

# Leveraging Digital Forensics in Fraud Investigations

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## TRAINERS:

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# Learning outcomes

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Understand what forensics is and the capabilities

Identify potential sources of evidence and pinpoint electronic evidence

Understand data storage structures

Collect and preserve electronic evidence in a forensically sound manner

Apply forensic techniques to locate and restore hidden or deleted data

Acquire and analyse forensic data such as email analysis

# Digital forensics overview

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**Forensics** is the application of scientific techniques and methodologies to matters of law

**Digital forensics** is the scientific acquisition, analysis, and preservation of data contained in electronic media whose information can be used as evidence in a court of law

# Forms of digital forensics



**Computer Forensics**



**Email Forensics**



**Network Forensics**



**Database Forensics**



**Mobile Forensics**

# Application of forensics in fraud investigations

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- Computer Intrusion
- Identity theft
- E-mail Threats, Harassment, and Stalking
- Online or Economic Fraud
- Theft of Information Assets
- Forgeries of Documents
- Malicious File Identification

# Why Digital Forensics ?

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- Fraud perpetration and inappropriate usage of computer resources detection.
  - Recovery of Data lost intentionally or accidentally and identification of the cause for data loss.
  - Preserving the integrity of the evidence collected
- Evidence in most organizational fraud cases is in digital form. Thus a knowledge of basic forensics is necessary to enable auditors and investigators to efficiently obtain, manage and analyse digital evidence

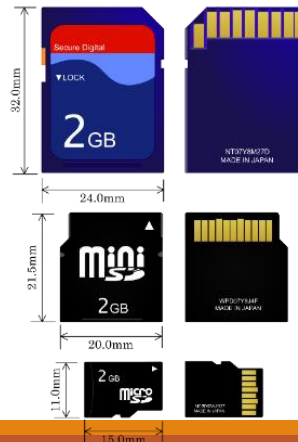
# Fortes of digital forensics

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- Image / duplicate / clone storage devices
- Traversing the computer file system
- Recovery of deleted files
- Reconstruction of disk partitions
- Querying the computer registry
- Search slack and unallocated space



# Sources of Electronic Evidence





# Targeted Data/Information Sources

Sage Pastel Accounting



Office



SkyDrive



Tally



Gmail

Microsoft SQL Server POWER OF SIMPLICITY

Outlook

Google Drive

SAP



skype



intuit QuickBooks

# How Computers Work!

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- Basic operations
  - Input
  - Out
  - Processing
  
- File systems
  
- Operating systems

# Computer Forensic Tools

## Open source tools

- Helix forensic cd
- The Sleuth Kit (Autopsy)
- WinHex viewer



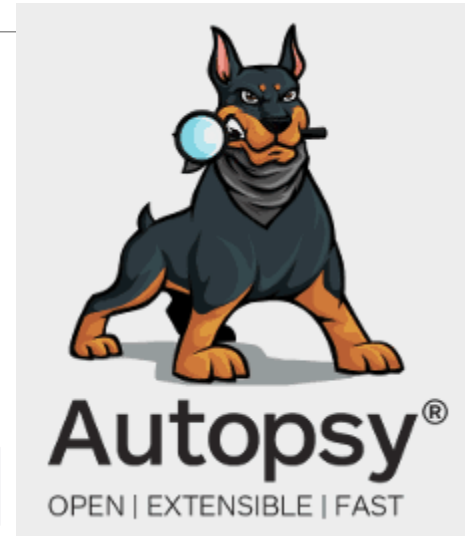
## Commercial tools

- Opentext - Encase
- Access Data Forensic Tool Kit
- Paraben Forensic Software
- Cellebrite
- Oxygen forensics



