

Law & Forensics

Solving Complex Legal Issues

Law & Forensics helps clients dealing with E-Discovery survive a potential onslaught of complications, devise settlement strategies, and achieve favorable trial outcomes by managing the burdens, costs, and potential pitfalls surrounding E-Discovery. At Law & Forensics, we believe at the bottom of every complex technology issue is a cost-effective solution waiting to be “discovered.”

The Background

To most people, a blackout is associated with a lack of their normal amenities; laptops, televisions, heat, lights...the list goes on. But when an entire city goes dark, the consequences are far greater. When the security of highly sensitive electronic data was threatened as a result of the 2003 massive power outage in the northeast United States and parts of Ontario, a member of our data breach investigation team was called on to lead a forensic investigation into the cause of the outage and any potential threats to national security.

The Situation

As a lead investigator of the joint US and Canadian team, our team member's task was two resolve to main security issues. The first was the causation of the massive power outage, including an analysis of activity leading up to the blackout, and determination of any malicious intent. Neither Canada nor the United States had ever been faced with such a large power outage, and only two years after 9/11, malicious intent was one of the government's chief concerns. The second task was to identify and investigate any security breaches that resulted from the power outage, the sustained lack of access to certain databases, and identify and research a unique computer bug that had infected General Electric's energy system.

The Solution

Our team member ran a series of tests to determine the causation of the power outage, using global protocol, emerging technology, and complex forensic analysis tools. Using tools to track certain data, log-in details, and network security issues, our team member helped successfully identify the cause of the power outage. By addressing a large-scale threat remediation protocol and conducting in-person interviews with those involved in the outage, our team member was able to eliminate criminal intent in the power outage.

The Resolution

L&F's subject-matter expertise in data breaches and cybercrime ensured that proper steps were taken to confirm all data was returned to its secure status after power was restored to the area. Our team was able to prevent further breaches to sites and networks that had suffered weakness in their security layers as a result of the outage as well.

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All of Law & Forensics' work reflects the highest ethical standards, no matter the scope of the task at hand. Our team frequently attends conferences, and participates in working groups and development committees to update and enhance standards and protocols. We consistently strive to find new ways to serve the bar and bench.