



Alabama Computer Forensics Institute

110 University Park • Troy, Alabama 36082 • 334-670-3134

Mission

The primary mission of the Alabama Computer Forensics Institute is to meet the digital forensics needs of agencies and departments throughout the state of Alabama. The ACFI's casework is prioritized according to the scale and time-sensitivity of the crime under investigation.

The ACFI's mission requires the availability highly-trained and well-equipped digital forensics examiners to support federal, state, and local investigations and prosecutions. In this capacity, the ACFI assists with the seizure of digital evidence; conducts impartial and objective analysis of digital evidence using the best available tools and procedures available.

ACFI is widely-revered as advocates of child safety. Much of our work involves child exploitation, accomplished through illegal, inappropriate use of technology. Online predators pose an ever-present risk to our children. Our significant experience in processing and analyzing seemingly disparate electronic media has proven instrumental in convicting numerous child predators.

Goals

The key goals and operational mandates of the ACFI include:

- Provide timely, professional and technically advanced digital forensic services to law enforcement agencies in ACFI's service area
- Increase the confidence of investigators, prosecutors and judges in the reliability of digital forensics examination through the use of standardized training and forensics protocols
- Produce insightful publications that are assistive to digital forensics professionals
- Offer thorough digital forensics training opportunities that address salient needs of participant agencies
- Conduct research in digital forensics techniques, tools and methodology
- Achieve and maintain the prestigious ASCLD/LAB International Accreditation



Computer Forensics Institute Cyberkids Initiative

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WHOSWATCHINGALABAMA.ORG

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Overview

The Troy University IT department manages a global technology infrastructure that encompasses more than 50,000 end-users in 16 time zones. The team leverages a state-of-the-art facility at Troy, Ala. to deliver services to more than 60 locations. The newly-constructed data center in University Park near downtown Troy is an exemplary facility, protected by an elaborate array of redundant infrastructures and health-monitoring devices. Nationally-recognized as a leader in IT security, TROY IT has been a finalist for three consecutive years in the S.C. Magazine Awards for Best IT Security Team in the United States – the only higher education team recognized. The IT team supports all functions of the University and is progressive in fostering educational opportunities for staff development.

An annual IT Summit provides scores of training sessions and collaborative opportunities to assist in annual planning of technology initiatives. Since construction in 2009, services from the technology facility have achieved an uptime of 99.995%. In 2008, the Troy University IT department launched a community service program with the Alabama Attorney General's Office. The Cyberkids Internet Safety initiative has met tremendous success. Since the first presentation in 2008, the group has traveled more than 40,000 miles and more than 100,000 youth and adults have participated in the event. Troy IT staff has spoken at a wide-variety of school, civic and community events. In addition to tailored Cyberkids presentations, the group offers events on identity theft and maintains a public information website, www.whoswatchingalabama.org.

By capitalizing on tremendous experience in information security, in 2006, the Troy University IT department launched the Computer Forensics Institute and Lab. The U.S. Department of Justice funded program trains law enforcement officers in digital forensics, electronic evidence collection and advanced investigative techniques. Through collaborative efforts with federal, state and local law enforcement groups, the Computer Forensics Lab serves as an electronic evidence processing center. Having processed more than 400 pieces of computer and other electronic evidence items, the facility has proven to be an instrumental support agent in regional criminal investigations.

The team members possess significant data security and digital forensics acumen. Team members have authored IT security books, lead security conferences, developed the ADMIT framework, two provisional technology patents and progressed the layered security model that is employed by progressive security firms internationally.



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Cybersecurity

We offer a wide range of cyber security training opportunities for law enforcement and first responders. Please contact us for more information.

Mobile Forensics

The prevalence of mobile devices (cell phones, smart phones, etc) has lead to an increase in their use in violent and non-violent crimes. The Alabama Computer Forensics Institute provides training programs that will show law enforcement and first responders the methods used to process these devices for evidence collection. Contact the ACFI for more information.

