Open Source Forensic Investigation Tools

By

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- Police
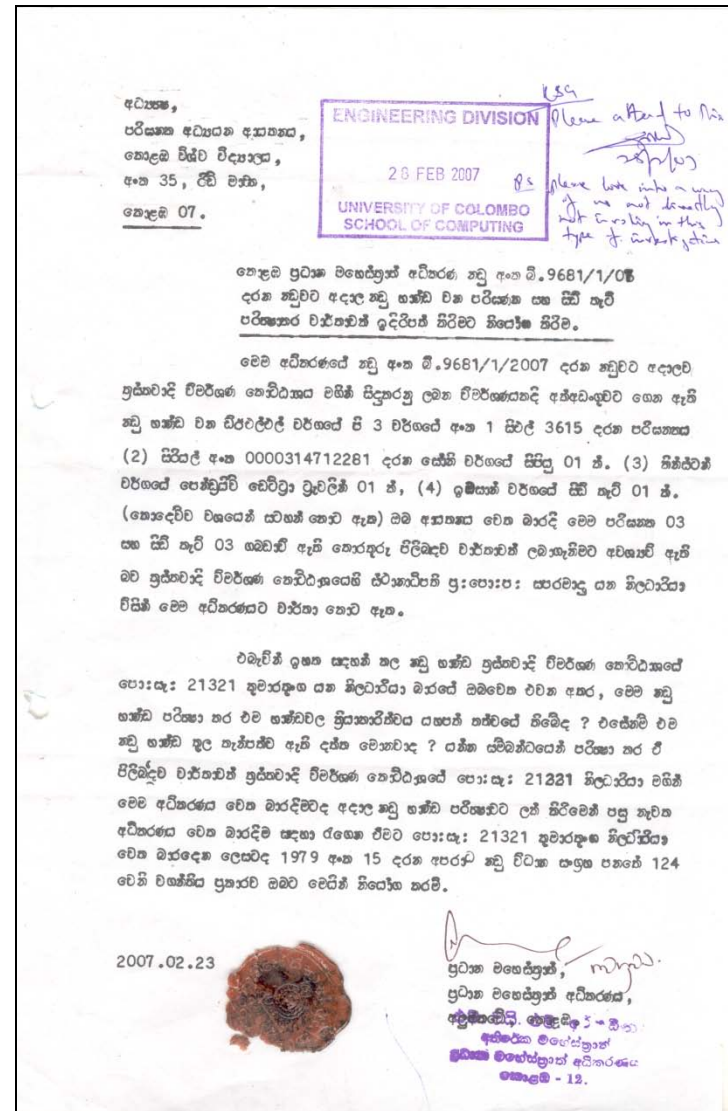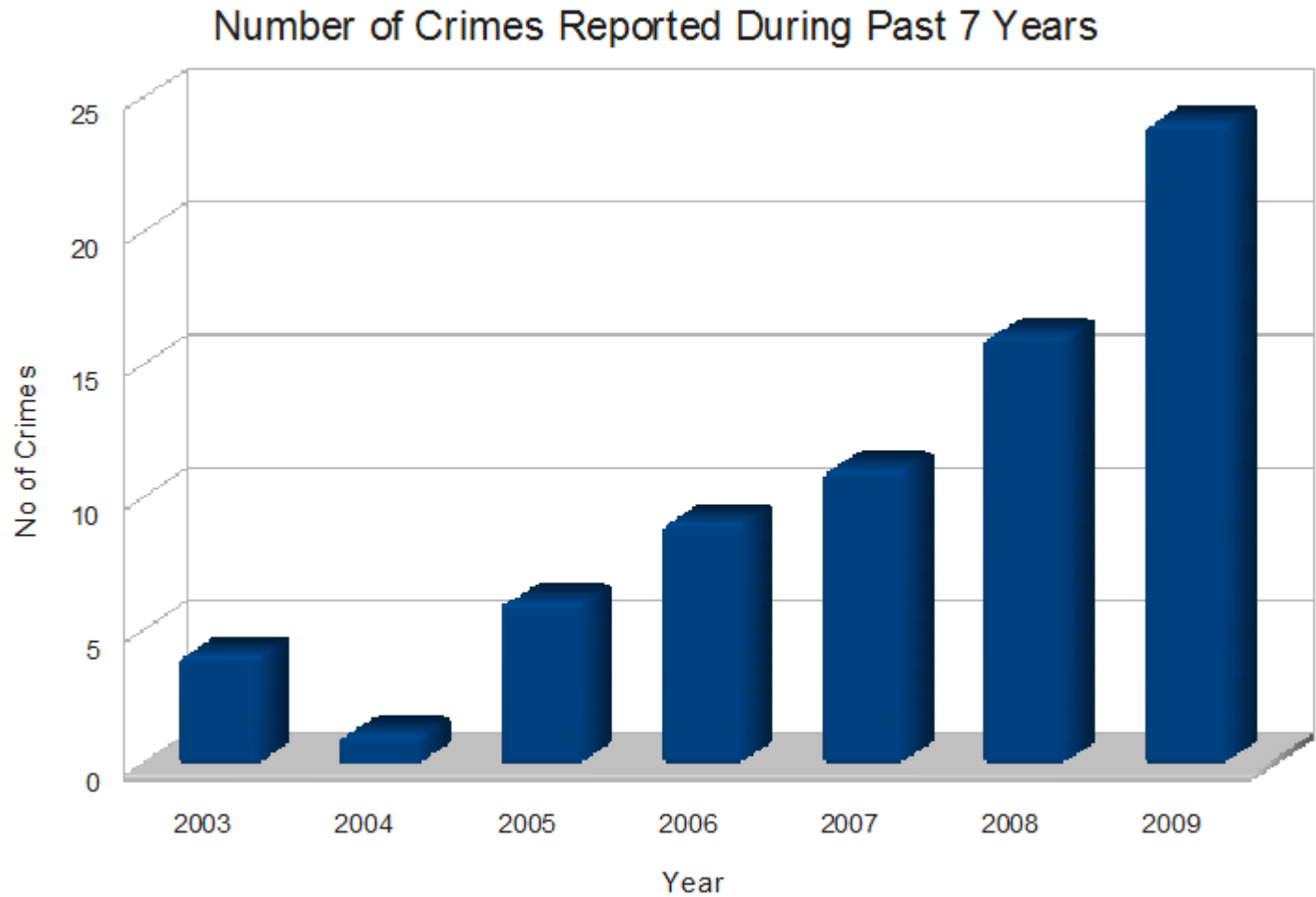
- CID

