

JOURNAL

South Carolina Association of Legal Investigators

SCALI April-May-June 2011 - Vol. 27, No. 2



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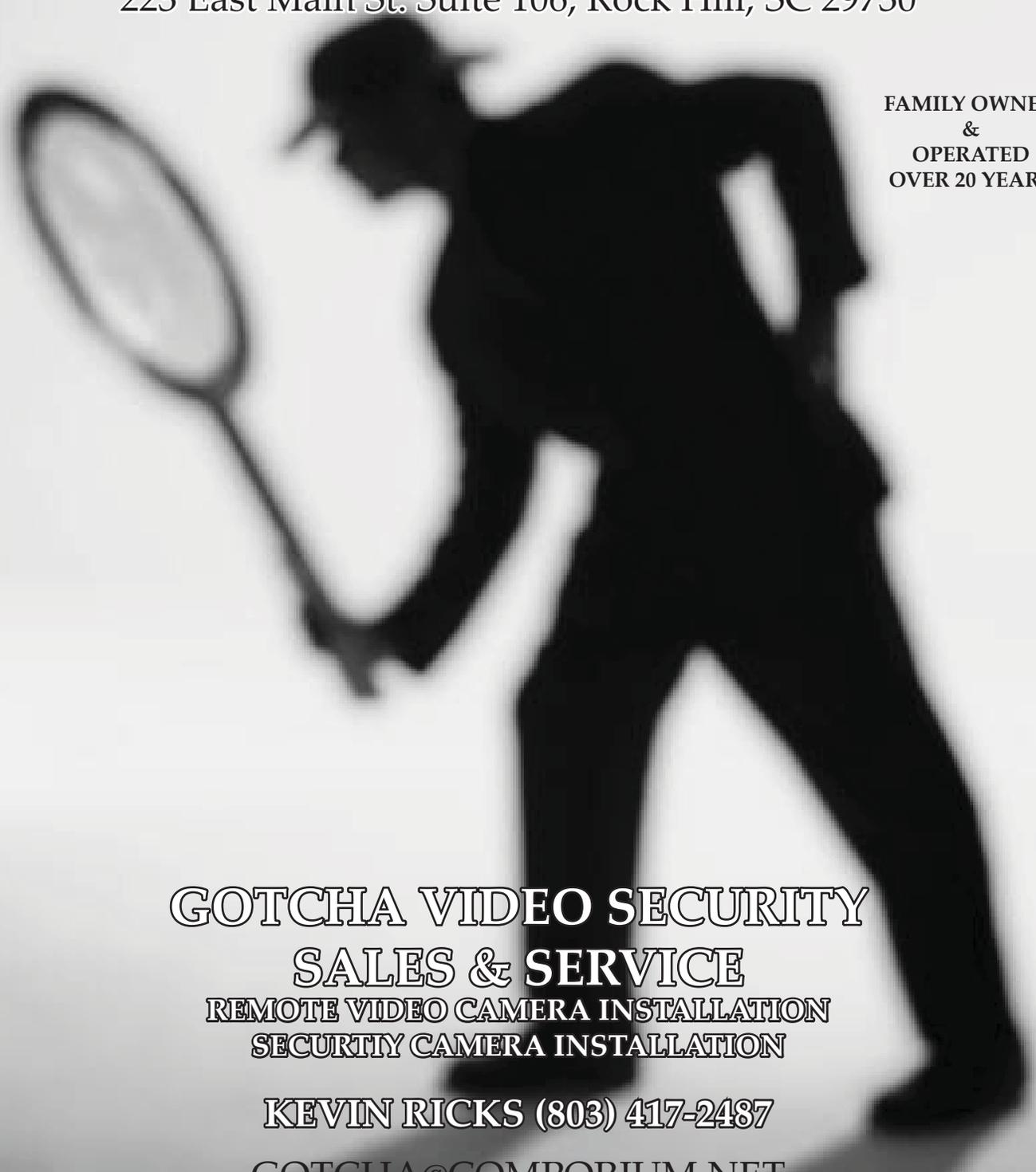
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SCALI Executive Director's Message:

I hope this edition of the SCALI Journal finds all of you doing well as we navigate the summer heat and dry conditions throughout our regions. It has become an annual tradition to navigate this way. I can only hope the tradition comes to an end soon.

I have spent the last 2 months trying to do my best to learn how to be the State Director. The one thing I have definitely learned is that the job is a little more difficult than one could imagine. I have had to pull the boot straps up and get to work. There have been some immediate changes that I have implemented in the way our Association works. Most of you know that I have organized several committees and have tried to outline the duties and responsibilities of those committees. I hope that these committees will help keep me organized and help ease the burden of just one person running the business of SCALI.

One of the committees that has garnered the most questions is the finance committee. If most of you will recall, my election to this position was unopposed and the vetting process to be elected was not too difficult. While I feel I have the leadership and organizational skills to manage the business of SCALI, I am the first to tell you that I do not have the qualifi-

cations to run the accounting area of the SCALI finances. Therefore, I formed the finance committee to assist with the responsibilities of the SCALI finances. I have named Guy Johnson as the Finance Committee Chair. Guy has an extensive background in banking and has amazed me with his knowledge of accounting. Our goal is to provide SCALI members with a more transparent view of the finances.

As I continue to understand the job of SCALI Director, I will fine tune the various committees that have been formed and utilize the talent of the volunteers who have agreed to serve those committees. Rest assured, we will still continue to hold outstanding Spring and Fall conferences and seminars. We are even looking into more ways to serve the membership with educational opportunities.

I also want to congratulate the newly elected Regional Directors and the Regional Directors who were re-elected. I feel this group will serve the Association well with a fresh outlook. Several of the Regional Directors have been holding monthly luncheons or have local meetings scheduled. This is a great way to stay in touch between our seminars.



Finally, I would like to take a moment to thank Vicki Childs. Vicki served 6 good years as the State Director and moved our Association into unchartered territory. She was a good leader and showed a lot of courage during her 3 terms. During her tenure, she always provided assistance or found the answers to anyone who needed her direction. While serving as Director, she also continued to manage her private business and grow that company into a premier investigative service. In addition to all of this, Vicki's best job during her tenure has been spent being a devoted mother to her son. All of which, I would say, Job Well Done, Vicki!

I hope to see all of you at the Fall Conference in Florence, SC. More information will be added to our web site for the October 13-14, 2011 Conference.

Ken

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SCALI JOURNAL

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From The Editor's Desk:



*If you didn't attend the Spring Conference, all I can say, is, YOU MISSED IT!
This was SCALI at its best.*

First and foremost, the cover photo was shot from my room! So yes, that was my view during the conference.

We had excellent speakers, a great conference, and most of all, a lot of good times, mingling, and harmony within our membership.

Our election resulted in many changes and we have pretty much an entire new slate of SCALI leaders taking the reins.

It seems many of our founding members and SCALI Directors have been replaced by a new generation of directors, ready to take the organization even further.

Please take time to thank both the old directors, and to welcome the new ones by participating actively in the organization.

Our Fall Conference is scheduled for Florence this year. Next issue, we hope to have some information on things to do in Florence.

Apologies for getting the Journal behind, but I'm getting caught up. Please respect the deadlines and submit in a timely fashion. Also, you may submit photographs and articles to me at any time.

If you have questions about advertising rates, committees, etc. Much of this information can be found on pages four and five of the Journal each quarter!

Donna



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The first monthly meeting of the Midlands North Region took place on Tuesday, June 21st, 2011 at the Lizards Thicket on Garners Ferry Road in Columbia. We had a great turnout with Dave MacDougall providing a Legislative update including the news that SLED PI license fees are increasing by 50.00 per year. Discussions on increasing membership were had with Chris Hilditch (Chairman of The Membership Committee) with many members providing suggestions.

Michael Spane spoke about the Awards Committee which he chairs and about next years Spring Conference. Robert Simons gave us a briefing and flyer on a stolen M-16 from Ft. Jackson and Glenn Harrell shared some

great "PI Tales" from the Sumter area.

