JOIN THE HARCFL

The HARCFL is controlled, operated, and directed by an Executive Board which comprises the heads of its participating agencies. Agency benefits at an RCFL include—

- Requests for services are given top priority.
- The cost of joining an RCFL is lower than building, equipping, and seeking accreditation for a full-service digital forensics laboratory.
- The FBI funds the training and certification of RCFL Examiners.
- With strict protocols and procedures in place, the highest quality service is guaranteed—with examination results that consistently stand up in court.
- Approximately 7 weeks of first-class technical training for your personnel.
- A suite of forensics equipment and software for each Examiner.
- Direct peer review and coaching from certified Examiners.
- Overtime compensation for sworn law enforcement.
- Use of a cellular telephone and vehicle while on duty.
- RCFL Examiners hold “Top Secret” security clearances—enabling them to work on a variety of investigations.

Any law enforcement agency with jurisdiction in Kansas or Western Missouri is eligible to join the HARCFL—contact the laboratory director on (816) 584-4300 to learn how.

HARCFL PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

The following entities have generously contributed their resources, time, and personnel in support of the HARCFL and all law enforcement in Kansas and the Western District of Missouri:

- Clay County, Missouri Sheriff’s Office
- FBI—Kansas City Division
- Grandview, Missouri Police Department
- Independence, Missouri Police Department
- Johnson County, Kansas Sheriff’s Department
- Kansas Bureau of Investigation
- Kansas City, Kansas Police Department
- Kansas City, Missouri Police Department
- Lawrence, Kansas Police Department
- Lee’s Summit, Missouri Police Department
- Lenexa, Kansas Police Department
- Missouri State Highway Patrol
- North Kansas City, Missouri Police Department
- Platte County, Missouri Sheriff’s Office
- Olathe, Kansas Police Department
- Overland Park, Kansas Police Department
- Shawnee County, Kansas Sheriff’s Office
- United States Attorney’s Offices, District of Kansas, and Western District of Missouri
- United States Department of Agriculture, Office of the Inspector General
**ABOUT THE PROGRAM**

The Regional Computer Forensics Laboratory (RCFL) Program is a national network of FBI-sponsored, digital forensics laboratories and training centers. The FBI provides start-up and operational funding, training, and equipment, while state, local and other federal law enforcement agencies assign personnel to staff the lab. Each RCFL is devoted entirely to the examination of digital evidence in support of criminal and national security investigations.

**THE HEART OF AMERICA RCFL SERVICES**

The Heart of America RCFL (HARCFL) is a 15,000-square-foot, digital forensics laboratory—conveniently located north of downtown Kansas City. The HARCFL’s highly trained Examiners address virtually every form of digital media.

**Self-Service Kiosks**

The laboratory houses self-service video, loose media and cell phone kiosks where investigators can easily access their evidence, along with a Virtual Cell Phone Kiosk which enables agencies to perform cell phone forensics in-house—no travel required. By using a kiosk, investigators can also—

- Preview digital media
- Review video tapes and DVDs in a forensically sound manner
- Take screen shots of needed images
- Extract information from cellular telephones.

To use the kiosks, call the laboratory on (816) 584-4300 to schedule an appointment.

**REQUESTING ASSISTANCE**

Because of the high demand for its services, the HARCFL categorizes service requests by participating agency or non-participating agency status. The submission process varies for each group—check www.harcfl.org for specifics. All service requests are reviewed by the laboratory director on a case-by-case basis. The HARCFL provides its services at no cost to law enforcement agencies in its service area.

**QUALITY IS KEY**

More than two-thirds of RCFLs have earned accreditation in digital evidence and multi-media from the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB).

The HARCFL earned ASCLD/LAB accreditation in 2007, which is part of the laboratory’s overall quality assurance program.

**TRAINING**

The HARCFL’s high-tech training room contains 24 individual workstations. Although class, topics and course availability constantly change, the staff makes every effort to accommodate any special needs of its participating agencies and the local law enforcement community.