Information Technology Center

20,000 square feet office space
4,000 square feet dedicated training facility
Secure access, CCTV-monitored
Designed for extended stay, disaster recovery site
SC Award Finalist 2009, 2010, 2011

IT Data Center

3,000 square feet, raised floor
Redundant, Parallel conditioned power
On-premises generator, redundant power feed
Fail-over, redundant path electrical and data circuits
Triple HVAC system
Five-alarm fire suppression system, Secure Access, CCTV
ISO 27000 series compliant, TIA 942 compliant, Tier 4 facility



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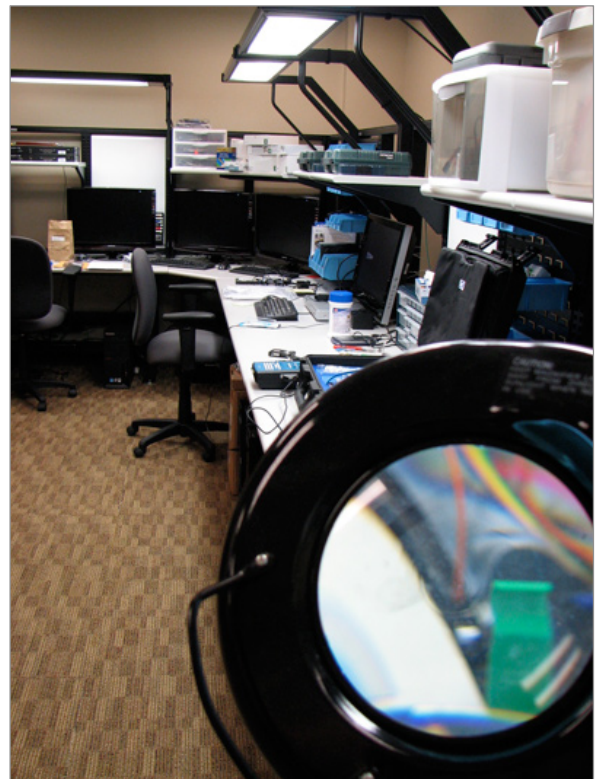
\$1 million state-of-the-art digital forensics laboratory
Redundant, Parallel conditioned power
Secure access, CCTV-monitored, vaulted evidence lockers
Mobile lab-equipped for onsite services and evidence seizure
2 provisional patents for cyber-analysis tools
Real-time, interactive, online evidence tracking interface for investigators

Staffing

The ACFI is equipped and staffed to recover, examine and process digital evidence. Additionally, the ACFI maintains a research component. Through evaluation of digital investigative tools and techniques, ACFI enhances digital forensics methodology and leverages unique cyber-security knowledge to create a dynamic approach to computer forensics and cyber threat mitigation. ACFI consists of a Director, Assistant Director, Operations Coordinator and four examiners. The team is certified in a wide-variety of computer forensics tools, protocols and industry-standard software solutions. In all, the team possesses over 100 years of information security experience, thirty certifications and 3,000 hours of hands-on forensics training. ACFI has processed over 400 pieces of digital forensics evidence, assisted law enforcement in the conviction of 71 individuals, and spoken to over 100,000 conference attendees.

Supportive Associates

Troy University
Alabama Attorney General's Office
Alabama Bureau of Investigation
Alabama Department of Public Safety
Alabama Department of Homeland Security
United States Marshal Office
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Naval Criminal Investigative Service, Atlantic Cyber Division
City and County Law Enforcement Units



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ACFI Accolades & Awards

Computerworld 2012 Honors Laureate Award Recipient
Certified Forensics Examiners, GCFA, ACE, GCIH, SSI
Certified Digital Examiners, Certified Malware Examiners
Certified Systems Engineers

Members: The American College of Forensics Examiners,
The American Board for Certification in Homeland Security,
FBI-Infragard, ISACA, High Technology Crime Investigation Association,
The International Association of Computer Investigative Specialists (COPS),
The Institute of Computer Forensics Professionals, IEEE
Department of Justice-funded Computer Forensics Institute
State and Federal court-qualified forensics expert witnesses
Founders of the River Region FBI-Infragard Members Alliance

————— 2012 —————
**THE COMPUTERWORLD
HONORS PROGRAM**
————— LAUREATE —————

2012 Activities

271 Digital Evidence Elements Processed
47 Presentations at conferences and events
37,000 attendees at hosted events

For More Information

To review the latest updates about the Alabama Computer Forensics Institute, including information regarding training offerings, upcoming events, subscribe to newsletter/alerts or request a follow-up, please follow this link: <http://www.whoswatchingalabama.org>



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