



bit-x-bit Examines Electronic Evidence in Police Custody Regarding Evidence of an Alibi in a Homicide Case

The Challenge

In a homicide case, forensically review electronic evidence contained on a criminal defendant's consumer electronic devices, in police custody, to assist defense counsel to in finding evidence to support the defendant's alibi.

Meeting the Needs of the Client and Counsel

In early 2010, bit-x-bit was contacted by counsel for the defendant in a homicide case, in which the defendant was charged with criminal homicide and aggravated assault.

The defendant believed that electronic evidence on certain consumer electronic devices may exist that directly related to the timeline of events surrounding the alleged criminal conduct. bit-x-bit was asked by defense counsel to examine the electronic evidence to determine whether or not it supported the defendant's alibi.

Because the evidence was being held in police custody, bit-x-bit performed the examination at police headquarters under the direct observation of one of the detectives working on the case. Due to the nature of the electronic information and the types of devices on which it existed, bit-x-bit established and tested special procedures for the capture and examination of this evidence that could be performed in the "field" outside of bit-x-bit's computer forensics laboratory environment. The pre-tested procedures allowed for the rapid, thorough and cost effective forensic examination of the electronic evidence while on site at police headquarters.

Upon completion of the examination, bit-x-bit provided a report regarding of its findings to counsel prior to trial.

The Result

Defense counsel was armed with additional information prior to trial which, due to the nature of the consumer electronic devices on which it existed, would have been previously left unexplored if a thorough forensic examination had not been conducted, and was able to make appropriate arguments in the case.