- Customs

- Bribery and Corruption

- Judicial Services

- Victims

Year *vs.* Number of Crimes

Number of Crimes Reported During Past 7 Years

- Evidence not being collected in an acceptable manner.

- Evidence being damaged due to time and environmental factors.

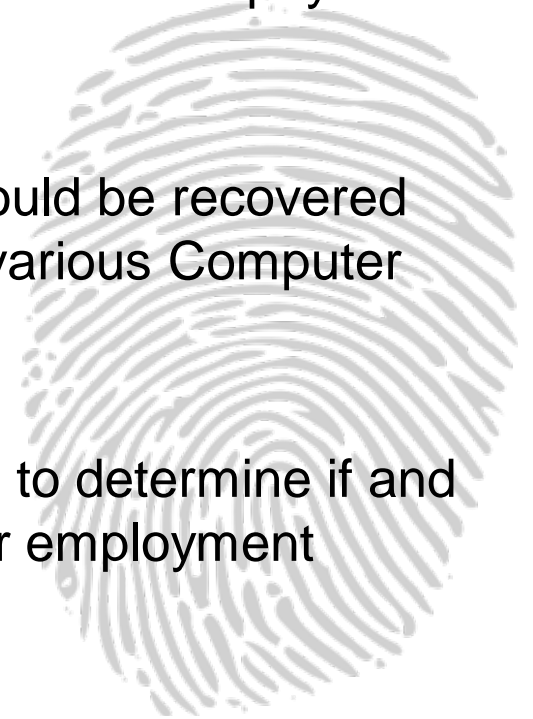- Evidence being damaged (wiped/formatted) before collection.

- Equipments are not available.

- Software are not available.

- Procedures and policies are not in place.

- Lack of IT knowledge in the Law Enforcement Sector.

