



Leveraging Technology in Civil Rights Investigations Workshop Agenda

Description:

Leveraging Technology in Civil Rights Investigations explores how investigators can use technology to more effectively gather, review, manage, and document digital evidence. As civil rights investigations increasingly involve text messages, social media posts, recordings, and other digital materials, investigators must understand both the opportunities and challenges technology presents. This training will cover practical tools and strategies for evidence collection, working with available IT resources, authenticating digital evidence, and managing large volumes of information. Participants will also discuss considerations related to artificial intelligence, sensitive digital evidence, accessibility in investigations, and secure communication throughout the investigation process.

Learning Outcomes:

After completing this workshop, participants will be able to:

1. Identify ways technology can support civil rights investigations, including tools for gathering and organizing digital evidence.
2. Recognize key considerations when managing digital evidence, including sensitive materials and recordings.
3. Describe basic methods for reviewing and authenticating digital evidence, such as metadata and reverse image searches.
4. Apply strategies for managing and organizing large amounts of digital evidence.
5. Incorporate secure communication and accessibility tools to support effective and equitable investigative processes.

Workshop Topics

Introduction

- Investigating in the digital age
- Role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Civil Rights investigations
- Limitations in administrative processes

Leveraging Technology During Evidence Gathering

- Helpful tools/tips/apps
- Managing sensitive evidence/CSAM
- Handling one-party/surreptitious recordings
- Accessing student/employee digital information
- Leveraging existing IT resources
- Recording and transcription tools

Evidence Authentication & Preservation

- Understanding metadata
- Detecting altered/manipulated evidence
- Reverse image searching
- Securing digital evidence during evidence review periods

Other Considerations

- Annotation Practices
- Managing large amounts of digital evidence
- Accessibility tools for people with disabilities
- Accessibility tools for language needs/translation
- Secure communication practices

Note: Workshops do not include a standard break. Participants are welcome to eat and/or drink during the workshop and step away for other needs as necessary. Workshop start and end times for in-person events are determined by the host site. All virtual workshops take place from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM ET unless otherwise specified.