beaverton Police Department  
 Bonneville Power Administration  
 FBI—Portland Division  
 Gresham Police Department  
 Hillsboro Police Department  
 Multnomah County Department of Community Justice  
 Oregon State Crime Laboratory  
 Oregon State Police  
 Portland Police Bureau  
 Washington County Sheriff's Office



## PENNSYLVANIA

Delaware County District Attorney's Office  
 FBI—Philadelphia Division  
 Lancaster City Bureau of Police  
 Lower Merion Township Police Department  
 Lower Providence Township Police Department  
 Montgomery County District Attorney's Office  
 Philadelphia Police Department



## TEXAS

Dallas Police Department  
 Denton County District Attorney's Office  
 FBI—  
 ■ Dallas Division  
 ■ Houston Division  
 Garland Police Department  
 Grand Prairie Police Department  
 Harris County Precinct 4 Constable's Office  
 Harris County Sheriff's Office  
 Houston Police Department  
 Pasadena Police Department  
 Plano Police Department  
 Rosenberg Police Department



## UTAH

Davis County Sheriff's Office

FBI—Salt Lake City Division

Salt Lake City Police Department

Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office

Sandy City Police Department

U.S. Attorney General's Office

Utah Department of Public Safety

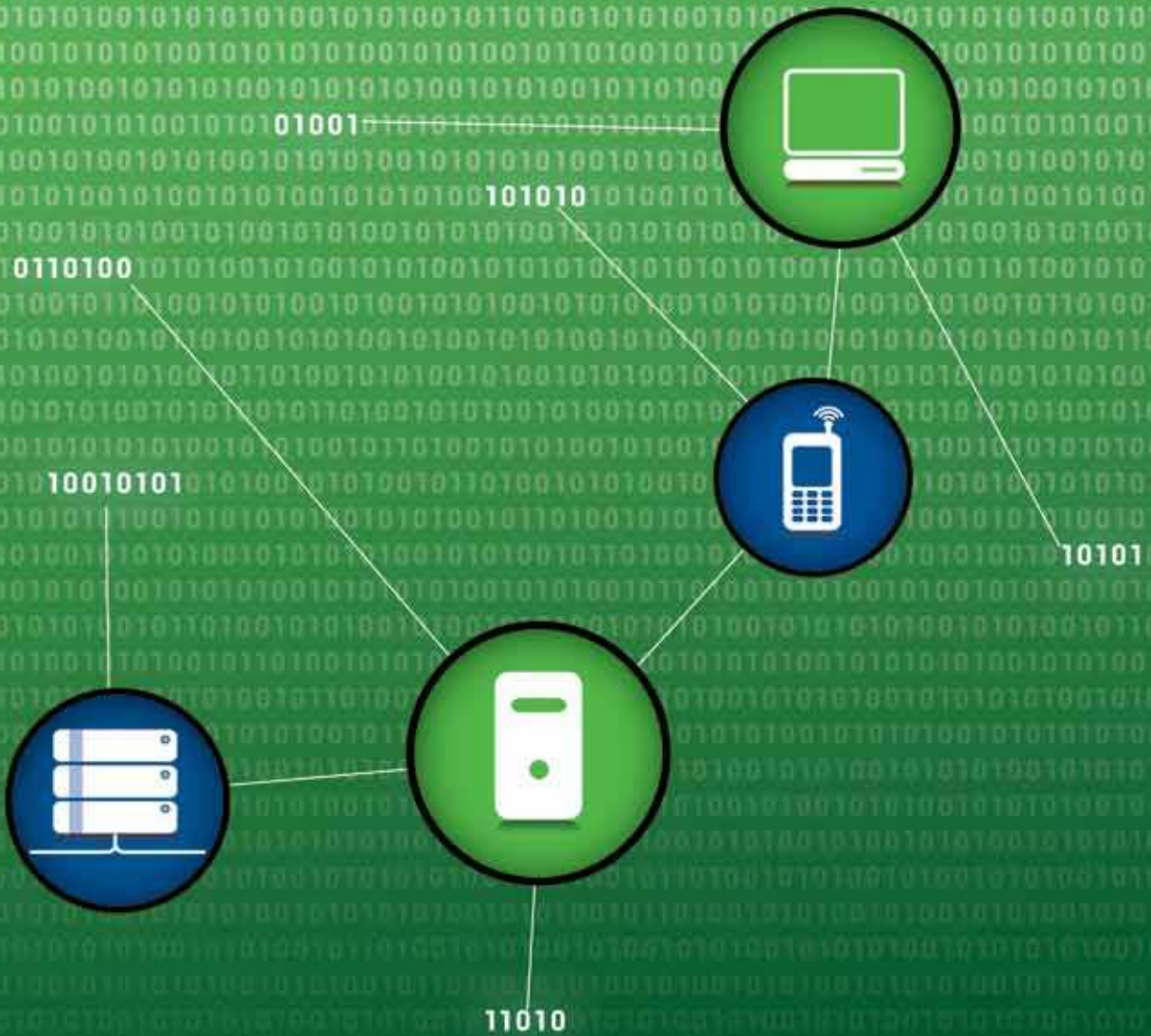
Weber County Sheriff's Office

West Valley City Police Department



## WASHINGTON

Clark County Sheriff's Office







Mailing Address:  
Engineering Research Facility  
Building 27958-A  
Quantico, VA 22135  
RCFL National Program Office

Telephone: 703-985-3677  
E-Mail Address: [npo@rcfl.gov](mailto:npo@rcfl.gov)  
Website: [www.rcfl.gov](http://www.rcfl.gov)