**OXYGEN  
FORENSICS**

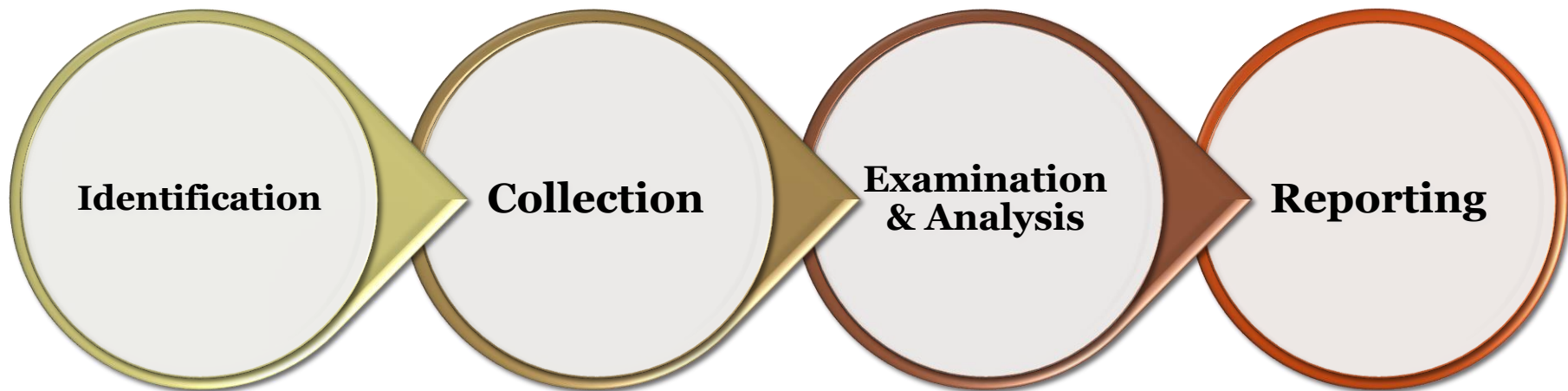
*Helping good people make this world safer*