Also thanks to Bradley "Chip" Kandare for putting up with my bad jokes and David Adams for daring to sit next to me.

Dave MacDougall took pictures of the gathering for posterity and to see if I broke the lens.

Next months meeting was decided on and it will be in Sumter on Tuesday July 26th at Logan's Roadhouse. At this meeting we are going to discuss what guest speakers we want to have for the August meeting.

Again, we all had a great time and enjoyed the fellowship and stories.

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Coastal Region South Wayne Freeman
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The Lower Coastal Region will meet on Thursday, July 21, at the Sunfire Grill and Bistro in Charleston. This will be our first regional get together and I am hoping that this will be the first of many that we have.

I want to thank the members in the Lower Coastal for their calls and offers of support since I became Regional Director.

Truly a great bunch of folks and I look forward to serving you as your Regional Director.

2011 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



New Executive Committee
Ken Robison, David Milligan, Ken Walter, Tracy Hoshell,
Frank Rimsek, Marty Henderson, Wayne Freeman

At Large - Frank Rimsek

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Thank you for my re-election!!! I will continue to serve the membership with honor and diligence as best I can. I am extremely please with a number of my new board members and I see big changes coming to be. I am proud to continue to be a part of it and a part of SCALI. Our President has been very busy implementing numerous committees to start reviewing various SCALI functions and we have been hard at work with making SCALI a better and more organized group. The memberships support is greatly appreciated as Ken and the committees and the EC Board continue to improve SCALI.

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PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR SHOT TO DEATH FOUND STUFFED IN TRUNK OF HIS CAR

MANATEE -- A former Bradenton private investigator working in Virginia has been discovered shot to death and stuffed in the trunk of his car, shot sometime after he was scheduled to serve divorce papers to Ali Abid

Tuesday, March 08, 2011

MANATEE — A former Bradenton private investigator working in Virginia has been discovered shot to death and stuffed in the trunk of his car. The Harrisonburg Police Department began investigating the report of a missing man on March 3 when Greg Brown failed to return home, Vass said. At approximately 9:30 a.m. Sunday, police received a tip with information on the location of Brown's gray Honda Accord and found it in a parking lot.

Brown's body was found inside of the vehicle. The exact cause of death will be determined by the Medical Examiner. "Our thoughts are first with the friends and family of Greg Brown during this difficult time," said Vass who is also the department's crime analyst. "We will not stop with this investigation until we have all of the facts of the case before us."

The Harrisonburg Police Department, which is located about two hours from Washington, D.C., and Richmond, is looking for Ali Abid, 49, of Weyers Cave, Va. It is believed that Ali Abid was the last person in contact with Brown, Vass said. At the time of his death, Brown was working an infidelity case.

Police: Private Investigator Shot; Source Says Harrisonburg Victim Scheduled To Serve Divorce Papers. HARRISONBURG — A Harrisonburg private investigator who turned up dead in the trunk of his 2007 Honda Accord on Sunday in the Valley Mall parking lot died of a gunshot wound, police said Monday.

Sources close to the investigation say Greg Brown, 50, was shot sometime after he was scheduled to serve divorce papers to Ali Abid, 49, of Weyers Cave. It's unclear where the shooting took place. Brown, who owned Argus Investigative Services in Harrisonburg.

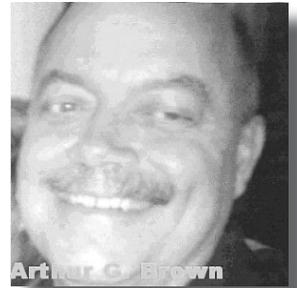
HARRISONBURG — The wife of a Weyers Cave businessman Ali Abid wanted for questioning in the slaying of a Harrisonburg private investigator claimed in February divorce papers that Ali Abid openly was having an affair and had gotten behind on his mortgage payments.

Abid, 49, is considered a potential suspect in the killing of 50-year-old Arthur "Greg" Brown, who died after being shot, according to Harrisonburg police. Following a tip, authorities found Brown's body Sunday morning in the trunk of his car, a 2007 Honda Accord that was parked at the Valley Mall in Harrisonburg on East Market Street.

On Saturday, the Harrisonburg Police Department put out a missing person's report on Brown, who hadn't been seen since Thursday and was last spotted "in the company" of Abid. At the time, Brown's disappearance was labeled suspicious. Police listed Weyers Cave, Harrisonburg and Dulles International Airport as possible locations where Brown might have been found.

Court records also show Abid was granted a concealed weapons permit in December 2009. That same year, American Express Bank in Andover,

Md., was awarded a default judgment of \$22,559 against Abid after he fell behind on payments, Abid is an Iraqi immigrant who came to the USA in 2001.



Anyone with information on Ali Abid's whereabouts is asked to contact Crime Solvers at (540) 574-5050. HARRISONBURG. Ali Abid, 49, runs several business's, one is Aspen Industries, here were several vehicles for Aspen Industries L.L.C. at the residence and the Website for Aspen Industries lists Abid as the Managing Director of the construction firm. Court documents also reveal Abid's bank was in the process of repossessing his truck, on which he owed more than \$44,000.

Ali Abid DOB 4/21/1961
Ali Abid, Aspen Industries L.L.C
4060 S. Main St.
Harrisonburg, VA 2280 <http://www.aspenindustriesllc.com/index.html>



Prior Planning Protects People, Property and PI's:

A Practical Guide to Assist in Protecting Your Business Data

By Clay Boswell

Have you ever accidentally deleted a file or experienced a computer system failure or been victim of a computer virus that wiped-out your important documents? I have and it was painful. However, those experiences highlighted for me the ongoing importance of a validated disaster recovery plan that can help mitigate the risks of events similar to those. Today part of that recovery plan may include leveraging low-cost online storage solutions.

A few months ago I assisted a local company in evaluating the risks of Cloud Computing "file storage" and "file sharing" services. Afterwards, I thought some of those key take-aways would have a broader application to this audience -- especially when combined with a file-level backup solution for small businesses. So, in an effort to raise awareness of the needs and potential pitfalls I will try to guide you through some of the benefits and emerging issues of online storage.

The first order of business though is to level-set this article with a definition of Cloud Computing. Cloud Computing is loosely defined as the practice of leveraging shared computing systems that are typically outside of the direct control of those users who utilize the computing systems. While there are multiple models for Cloud Computing, this article will focus on public Cloud Computing data storage offerings.

In the past 18 months there has been a strong push in the Information Technology marketplace to encourage the adoption of online (Cloud) storage for user (or company) data. One such way is the use of online (Cloud) backup services such as Carbonite, Mozy and

Quicken Online Backup among others. These companies market the ability to backup important documents from your laptop, desktop, mobile device or server systems and do so in a way that protects the data owner from catastrophic events. Those catastrophic events could include the loss, theft or destruction of your company's data or your personal files. When you think of data loss or destruction think of events such as fire, floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, hardware failures or a disgruntled user. You could also consider data destruction as the UN-intentional loss or deletion of data. In any of these cases you have lost access to your important documents unless you (or your company) has a robust data backup and recovery plan.

Cloud Computing is loosely defined as the practice of leveraging shared computing systems that are typically outside of the direct control of those users who utilize the computing systems.

The sobering effects of catastrophic data loss are exemplified when small and medium sized businesses went out of business as a result of events such as Katrina or 9/11. Companies were effected not just by the loss of life of their employees but also the loss of business data. Those effected companies did not have the ability to recover data in-part because they either did not have a data backup plan or they failed to test their plan. Alternatively (and this is key) they may have kept their backup media in the same area as their computer systems that were lost in those events. So let me ask the obvious question - do you know where your backups are located? Now think about how you backup your non-electronic data (e.g. paper files, video tapes, other business documents, etc.)? These questions could be the genesis for future Journal articles but I think it is important to get you thinking about

what you might do in situations where you lost your data.

