



Computer Forensic Report for Iroquois County

Andrew R. Garrett of Garrett Discovery Inc., an Illinois Corporation in good standing, was retained to examine hard drive images created by Clifton, Larson and Allen Accounting Firm, in response to a forensic financial audit requested by the Ford Iroquois County Health Department Board for evidence of waste, fraud and/or abuse.

Garrett Discovery, Inc., is an Illinois based computer forensics firm specializing in digital investigations and computer forensics. Andrew R. Garrett is the forensic expert selected to review the evidence and write an expert report. Mr. Garrett has been performing computer forensics for the last ten years and was formerly a contractor/principal responsible for the United States largest electronic discovery facility located at Scott Air Force base supporting the Department of Justice. Mr. Garrett has performed forensic analysis for private corporations, as well as federal and state courts throughout the US and Canada on over 500 cases. Garrett has performed expert work for both plaintiffs and defendants by order of the court.

Mr. Garrett has received training by Guidance Software and AccessData, whom are the leading forensic software companies in the United States. Additionally he has been deemed an expert in multiple federal courts and has held numerous computer certifications. His CV and prior case history is attached to this report.

This type of report is used to make a recommendation and is not indicative of a forensic report produced for court.

Investigation Scope

Rodney Copas Iroquois County Chairman contacted Garrett Discovery to review five computer images (copies) for evidence of waste, fraud or abuse. Chairman Copas explained that a few individuals have resigned under suspicious circumstances and that he needed assistance in determining the damage caused by these individuals. Additionally, he asked that if wrongdoing is uncovered that Garrett Discovery make a recommendation on how to avoid such matters in the future.

Investigation Goals

The investigation conducted was designed with the following goals:

1. Examine images (copies of hard drives)
2. Examine Internet usage for evidence of waste, fraud and/or abuse
3. Examine email for evidence of waste, fraud and/or abuse

Narrative

On October 15, 2014 I examined hard drive images from computers used by the following County staff:

1. Julie Clark
2. Cary Hagen
3. Doug Corbett
4. Mary Cahoe

A hard drive image is a forensic copy of all data resident on the hard drive. Encase and IEF was used to analyze the data on the hard drive and I was able to reconstruct not only the web address of the internet history, but able to reconstruct the webpages as they looked when the user was viewing them. Additionally, over one hundred thousand files were recovered that were once deleted by the user and emptied from the Windows recycle bin.

Below I will describe the type of data and subject of that data for each of the custodians.

Julie Clark

Official Public Title(s):Public Information Officer, HIPAA Officer, Opens Meeting Act Officer

Julie Clark used her government owned computer for the following:

- a. Organize Church Functions
- b. Manage the Kiwanis Club (over 1000 emails and web hits relating to this type of work)
- c. Fundraising for Maryville Illinois Mayor Gulledge whom was campaigning in southern Illinois
- d. Campaigning
 - a. Emails containing invites to events and asking for votes to Re-Elect Larry Gulledge that included fliers and requests for money for tickets
 - b. Use of computer to write letters of support for the Larry Gulledge campaign
- e. Emails to change Public Health Procurement Policies to enable her and her husband to bid on the work under a different corporation, 'Day and Night Solar', and billed under their own company for the work.
- f. Emails that show the creation of a foundation and selected board and used the health department assets including cash

- g. Wedding and baby shower planning for multiple individuals in the Southern Illinois East Saint Louis area including booking of hotels, sending invites, dress shopping and photography. Of note Ms. Clark lives over three hours' drive away from Ford Iroquois County in the St. Louis area.
- h. Loaned money to a private entity using county funds to establish a new business.
- i. Recruiting new staff for a church

Cary Hagen

Official Public Title(s): Financial Coordinator, Support Services Coordinator

Cary Hagen used her government owned computer for the following:

- a. 3011 searches on classified ads such as EBay, amazon and craigslist for personal matters
- b. 1465 searches on dating sites
- c. 7688 Facebook posts and comments
- d. Over 10,000 web searches for keywords such as cars, makeup, apartments, sports, Disney and clothes.
- e. Use of County credit card to purchase gifts for others immediately prior to the Christmas Holiday

Doug Corbett

Official Public Title(s): Public Health Administrator

Doug Corbett used his government owned computer for the following:

- a. Inappropriate web searching such as
 - a. 'I just pooped and my butthole won't close'
 - b. 'cum on boobs'
 - c. others redacted due to graphic nature
- b. Hundreds of pornography files were downloaded and saved on the computer
- c. Inappropriate contracting with sealed bids
- d. Use of computer for personal business to pay bills and manage personal life
- e. Excessive use on sports related sites
- f. Emails that show the creation of a foundation and selected board and used the health department assets including cash
- g. Loaned money to a private entity with a promissory note to the county without communicating the information via email to the board

Mary Cahoe

Official Public Title(s): Home Health Director

- a. Mary Cahoe used her government owned computer for the following:
- b. Was establishing a home health business in Indiana using her government computer and using government funds and I quote that the home health business “can stay independent of health department”.

Conclusion

Based on the evidence we reviewed it appears as if Clark, Hagen and Corbett were using the government owned computers for personal use and gain and possibly illegal and unethical activities.

Recommendations

It is my recommendation that an internet, computer and equipment usage policy be enforced. The policy is recommended to say that any violation of the internet, computer or equipment is grounds for instant termination. It is suggested that a forensic auditor be assigned to quarterly or semi-annually conduct a forensic examination of computers to ensure the policy is being adhered to. Additionally, it is suggested that a policy be adopted that if any employee is found to have not followed the policies and the forensic auditor has made a recommendation that the employee is terminated that the Board adopts that decision immediately without conflict or reservation.



Andrew Garrett
Computer Forensic Expert