**opentext™** | **EnCase™**

# Digital Forensic Process

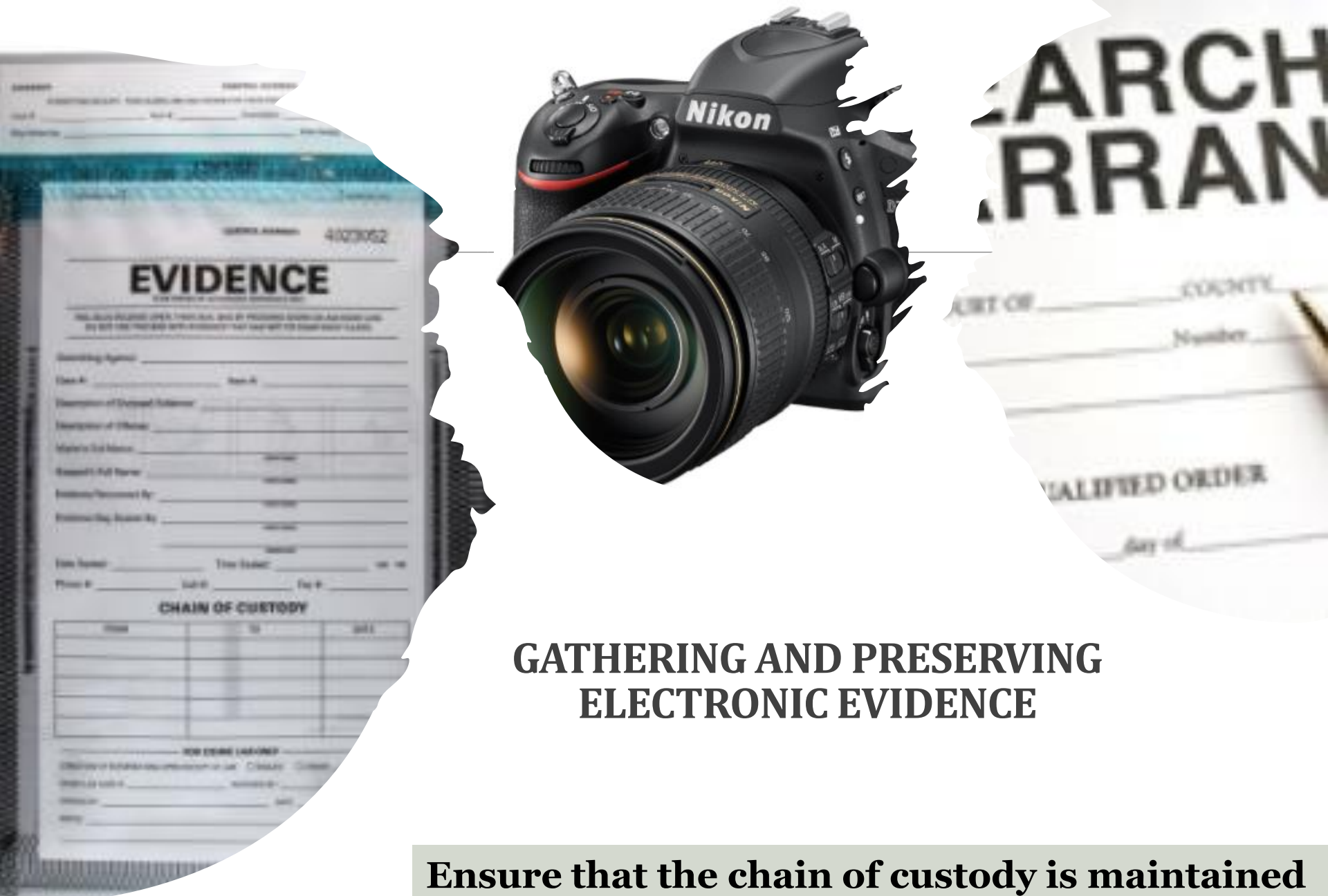
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# Gathering & Preserving Electronic Evidence

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- Legal right to search and seize and scope of search
- System inspection; connections; network; power considerations
- Caution – safety and security
- Document who is involved, state of crime scene
- Protected content e.g. medical content; lawyers - attorney client privileges
- Best evidence rule – proper hash validation where original isn't available
- Order of volatility; Encryption



# GATHERING AND PRESERVING ELECTRONIC EVIDENCE

**Ensure that the chain of custody is maintained**

# Device Forensic Imaging

**Write-Blocking Device**



**Examiner Computer**



**Suspect Device (HDD)**



# Forensic Imaging

AccessData FTK Imager 4.2.0.13

File View Mode Help



Evidence Tree

File List

Name	Size	Type	Date Modif...
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Custom Content Sources

Evidence:File System|Path|File Options

New Edit Remove Remove All Create Image

Properties Hex Value In... Custom Con...

Creates a Custom Content Image (AD1)



# Practical Session

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# Further reading

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➤ **How Computers Work, Compilation Video of Basics Explained**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rv73ki6fTuo>

➤ **How do SSDs Work**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Mh3o886qpg>

➤ **Forensic Acquisition in Windows - FTK Imager**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkG4JqUcx\\_U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkG4JqUcx_U)

➤ **FTK Imager User guide**

➤ Kearns, G. (2015) 'Computer Forensic Projects for Accountants', *Journal of Digital Forensics, Security and Law* [Preprint]. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.15394/jdfsl.2015.1203>.

➤ Pearson, T.A. and Singleton, T.W. (2008) 'Fraud and Forensic Accounting in the Digital Environment', *Issues in Accounting Education*, 23(4), pp. 545–559. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.2308/iace.2008.23.4.545>.

➤ Coglitore, F.J. & Matson, D.M. (2007). The use of computer-assisted auditing techniques in the auditing course: Further evidence. *Journal of Forensic Accounting*, VIII, 201-226.

Thank  
you