There are a lot of opinions and comparisons of various Cloud storage / backup solutions. As such, this article is not intended to be a bake-off of specific vendor solutions (nor is it a recommendation of any one particular solution) but rather, the intent is to raise questions that you should ask yourself regarding the data you rely on to run your business and how you might protect it from natural or man-made events.

Self-Assessment Questions

I touched on this earlier but one of the first questions to ask in this self-assessment is: Do you know where your data is? Identification of where your important data is one of those initial key steps in determining what your risks are. Some people will answer "I do not know" and that's OK it means you have the opportunity to significantly improve your current situation. Your data could literally be located anywhere. Some places where you may have critical data could include laptops, desktops, file servers, email documents, Rolodexes, paper file cabinets, compact disks, thumb drives, floppy disks, video cassettes, Cloud storage (dropbox, Google Apps or other virtual storage.) Truly knowing the answer to this question is critical in determining how to best protect your information but please do not make the mistake of thinking that a single copy of key business data is the best method to ensure against unintended data loss.

Another question to ask yourself is: What is the most important data I have that allows my company to run?

cont. pg. 16



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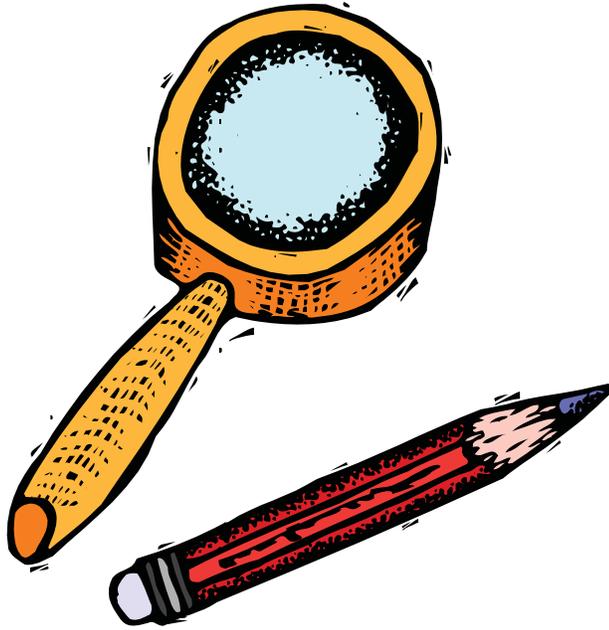
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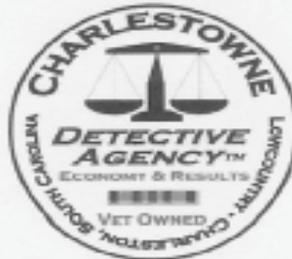
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cont. frm. 14

The answer could be as simple as your prior case reports, your current case files, your QuickBooks datafiles, your business licenses, your SLED continuing education certificates or your SLED company licenses, etc. The way you frame your answer to this question will help you build various categories for your data. The categories could include contact lists, financial, archival, current projects, regulatory and/or legal. Of course your particular situation may adjust the quantity of data buckets up or down.

One of the next questions to ask, and yes, it relates closely to the identification process from earlier is: What is my company actively doing to ensure the integrity and availability of key data? Acceptance of your firm's current situation is so very important at this early stage so do not be discouraged with your answer (or your inability to answer.) Identify where possible what steps you are taking to backup the data from your laptop that travels with you on each assignment and you use to write those very confidential reports. Your answer here might also include a simple process of copying data to a thumb drive, CD or perhaps a more sophisticated tape backup solution. If you answered anywhere close to those storage options then ask yourself Where does my company store those backup or archival copies? Good answers to this question may include - another physical location or via a Cloud (on-line) solution. Answers that leave significant room for improvement would include - an automobile, at the location where the original data exists and yes a bank vault. Let me explain why - cars are a bad place to store data because cars are exposed to extreme variations in temperature which are not good for the media.

As alluded to earlier, storing at the same location as the original could be disastrous if that location experienced a fire or flood that damaged the original and the backup copies. Finally you may be thinking that storing your data

in a bank vault is a good idea but have you ever tried accessing something from your bank's vault on a Sunday or a holiday? Wouldn't it be horrible to have a backup that you could not access for three days because the bank is closed for Memorial Day? As an aside, I know exactly when I am going to experience an issue with something mechanical in my life -- it will be at 5PM on a Friday afternoon when it may be cost-prohibited for me to address the issue. As a result, I think business owners want data to be secured but secured in a readily accessible location so in the event something undesirable occurred then you could recover more quickly without regard to the time of day or day of week.

Options for Consideration

Multiple technologies exist to help a data owner protect their information and can be loosely categorized in two ways - local or online. As previously referenced, local backups could consist of backups to USB Thumbdrives, Compact Disks, external hard drives, other removable media or tape. These methods have their place and allows someone to keep snapshot views at defined points in time but typically require manual activity to ensure the backup storage media is further protected at a separate location. Online backups have an inherent advantage of being stored "off-site". Further, on-line backup companies typically provide software that will automate the backup process so the act of backing up a system's data consumes minimal computing resources and therefore does not impact the normal use of the system.

Some online backup solutions provide for concept referred to as revision control. Service providers with revision control capabilities allow users to revert to a previous copy of a particular document. Say for example you are working on a report for a client, half-way through you realize you deleted a key paragraph the day before and

you cannot recall the exact wording. With certain online backup solutions, you would be able to view that prior version, copy the missing portion and then paste it into your current document. This revision control capability could be a tremendous time-saver for anyone who writes original content.

Data Confidentiality

If you consider a Cloud-based backup solution, you may want to conduct due diligence in evaluating possible solutions. As part of that activity do not miss the area of data confidentiality. Business owners would be well advised to ensure that data backed up is not available for public consumption and only accessible to authorized users. Be leery of companies that will not disclose how they store your data; for example, does the provider encrypt your data at rest in a robust manner? Who has the ability to decrypt that data? (The answer here should be only you or users you authorize.) Some companies will indicate they use "military grade" encryption, but if those providers have a master key that allows them to unlock the data then your data could be exposed without your consent or knowledge.

Read the license agreements and privacy policies for these Cloud-based service providers. If they have language similar to one Cloud storage provider's privacy policy shown below then you might want to consider a different solution.

"... in compliance with United States law, [COMPANY] cooperates with United States law enforcement when it receives valid legal process, which may require [COMPANY] to provide the contents of your private [account]. In these cases, [COMPANY] will remove [your account]'s encryption from the files before providing them to law enforcement."

Source: The Privacy Policy for a well-known Cloud storage provider

cont. pg. 22

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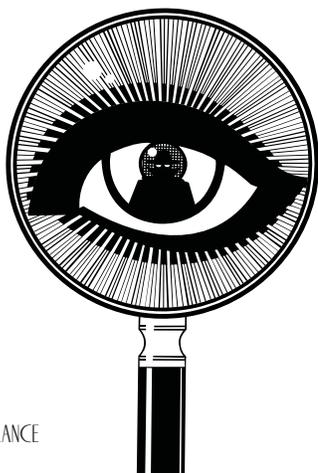
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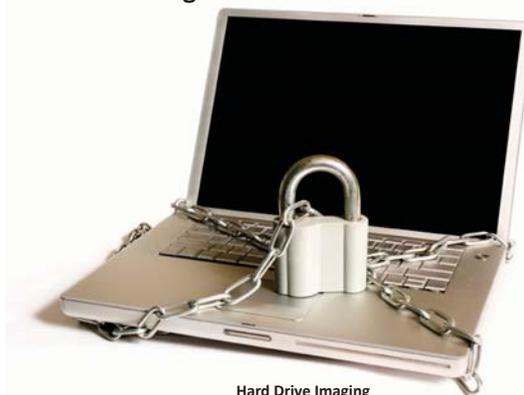
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A LITTLE FUN IN THE SUN . . .



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If a service provider can remove your encryption keys, then the provider holds a master key and as a result this model does not meet the standard of a robust security solution for most people. Again, you need to determine your individual company's risk tolerance but if you have previously identified the data you are backing up as key data then you likely will not want this data to be disclosed without your knowledge.

