



Locating Fugitives using Social Media: Pen Registers & Chasing IP's

April 5, 2024
9 am - 10 am PST
Virtual Class
FREE

Fugitives wanted for any crime (from homicide to burglary and everything in between) may be savvy to law enforcement pings, they may change their phone numbers, but social media may be the ticket to locating them.

In this free one hour class, students will learn how pen registers to Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat can provide ongoing IP addresses to help us locate fugitives or suspects, or even identify residences and stash location(s) for contraband. Students will then learn some techniques they can utilize to resolve and “flip” IP addresses to reveal where suspects are accessing social media from, or uncover their new phone number(s).

While a 100% success rate isn't realistic, this class will explore some basic fundamental principles on how law enforcement can use social media pen registers and IP addresses to locate wanted subjects, and discuss the challenges law enforcement may face when utilizing these techniques and some creative strategies to overcome them.

This is not an “advanced” class, this brief class will be introductory and tailored for investigators or detectives who have never done a social media pen register or “flipped” an IP address, and those who have some experience alike.

INSTRUCTOR: Tim Gooler has worked for a northern bay area law enforcement agency since 2015, and is currently assigned as Detective with the Property Crimes Investigations Team, tasked with investigating firearms manufacturing, trafficking, and a multitude of property crimes offenses. Det. Gooler was recognized in 2022 as the Peace Officer of the Year for the county he works in, the Detective of the Year for his agency, and in 2019 recognized as the California Robbery Investigator's Association Officer of the Year.

Det. Gooler has authored dozens of search warrants and pen registers for cell phones, technology providers and social media providers. Det. Gooler has conducted dozens of Snapchat investigations involving search warrants and pen register / trap trace orders, which have resulted in arrests for firearms trafficking, narcotics sales, child exploitation crimes, child abuse, gang crimes and property crimes, and the seizure of numerous firearms and sales quantities of narcotics.



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