- According to many professionals, Computer Forensics is a four (4) step process.
  - **Acquisition**
    - Physically or remotely obtaining possession of the computer, all network mappings from the system, and external physical storage devices.
  - **Identification**
    - This step involves identifying what data could be recovered and electronically retrieving it by running various Computer Forensic tools and software suites.
  - **Evaluation**
    - Evaluating the information/data recovered to determine if and how it could be used again the suspect for employment termination or prosecution in court.
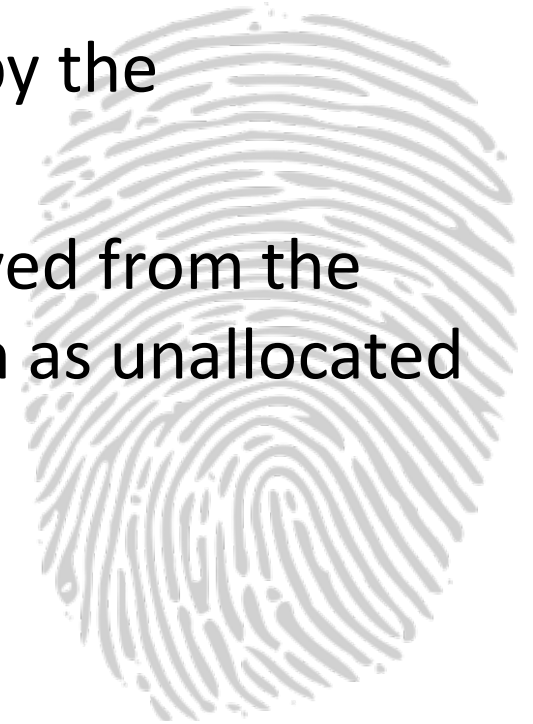
- **Presentation**
  - This step involves the presentation of evidence discovered in a manner which is understood by lawyers, non-technically staff/management, and suitable as evidence as determined by laws.
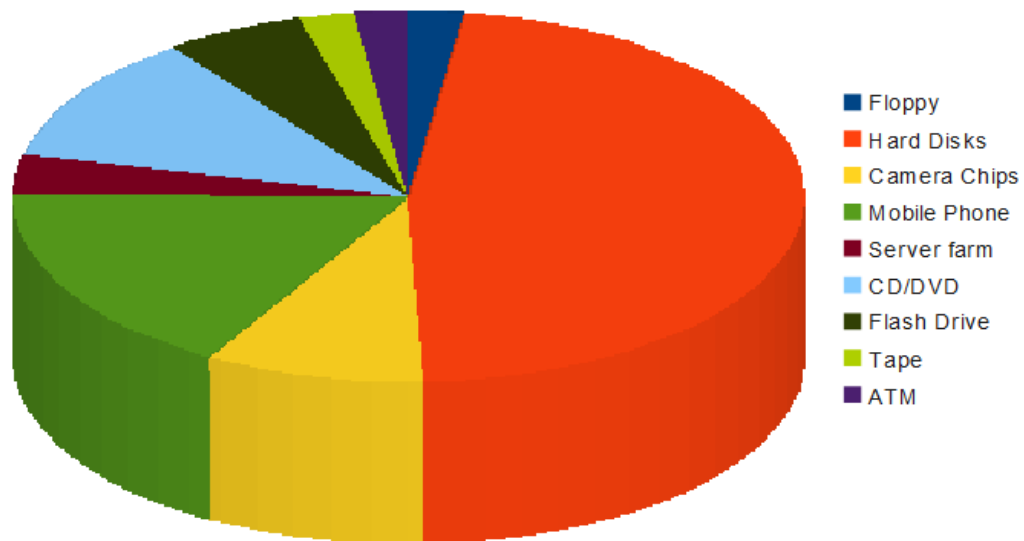
- In our dealings we have found that we have to categorize the types of data we work with.
  - Archival: Data stored on backup tapes.
  - Active: Data that is currently seen by the operating system.
  - Forensic: Data that has been removed from the operating systems view, also known as unallocated space.

- ## What all can we recover forensic data from?
    - CD-RWs
    - DVD-RWs
    - Floppies
    - Hard drives
    - Flash ram (smart media, SONY memory stick, mmc, secure digital)
    - and more!

Storage Medium Analysed for Different Crimes

- Floppy
- Hard Disks
- Camera Chips
- Mobile Phone
- Server farm
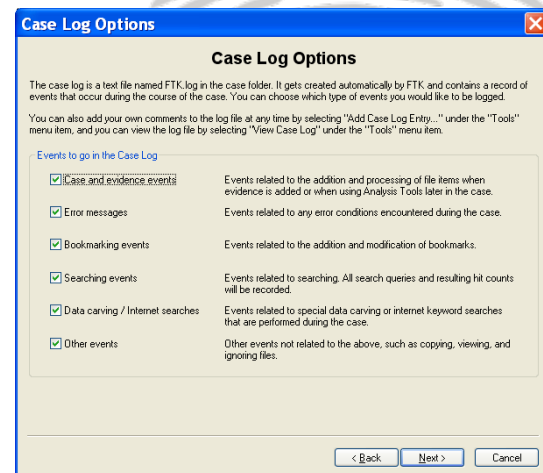- CD/DVD
- Flash Drive
- Tape
- ATM