Ideally, you will identify a solution that encrypts your data locally before transferring that encrypted container to a Cloud-based data backup provider.

Closing Thoughts

The first step of any improvement process is to acknowledge your current situation. If after reading this article you realize you need to make adjustments then you are immediately better off than you were yesterday. Start your

research, ask questions, take baby-steps towards improving your company's situation.

If you are further down the path but need to address some minor issues then ask yourself what would happen if [fill in this blank] were no longer available to you. Would you be able to continue your day-to-day business operations? If not, work to address those issues... one-step-at-a-time.

About the author:

Clay Boswell is a Certified Information Systems Security Professional and a Certified Digital Forensics Analyst with more than 25 years in the information technology field. In addition to his digital forensics practice, Clay frequently consults on business continuity, disaster recovery and information systems security issues for firms small and large. Clay has been a member of SCALI for four years and can be reached via email at Clay@CarolinaComputer-Forensics.com



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CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATORS

Who are they?

By: R. H. "Bob" Joseph

Here is a brief excerpt from the US Department of Labor Job Outlook website. It describes "Forensic Technician," which is basically what a "Crime Scene Investigator" would be doing.

Forensic science technicians investigate crimes by collecting and analyzing physical evidence. Often, they specialize in areas such as DNA analysis or firearm examination, performing tests on weapons or substances, such as fiber, hair, tissue, or body fluids to determine significance to the investigation. They also prepare reports to document their findings and the laboratory techniques used. When criminal cases come to trial, forensic science technicians often provide testimony, as expert witnesses, on specific laboratory findings by identifying and classifying substances, materials, and other evidence collected at the crime scene.

Here is the "job description":

Crime Scene Investigator POSITION PURPOSE:

This position is responsible for complex crime scene investigations; responsibility for the evaluation of the scene; uses various types of equipment; develops, secures, and packages physical evidence for scientific evaluation and comparison; prepares detailed reports on the observations and activities at the scene for the law enforcement agency responsible for the investigation of the crime; testifies in court regarding the findings and processing methods used at the scene.

NATURE AND SCOPE:

Working Conditions: The crime scene investigator oversees complex crime scene investigations, including but not limited to homicides, sexual assaults, armed robberies, home invasions, and property crimes such as burglaries. Approximately 70% of the incumbent's time is spent processing crime scenes, packaging and transporting evidence, attending and photographing autopsies and attending briefings and conferences with the police agencies requesting assistance. The remaining time is spent preparing investigative reports, testifying in court, receiving continuing education, instructing classes and maintaining equipment in a state of readiness.

The crime scene investigator works at the office of his or her job assignment Monday through Friday, which is normally 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Must accept scheduled after-hours standby duty every other week. While on standby, the crime scene investigator must be readily available by pager or phone at all times to respond to requests for service. In addition to the standby duty, the incumbent is expected to respond to emergency calls whenever necessary 24 hours a day.

Crime scene searches are often performed by extensive kneeling, stooping, reaching and climbing. The crime scene investigator will handle objects of varying weight and shape and must, therefore, be in good physical condition. The incumbent is also re-

quired to carry firearms and may use assigned firearms and other weapons in performance of his or her police enforcement responsibilities. Also, the police enforcement responsibilities may include occasional physical labor and endurance and be hazardous with regard to the physical and mental well being of the incumbent.

FUNCTIONS:

The crime scene investigator is expected to respond to calls for crime scene services as quickly as good judgment and safety allows. All issued equipment must be maintained in a ready-to-use condition at all times.

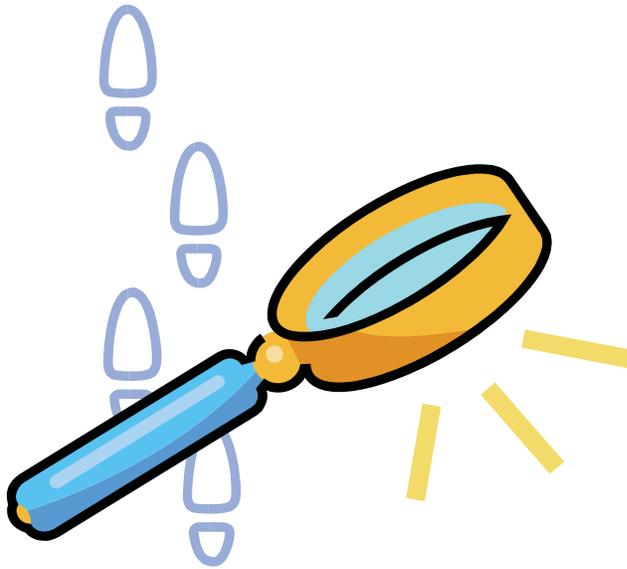
Process scenes of major crimes at any hour of the day or night, under any weather conditions, systematically surveys area and formulates a plan of procedure. Physically secures crime scenes (using ropes, barricades, police personnel, etc.) before conducting a search for all objects and articles that may be evidence. The crime scene investigator must also be proficient in "reading" and reconstructing the events as they happened just prior to, during and shortly following the commission of the crime in order to determine the sequence of events and to ascertain the type and location of evidence. Gives advice and direction to case investigators in crime scene and evidentiary matters.

Evidence identified must be collected and properly packaged. This function includes efficient lifting and preserv-

ing of various types of evidence. The crime scene investigator must be aware of the types of packaging and packaging material as the improper selection of such material could render the evidence useless.

The crime scene investigator establishes a permanent record describing the crime scene by writing detailed reports, preparing accurate sketches, and diagrams and by applying professional photographic techniques. This requires not only the skill to write a detailed report but also the ability to observe minute details of the scene as they relate to the crime and their meaning in relation to the evidence.

The incumbent assists criminal justice officials in preparing criminal cases, in person and by providing reports, sketches, and photographs. Gives expert testimony in criminal court cases.



This testimony must not only follow the rules of evidence but must also be able to explain, in laymen's terms, to a jury the significance of the evidence as it relates to scientific proof. Maintains an in-depth knowledge of federal and state statutes, court cases related to work performed and agency rules and regulations.

The incumbent must prepare and forward all necessary administrative reports and forms in keeping with division and bureau policies.

Latitude:

The crime scene investigator has authority to determine the extent and nature of the services needed at the crime scene. This includes what technical procedures to follow and what specialized equipment, lighting, auxiliary power, etc. to use.

Major Challenge:

The greatest challenge of this position is to apply scientific expertise in crime scene evidence identification and processing with the ultimate goal of successful prosecution of the offender in a court of law.

Contacts:

The incumbent must frequently interact, on a professional basis, with law enforcement officials at all levels, state

and federal prosecutors, county coroners, medical examiners and pathologists in person or by telephone.

Knowledge and Experience:

The crime scene investigator must successfully complete a minimum of 720 hours training in crime scene processing with a minimum of 80 hours training in latent fingerprint processing, 40 hours in major death investigation, 40 hours in advanced death investigations, 40 hours in photography, 40 hours in blood spatter interpretation

and other training courses in arson investigation and forensic pathology. In addition, the crime scene investigator must be certified by the International Association for Identification, Crime Scene Certification Board, within 18 months as a crime scene investigator.

Selection as a crime scene investigator must be based upon a demonstrated knowledge of police investigative techniques, search and seizure and the police officer's role in criminal prosecution. The incumbent must have or acquire an in-depth knowledge of department and division policies and practices relating to his or her position, Illinois criminal law and procedure and pertinent case law. Skills must be acquired in the fields of science, chemistry, anatomy and the forensics, in addition to those needed for actual crime scene processing. Power of arrest and the authority to carry a weapon and possession of a valid driver license in the appropriate classification required by law are also required.

Thorough knowledge in the proper chemicals used for evidence development based on the type of materials being processed and employed for a particular situation is needed. The incumbent must be aware of the proper procedures for crime scene sketching. A proper understanding of photographic lighting, distortion and proper lens and camera selection is necessary for properly recording a scene photographically.

