

Preserving Digital Evidence



Data & Computer
Forensic
Investigator
(NV PI Lic#1498)
Adrian Leon Mare



EXPERT DATA
Forensics & Recovery
(888)355-3888

Are You Properly Preserving Digital Evidence for Your Case?

Digital Evidence * eEvidence * eDiscovery

If there's anything important in the legal field, it's the preservation of evidence. When it comes to digital evidence, also referred to as eEvidence, different procedures have to be used in order to capture and preserve it. Information found in electronic files can be used as evidence and it can prove to be very crucial in most cases. Digital devices that contain information can be used to obtain digital evidence. A couple of items may come to mind – cell phones, computers, PDAs and other media with memory storage. Even internet files can be restored and properly preserved for cases.

How exactly is digital evidence processed?

It's through assessment, acquisition, examination, documentation and reporting. First, data forensic examiners will thoroughly assess the digital evidence that is found, while keeping in mind the scope of the case in order to determine the proper actions that should be taken. Second, digital evidence is very fragile and can be altered or even destroyed if improperly handled or examined, so during the acquisition process, examination is only done on a copy of the evidence, not on the original.

Entrust your evidence with a true professional. Not doing so could end up costing you your case.

During the examination process, the Data Forensic Expert will begin to interpret the data according to the requirements of the case involved. This will allow you to prepare for the representation of the information that will be used as evidence. Last, it is very important that the actions and observations of the evidence be properly documented and reported throughout the entire process.



Who Needs an eForensic Expert?

I find that a large portion of the people who call for my expertise



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are in various areas of the law. It has helped all sorts of cases, including infidelity, theft, embezzlement, identity theft, child custody and divorce. Private investigators, criminal defense attorneys and public prosecutors have also used my service to benefit their criminal, legal, domestic and civil cases. We're living in the technology and information age, so just about everyone uses some kind of electronic device. Everything done on these items can be used as evidence. Now, that the data is stored on the device, the next step is to capture and preserve the potential evidence.



FBI Definition of Digital Evidence – Information of probative value stored or transmitted in digital form.

Ensure that this information isn't tampered with before you get it to a Data Forensic Investigator. Try to get in touch with one immediately when you come across digital evidence that you would like explored, investigated, copied and/or secured.

If you're a private investigator, attorney, business owner or even a spouse, keep these guidelines in mind to preserve the integrity of digital evidence:

Standalone, Network Computers & Mobile Devices

In order to preserve the data that can be found on computers and mobile devices you should not continue or let anyone else continue working on the system in question.

Place an incident response call to a computer forensic specialist to image the drive right away. If the device is "ON" leave it "ON" if the device is "OFF" leave it "OFF" turning "ON" the device could alter evidence on the device and turning OFF the device could erase the RAM (Random Access Memory) that stores passwords and other important information.

The more technology is used, the more likely you will end up needing a Data Forensic Investigator to help you extract and preserve digital evidence for your case.



Don't lose another case because evidence was destroyed or the proper measures weren't taken to get the data you needed. Get in touch with a Data Forensic Expert today to see how one can support you and your case.

The Methodology

- Seize eEvidence
- Authenticate
- Analyze
- Report

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