Available Tools

FTK

- Advanced Code Breaking and Password Recover.
- Full Unicode and Code Page Support.
- Advanced Email Support.
- Powerful Search Functionality.
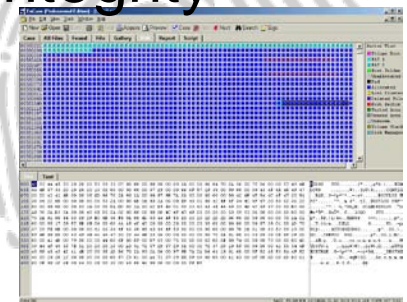- Registry Supplemental Reports.
- Easy to use interface.

NOT FREE

Encase

- Securely investigate/analyze many machines simultaneously.

- Limit incident impact and eliminate system downtime with immediate response capabilities.

- Investigate and analyze multiple platforms.

- Efficiently collect only potentially relevant data.

- Audit large groups of machines for sensitive or classified information.

- Identify fraud, security events and employee integrity issues.

NOT FREE

Seluthkit

- Collection of UNIX-based command line file and volume system forensic analysis tools

- Analyzes raw (i.e. *dd*), Expert Witness (i.e. EnCase) and AFF file system and disk images.

- Various analysis Techniques- meta-data structure analysis, time line generation, sort files based on their types etc.
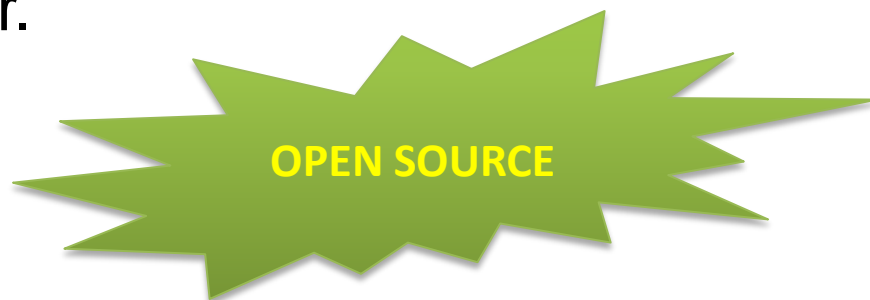
OPEN SOURCE

Autopsy

- GUI for *Sleuthkit*

- Dead analysis and live analysis

- Case management using client server model

- Various analysis Techniques- meta-data structure analysis, keyword search, time line generation, sort files based on their types etc.

OPEN SOURCE

Foremost and scalpel

- Linux program to recover files based on their headers and footers.

- Can work on image files, such as those generated by *dd*, Safeback, Encase, etc, or directly on a drive.

- The headers and footers are specified by a configuration file, so you can pick and choose which headers you want to look for.

OPEN SOURCE

Not much user friendly

PyFlag

- PyFlag is a forensic and log analysis GUI and computer forensics framework written in python.

- Basically it provides features for log analysis, disk forensic and network forensic.

- Disk forensic - extracting forensic information from hard disk images, keyword search , MD5 hash comparison.

- log analysis.

- network forensic.

OPEN SOURCE

Not much user friendly

PTK

- Enhanced GUI for *Sleuthkit-* extended version of autopsy

- Indexing Engine

- Disk image integrity.

- Various analysis Techniques- meta-data structure analysis, keyword search, time line generation, gallery, file filtering etc.

NOW FULL VERSION IS
NOT OPEN SOURCE

FIT4D

- A software toolkit utilizes the limited resources in developing countries.
  - Improves the efficiency, privacy and usability.
  - Addresses the problem of lack of forensic experts in developing countries.

- A low-cost, distributed infrastructure to deploy the FIT4D software toolkit.

Comparison Between PTK and FIT4D Features

Feature	PTK	FIT4D
Creating disk images		√
Searching /filtering the disk image.	√	√
Analysis and searching disk image piece wise		√
Report generation	√	√
Graphics processing tools		√
Compare file content within the image		√
Attach legal documents such as court orders to the case		√
Evidence not stored in a central server		√
Dynamic Timeline	√	√
Multiple investigators and case lock	√	√

Demonstration