Abilities:

Requires ability to qualify with firearms as required by department policy. Requires ability to conform with the department's physical fitness and defensive tactics standards. Requires ability to operate and maintain assigned police vehicle and equipment. Requires a clear speaking voice, the ability to receive, understand and act upon oral instructions thorough the use of a radio. Requires ability to lift heavy objects and equipment weighing up to 100 pounds. Requires ability to walk, stand, stoop, crawl, kneel,

cont. frm. 23

climb and push/pull objects. Must be able to visually identify or describe persons, vehicles, locations or describe physical evidence and crime scenes by sketching, report writing and providing courtroom testimony. Be able to effectively and accurately document enforcement and investigative activities in handwritten reports.

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. Assumes a high degree of accountability for delivering the highest quality crime scene investigative service possible. This accountability attaches not only to the actual processing of the crime scene, but includes all follow-up tasks.
2. Prepares necessary investigative reports and documentation for court cases. Appears and testifies in official proceedings.
3. Maintains in a state of readiness all technical equipment and assigned vehicles.
4. Performs other duties as assigned or required.

And yet another, for one who might wish to become more specialized (get more education, and make more money!):

STATE OF IOWA DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL CRIMINALIST

DEFINITION

Under immediate to general supervision and direction, collects and preserves evidence and performs varied and complex tests and analyses of physical substances in the Division of Criminal Investigation Crime Laboratory as a part of the scientific investigation of crimes; performs related work as required.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Analyzes body tissues to ascertain the presence of drugs, narcotics, alcohol or poisons for toxicology purposes. Analyzes and compares handwrit-

ing, printing, typewriting, type-set print, photographs and other types of printed material to ascertain the author of the material or demonstrate relationships between two materials. Identifies and compares fingerprints, footwear, foot and palm impressions, tire treads and serial numbers to identify persons and/or materials used in criminal activities.

Writes laboratory reports on analyses conducted on physical evidence to reflect the identification, grouping or characteristics of materials that have been submitted for analysis. Presents testimony at grand jury proceedings, preliminary hearings, or trials in order to interpret, present and clarify evidence and test results. Instructs laboratory personnel (on-the-job training) in the proper methods of submitting laboratory paper work, new lab techniques, operating lab equipment, and policies in the laboratory. Identifies and compares tool marks, fired bullets, cartridge cases, distance ejections, firearm discharges and residues in order to determine the physical and chemical aspects of unknowns and to show similarities to known.

Analyzes physiological stains such as blood and body fluids to determine, identify, and group as to origin or species. Examines beverages, blood, urine, body fluids, and post-mortem human organs to determine if alcohol, drugs and/or poisons are present for toxicology purposes, and to identify the type and quantity of the substance present.

Analyzes chemical reagents purchased by or developed in the laboratory to determine if they will perform the task they are designed to achieve. Identifies and compares materials such as glass, paint, soil, flammable materials, metals, greases, ink, alcoholic beverages, gun powder residues or other hard trace evidence to ascertain if they came from a common source or determine what the item is. Identifies and

conducts quantitative analysis of drugs and alcoholic substances.

KNOWLEDGES, ABILITIES, SKILLS, AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

Knowledge of the use of chemical and physical analysis instruments and/or equipment (i.e., microscope, ultra-violet spectrophotometer, infrared apparatus, thin layer chromatography apparatus) in a laboratory.

Knowledge of the nature of physical evidence and the proper collection procedures and documentation of physical substances obtained in criminal investigations.

Knowledge of proper laboratory procedures and equipment, instrumentation, chemicals, and other materials used in the laboratory.

Knowledge of journals, textbooks and other information resources and their application to a specific analysis.

Knowledge of chemistry, biochemistry, toxicology, physics, biology, and microanalysis as they relate to lab analysis of physiological body fluids and organs, alcohol, drugs, poisons, hair samples, paint and documents.

Knowledge of the physical characteristics of physiological stains, human organs, alcohol, drugs, poisons, human and animal hair, fibers and textiles, and paint so as to appropriately identify the substance for the purpose of conducting the proper analysis.

Knowledge of methods used to illustrate information for use in reports and support testimony in criminal investigations.

Knowledge of laboratory reporting procedures.

Ability to maintain composure while under cross-examination in a court of law regarding scientific and personal qualifications.



Ability to determine size, color, smell and shape of objects in order to identify evidence.

Ability to follow laboratory investigation procedures, observe reactions, record and interpret results, and arrive at conclusions.

Ability to read graphs and charts resulting from instrumentation output. Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing in order to testify and present physical evidence and accurately record results of investigations.

Ability to adapt theories and principles of natural and physical sciences to problems encountered in the analysis of substances.

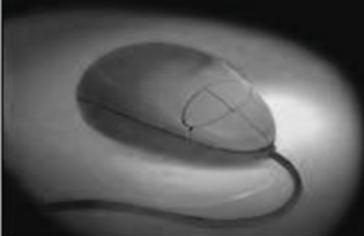
Ability to recognize and select those items which should be analyzed.

Ability to recognize evidential mate-

rials and package evidence properly and securely. Ability to use lab equipment, chemicals and instruments in conducting analyses of substances submitted to the laboratory as a part of the investigation of a criminal case. Ability to conduct tests using lab equipment, chemicals and instrumentation to obtain results.

Submitted by R. H. "Bob" Joseph, CLI, he owns and operates Alpha PI Services, LLC – on the web at: www.alphapi.com.

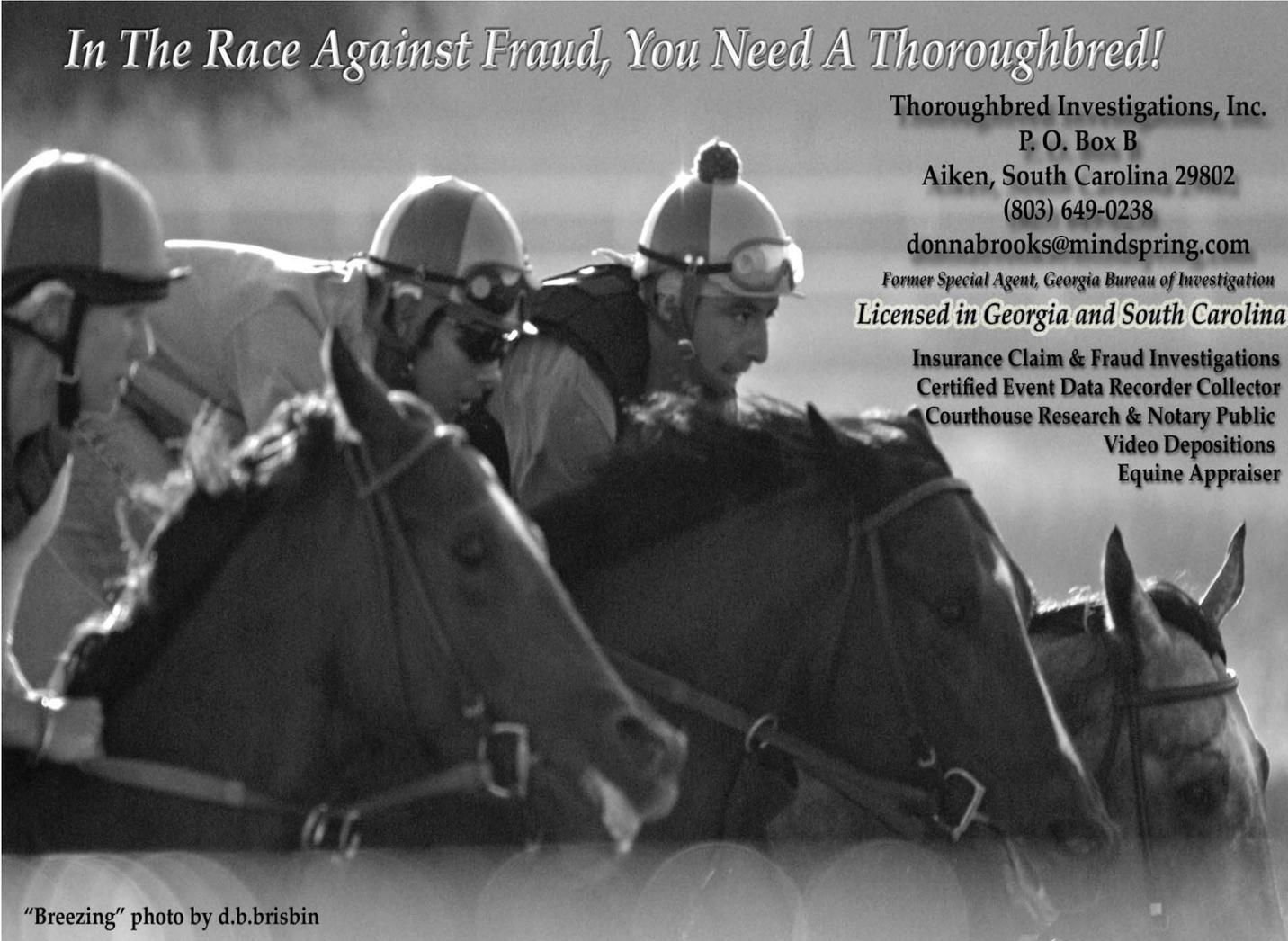
Bob is the Founder and a former director of SCALI and a frequent contributor to the SCALI JOURNAL



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"Breezing" photo by d.b.brisbin

News of the World Private Investigator Arrested In Connection with Phone-Hacking Scandal

By Myles Miller, Metro Correspondent

July 8, 2011 5:56 Pm Edt

International Business Times

A private investigator used by News of the World who allegedly paid police for information regarding stories, was arrested in Surrey Friday.

Metropolitan Police announced the arrest of a man in connection with Operation Elveden, what investigators are calling the investigations into inappropriate payments to police as part of the phone-hacking scandal.

The Met said in a statement "The Metropolitan Police Service has this evening [8 July 2011] arrested a member of the public in connection with allegations of corruption.

At 20:22 hrs officers from the MPS' Operation Weeting together with officers from Op Elveden arrested a man on suspicion of corruption allegations contrary to Section 1 of the Prevention of Corruption Act 1906. The man, age 63, was arrested at a residential address in Surrey.

A search is ongoing at this address. The Operation Weeting team is conducting the new investigation into phone hacking. Operation Elveden is the investigation into allegations of inappropriate payments to police. This investigation is being supervised by the IPCC."

British Prime Minister David Cameron on Friday called for a new investigation into the News of the World and tighter regulations of the press after police arrested his former communications director.

Rupert Murdoch's soon-to-close News of the World has been under public scrutiny as surfacing allegations of

questionable practices on the part of its journalists continue to unfold.

The newspaper, which is said to be Britain's best-selling Sunday paper, is set to close on Sunday. The closure came on the heels of a growing phone-hacking scandal alleging that journalists hacked the voicemail of a murdered teen, soldiers who were killed in Iraq and Afghanistan, and those died in the "7/7" terror attacks in London in 2005.

"The whole country has been shocked by the revelations of the phone hacking scandal," Cameron said at a press conference on the scandal, according to a Politico report. "I cannot think what was going through the mind of the people who did this."

Police allege Andy Coulson, the paper's former top editor who was until earlier this year Cameron's communications director, may be among them, and arrested him Friday morning "on suspicion of conspiring to intercept communications" and "on suspicion of corruption allegations," the Metropolitan Police Service said in a statement.

Politico reported that at a press conference that ended before Coulson was arrested, Cameron was repeatedly asked why he hired Coulson. Coulson stepped down from his job at the paper in 2007 following the conviction of one of the paper's reporters for hacking-related charges, according to Politico.

"The decision to hire him was mine and mine alone and I take responsibility for it," Cameron said, according to the Politico article. "He said at the time he didn't know what was happening

on his watch. I took the decision -- my decision, my decision alone -- to give him a second chance. That's what happened. I don't think it's particularly meaningful today to put a different gloss on it. People will judge me for that, I understand that."

Cameron called for a second investigation of the phone-hacking scandal and said the one being done by police is "inadequate," Politico reported.

Cameron also said that News International, a subsidiary of Murdoch's News Corp., which runs News of the World, should have accepted the resignation of company executive Rebekah Brooks, Politico reported.

Brooks was an editor of the paper when some of the hackings happened and who is a personal friend of Cameron's, according to the Politico article.

"It has been reported she offered her resignation over this and in this situation I would have taken it," Cameron said, as reported by Politico.



Minimize the Effects of Identity Theft

South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs

Identity theft is a serious crime. It can cost time and money, destroy credit and ruin a consumer's good name.

According to the Federal Trade Commission's Consumer Sentinel Network Data Book, identity theft was the number one complaint category in 2010. More than 250,000 identity theft complaints were filed nationwide, 2,726 coming from South Carolina consumers.

Recent news of security breaches at Sony that potentially allowed hackers access to the personal information of more than 100 million consumers is just another reminder of the prevalence of identity theft.

With this latest information making headlines, SCDCA cannot think of a better time to educate consumers on the steps they can take to minimize the effects of identity theft:

Place a Fraud Alert and Security Freeze on Your Credit Reports.

A fraud alert tells a business accessing your report to take extra steps to verify that you are the one seeking its goods/services.

To place a fraud alert, contact one of the three major credit reporting agencies and they will notify the others: Equifax (800-685-1111), Experian (888-397-3742) and TransUnion (888-909-8872).

Once the alert is on your report, you're entitled to order one free copy of your credit report from each of the three credit reporting companies. Review them carefully. Continue to check your credit reports periodically.

A fraud alert remains in place for 90 days. When a security freeze is in

place, no one can access your report without your express permission.

To place a freeze you must contact each of the three major credit reporting agencies. A Personal Identification Number (PIN) will be required to temporarily lift or permanently remove the freeze.

For step by step guidance on how to freeze your credit report visit http://www.sconsumer.gov/publications/fast_facts/SecurityFreeze.pdf or <http://www.youtube.com/scdcatv#p/u/5/wIfdbkF4Geg>.

Close Affected and Fraudulent Accounts.

Contact the security or fraud department of each company. If the identity thief has made charges or debits on your accounts, or has fraudulently opened accounts, request the forms needed to dispute those transactions.

Send the forms certified mail, return receipt requested and keep a copy for your records. Visit <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/resources/forms/affidavit.pdf> for a sample complaint form/ affidavit that can assist you with notifying your creditors of the theft.

Once you have resolved your identity theft dispute with the company, ask for a letter stating that the disputed accounts are closed and the fraudulent debts discharged. Remember, if you open new accounts, use new PINs and passwords.

File a Police Report.

Call your local police department and file a report about your identity theft. If possible, file the report in person. If you cannot, ask if you can file a report

over the Internet or telephone.

Request a copy of the report to assist you in disputing the fraudulent accounts and debts created by the identity thief.

File a Complaint with the Federal Trade Commission.

The Federal Trade Commission does not mediate individual complaints, but will share complaint data it receives with law enforcement officials nationwide.

Identity theft often occurs on a national or international scale and the information you provide can help in the efforts to track down identity thieves and stop them.

To file a complaint call the FTC's Identity Theft Hotline toll-free: 1-877-ID-THEFT (438-4338); TTY: 1-866-653-4261 or visit <https://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov/>.

SCDCA aims to protect consumers from inequities in the marketplace through advocacy, complaint mediation, enforcement and education. For more information on identity theft or to file a complaint, visit www.sconsumer.gov or call toll-free, 1-800-922-1594.

**SC Department of Consumer Affairs
800-922-1594
www.sconsumer.gov**

What happens in Cyber Space, Stays in Cyber Space!

Joshua Seth, St. Louis Cyber Safety Examiner
March 8, 2011

A Parkway North student has uncovered some startling information about one of his teacher's dark past. Science teacher, Tere Meyers, resigned this week after the student discovered that she worked many years ago in the pornographic industry of adult entertainment. In 2006; Meyers was suspended when she was a teacher in Paducah, Kentucky; however, parents and coworkers stood behind her. Nevertheless, the suspension soon became a termination. The reason behind the termination was because the Superintendent believed that Meyer's past would interfere with her teaching abilities. Allegedly, the Parkway Administration was unaware of the teacher's background prior hiring her for the position; that is, until gossip spread like wildfire throughout the school district when her past re-surfaced on the Internet.

According to KMOV-News, the former porn star, turned G-Rated teacher, talked about how she made one of the biggest mistakes in her life and one that she thought, she left behind 15-years ago. Yet, the thing about Cyber Space is, that once someone uploads anything to the Internet, it is virtually impossible to remove. This is an excellent example as to why people, especially children and young adults should never video tape anything via webcam or other means, such as pornographic photos and videos, via cell phone, (text messages, sexting messages, video or still camera poses), SKYPE, and basically anything that someone else may find; days, weeks, months, years...or even decades later. Why? What they did in their past, could affect one's career, and friends and family relationships. Many companies today will use private investigators to browse through social networking websites like FaceBook, Twitter, and MySpace, in an effort to learn more about applicants. Basically,

if a high school student were to add to her FaceBook wall, page a comment about how she just sent nude photos of herself to her boyfriend; then that is all the ammunition that i needed for someone to go digging in her past - whether it be today or years later.

Parkway School District does Crimianl Background Checks at both the state and federal level for new teachers, however, there was nothing illegal about what she did. Thus, there was no reason to suspect otherwise. Even though, Meyer's resigned from her position at Parkway North, she will still be paid through the end of the school year. For this reason alone, she must have been 'encouraged' to resign.

So, why is it OK when someone who works at a strip club, says that they are putting themself through medical or law school, but when 'they' are studying to be a teacher, all of a sudden, they are bad news. Sure, some people oppose strip clubs altogether and may even think the worst of people in this industry but looking beyond the typical stereotypes, why is it so wrong if they are putting themself through school to become a teacher? Maybe Meyers had no thought about being a teacher back in her days in the pornographic industry but how many times, have we heard on television, in the movies, read on billboards, advised by social workers and 'teachers' - "Go out and make something of your life" ; "Get an education so that you can do something better with your life." There are people in society like children who are runaways, members of gangs, caught up in drugs and other addictions; those who have watched friends overdose and others who have died; and they probably had a Guardian Angel looking over them and somebody somewhere, influenced them to change their life as they knew it and turn their life around for the better.

With that said, did anyone bother to ask Mrs. Meyers why she is who she is today and why she no longer who she once was? Between the economy and the need for teachers these days, despite the fact that many are underpaid, they teach because they like doing so. They teach because they want children to have a education. They teach because they want to help children to become somebody. So, by turning one's back, rather than to defend them, we are not only hypocrites but we are telling the addicts, runaways, former gang members that there really is not something better out there, than the life that you know today.

There was a scene in the 1999 movie, "Varsity Blues" where several under-age high school children go to a strip club, only to find out that one of their teachers is the woman on stage stripping for their entertainment. Where were the complaints?

Would the same thing be said about a teacher, lawyer, or doctor who was once on the cover of Playboy magazine, or for that matter, what about college students who pose for 'college girls of Playboy' magazine, to help the girls financially put them through college?

Speaking of which, does Parkway School District have a morale's clause and if so, was it listed in Tere Meyer's contract? If anything, she could be considered the victim in all of this, by having her past dragged through the mud and brought to light for all to see. Furthermore, while some parents may oppose Meyer's past, can the same thing be said fo all the parents? Chances are that some of those parents, probably have some skeletons in their closet that they do not want

Cont. pg. 30

South Dakota Pushing New Licensing Bill for Private Investigators

posted by PInow.com Staff | February 3rd, 2011

The number of states that don't require private investigators to be licensed may soon drop to four.

South Dakota has introduced HB-1138, which would require all private investigators to get licensed, whether they operate a solo practice or work for others. Keep reading to find out more about what it will potentially take to become a licensed private investigator in South Dakota.

Minimum licensing requirements
In order to gain a license, the proposed bill states that the person needs to meet the following criteria:

Be at least 21 years of age;

Be a citizen of the United States;

Not have been convicted of a crime in any jurisdiction, if the secretary determines that the applicant's particular crime directly relates to the applicant's capacity to perform the duties of a private detective and the secretary determines that the license should be withheld to protect the citizens of South Dakota;

Be employed by or have an employment offer from a private detective agency or be licensed as a private detective agency;

Submit a set of fingerprints; and

Pay the required fee established by the secretary, which will not exceed \$250

Pass an examination determined by the secretary to measure the person's knowledge and competence in the private detective agency business; or

Have had at least three years' experience in investigative work or its equivalent as determined by the secretary

The language in this bill defines a year

of experience as "not less than two thousand hours of actual compensated work performed before the filing of an application."

Pre-licensing training and testing
The secretary will work with the private investigation industry and law enforcement to establish pre-assignment training and testing requirements. According to the proposed bill, the requirements will include a minimum of four hours of classes. If a person can prove that he or she has already met the training requirements or has been employed as a private detective for at least 18 consecutive months before applying for a license, that person will be exempt.

The secretary may also work with professionals in the industry to establish continuing education requirements to maintain a license.

Surety bond or adequate insurance
In addition, private investigators must obtain a \$50,000 surety bond. In lieu of a security bond, a licensed company must have at least \$100,000 worth of general liability insurance for personal or bodily injury and \$25,000 for property damage.

Penalty for working without a license
Anyone caught performing private investigator functions, operating a private investigator firm without a license, or employing an unlicensed person who performs private investigator duties will be committing a Class 1 misdemeanor.

Private investigators in licensed states tend to feel that South Dakota will benefit from licensing because it will weed out the people who are unqualified and potentially harming the industry. Here are a few responses from some of our LinkedIn group members:

"I believe that every state should make

it mandatory. In North Carolina they supposedly do not allow it but when someone is caught doing it, they just tell them to stop. They do nothing after that even if they continue. Too many people are being misled and defrauded these days. If you're going to do the job you should be licensed."
- William Ratcliff

"Responding from a state that does not require licensing of PIs here is the down side. We (Idaho) are starting to see each city requiring PI agencies to be licensed to work in their city. Each city requires you to obtain (purchase) a PI license. And a surety bond for each city (I already have the insurance; that isn't a problem). My response, my business is in another city, my client is not in their city, but I follow a subject on an insurance case into their city. According to each city licensing agent my agency has to be licensed in their town to "track" a subject once he/she has entered their town. I would much rather see the state require the license and the bond, so I don't have to keep adding to my expenses just to stay in business. I work 20 different towns, times that with a \$50,000 surety bond for each town and \$250 per town license."
- Stuart Robinson

"In New Hampshire we are required to be licensed whether you are solo or an employee. There is a discounted rate for employees. The cost for an agency and solo is the same, you just have to be registered with the Sec. of State as a company. We are required to be bonded as well. This past year we pushed for major reforms that will standardize several of the areas in the profession as well as set up an advisory board that will be appointed by the Governor and serve under our licensing agency - the Department of Safety. There are pros and cons to everything but we wanted to push for professionalism and we found that licensing

Ex-Ohio Officer Admits To Illegal Database Search

**The Associated Press Updated 6:31
PM Tuesday, December 21, 2010**

AKRON, Ohio — A former police officer has pleaded guilty to illegally using a law enforcement database to investigate parents' residency information for a northeast Ohio school district.

Court officials say former Akron police Sgt. Gary Webb pleaded guilty Monday to a felony charge of unauthorized use of the state's law enforcement database. A Summit County judge sentenced Webb, who resigned from the police department Friday, to six months probation.

Police Chief Craig Gilbride said investigators found that Webb conducted private investigations for Copley-Fairlawn City Schools to determine

whether some families lived in the district and used the database to check families' license plates, the Akron Beacon Journal reported.

Webb was one of the private investigators the district has subcontracted over the last three years to investigate residency, but the district did not know Webb used the database, schools Superintendent Brian Poe said Tuesday.

Ohio public school students are supposed to attend schools in the district where they live, but the Copley-Fairlawn district has struggled with students attending classes there while living in another district, Poe said.

The district has "seen a significant decrease in nonresident students attending our classes" with help from research by school officials and private investigators, Poe said.

Webb's lawyer said his client didn't intentionally break the law. He noted that one count against Webb covered a period from September 2008 through November 2008.

"Unfortunately, the statute doesn't consider motives, and Mr. Webb had a good motive in trying to investigate criminal activities for the schools," attorney Brian Pierce said.

Information from: Akron Beacon Journal, <http://www.ohio.com>

Cyberspace *frm. pg. 28*

others to know about either.

The real question here should be, did she lie on her application? Probably not, as most people do not list all of their past jobs and most companies only require a 10-year job history. Also, is she a bad teacher in the sense that her students were not being educated? If not, then where is the issue? Perhaps, the students who discovered the material and/or the student(s) who spread the news to others, should be held accountable and not so much Tere Meyers.

In New Jersey, 2005, an elementary school cafeteria worker and playground monitor, who had an extensive career in the adult entertainment industry was terminated by the school district based solely on her past. Tere Meyers is not a registered sex offender, nor a menace to society, nor is there danger for her to teach children. If someone chooses to change their path in life, then should they be given the opportunity to do so?

Continue reading on Examiner.com Parkway North: The life, we once knew - St. Louis Cyber Safety | Examiner.com <http://www.examiner.com/cyber-safety-in-st-louis/parkway-north-porn-star#ixzz1RGSxbXCB>

South Dakota *Cont. frm. 29*

helps with that. When unlicensed activity is noticed we presently notify the Dept. of Safety but it will go to the advisory board in the future which hopefully will be followed through on. We are in a new legislative session and are trying to make some adjustments to the law. It was a great step in the right direction."

- Quentin Estey

"I think it's great. It adds credibility to the industry, it weeds out many who shouldn't be "attempting to work a case" AND it adds a degree of responsibility to the investigator to protect the industry and clients. Albeit the licensing issue comes around when someone gets burned for fees they paid, or the complaint list gets high with the state's consumer protection group."

- Mitch Davis



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Distracted Driving Law Largely Ignored

By Jeff Nagel - BC Local News

Published: February 01, 2011 12:00 PM

Updated: February 01, 2011 12:19 PM

Editorial

Drivers are still talking and texting on the road in large numbers, despite the year-old ban on the use of handheld devices.

One year after B.C.'s distracted driving ban kicked in, there's little sign the threat of fines are helping drivers keep their eyes on the road and off their electronic gadgets.

"There's a high percentage of people still using their cellphones whenever they're driving," RCMP Cpl. Jamie Chung said.

Police issued 32,000 tickets province-wide since the ban on handheld use of cellphones and similar devices began in February 2010, worth a total of \$5.2 million in \$167 fines.

Distracted driving remained a factor in 32 per cent of all fatal crashes in B.C.'s RCMP-enforced jurisdictions in the past year.

In the Lower Mainland, it's linked to 48 per cent of traffic deaths – a total of 45 people killed by distracted drivers since the new law took effect.

That doesn't necessarily mean a distracted driver who caused a deadly crash was talking on a cellphone or texting.

"It means they were doing something that took their eyes off the road," Chung said. "Looking for a CD on the floor, playing with an iPod or maybe they spilled a cup of coffee and were wiping it up, not watching where they are going."

Playing video games and programming GPS units is also a problem, he

said.

"The worst thing I've seen is people looking down and texting when they're making a left turn."

Distracted drivers have been hit waiting mid-intersection to turn left when their green light goes yellow and then red. Others stopped at red lights can get rear-ended if the light turns green without them responding.

Drivers are still talking and texting on the road in large numbers, despite the year-old ban on the use of handheld devices.

In addition to the fines, drivers caught texting or emailing also get three penalty points against their insurance.

RCMP Traffic Services Supt. Norm Gaumont suggested a review may be needed to examine whether the distracted driving penalties are stiff enough.

"If you look at our statistics, it's clear the public doesn't realize just how dangerous it can be if you don't have your full focus on the road," he said.

BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation executive director Allan Lamb said it's "unbelievable" large numbers of drivers still talk and text.

He said everyone should rethink their near-compulsive need to be constantly plugged in and available to employers, friends and family.

He said businesses and organizations with employees who must drive on the job should develop a policy on distracted driving.

Enforcement of such policies can be a problem, however, as even ICBC discovered in recent weeks.

Private investigators hired by ICBC continued using handheld videocameras while driving to spy on an Abbotsford man suing for damages from a crash. The tactic apparently continued until well into 2010 – after the ban took effect – until a judge criticized the practice and officials vowed it would change.

ICBC had long had guidelines requiring all employees

and contractors to drive safely and obey traffic laws.

Technically, a handheld video camera is not on the list of specifically banned devices, so police could not issue a ticket under the new law, although they could pursue a charge under the Motor Vehicle Act of driving without due care and attention.

A policing blitz throughout February is now underway to step up enforcement of the law.

Officers will be on the lookout not just for phone and gadget users, but also drivers putting on makeup while driving or reading a book or newspaper, even though those are not ticketable under the new law.

Police may be disguised in garb like mascot costumes to snare violators.

India Brings Private Investigator To Us Film Festival

By Romain Raynaldy (AFP) – Jan 29, 2011

PARK CITY, Utah — Indian private investigator Rajesh Ji, who dabbles in dancing on Sundays, is the main character of a memorable documentary that offers a glimpse into the life of India's middle class.

"The Bengali Detective," which was presented at the 27th festival of independent cinema here by British director Philip Cox, was popular among those attending the event, which could earn it an award on Saturday night.

Cox installed his camera in Calcutta, in the office of Rajesh, one of countless private investigators working in India.

"All classes use the detective, because all classes in India are not trusting the police," Cox told AFP.

"The rich can pay, pay bribes, but the people using the detectives, mostly are the middle class," he continued.

"That was also my interest to look at India through the middle class, and not poverty or children in the street or top rich."

The director described the film's setting as a space in society where he could "learn things or discover things" that people don't normally share.

"When people go to a detective, it's like a confessional, like a church," Cox noted. "You would reveal things."

If the film were a confessional, Rajesh

would be a rather original priest. In addition his investigative activities, he is passionate about dance, to the point of including his entire squad of sleuths -- young, old and plump -- in a reality show.

"He's not a very good detective," admitted Cox. "But he's a man caught in the middle of a hurricane, who struggles in his personal life and the things around him. We love him as he is. He has this dream of being a dancer.

"But this is really an escape from all the things he has to deal with, from the harsh reality that he has to face."

He said that Rajesh saw himself as a hero in Indian society.

"The job was to reveal the other side," the director said. "Then you realize that there is a lot of things Rajesh is not in control of. He is a bit naive and innocent and not really able to control the things around him."

Rajesh may not have the talent of Sherlock Holmes but he has a large number of clients.

He helps a cosmetics company to track counterfeits of its products, a woman who suspects her husband of adultery,

and a family that wants to shed light on a mysterious triple murder, which turns out to be the biggest criminal case in Calcutta in many years, according to the filmmaker.

"We didn't know day-to-day what would happen the next day, which is exciting but exhausting for a filmmaker because you don't know if you will be able to finish," said Cox.

The film's potential was not lost on Hollywood studios, whose representatives, in search of fresh talent, flock to Sundance each year.

Fox, which dreams of a new India hit after the success of its film "Slumdog Millionaire," has acquired the rights to make a feature film from the documentary.

Cox will be part of the project, but does not intend to play a leading role in it.

"I'm a documentary filmmaker," he said. "I've always loved what's happening in the reality. For me, if you combine the reality with a cinematic presence, you have something great."

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