



ICAC INVESTIGATOR QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

Essential Resources for New (and Experienced) Investigators

This guide is designed to help ICAC investigators get started by providing quick access to trusted investigative, legal, digital forensics, training, victim support, and research resources. It is not intended to be a comprehensive list of every available resource. Instead, it highlights a few trusted resources to help new investigators get started. Use it alongside the ICAC Operational and Investigative Standards and the guidance of your agency, task force, prosecutor, and experienced investigators.

DAY 1 STARTER KIT

BOOKMARK THESE:

These are the core sites you'll use for virtually all of your child exploitation investigations, training, and case preparation.

KNOW YOUR TASK FORCE

ICAC Task Force Program

Find Task Force contacts and member resources.

icactaskforce.org

ICAC Task Force | Member Community Login Required

Connect with investigators nationwide (formerly the ICAC Listserv).

icactaskforce.org

GET TRAINED

NCJTC | ICAC Training

Access ICAC training for investigators and examiners.

ncjtc.fvtc.edu/programs/PR00000002/internet-crimes-against-children-task-force

ACCESS CYBERTIPS & CASE INFORMATION

ICAC Data System (IDS) Login Required

Access cybertips, case information, and Task Force data.

icacdatasystem.com/landing/login

NCMEC | CVIP Submissions Login Required

Submit hash values or images for child victim identification (CVIP).

lesp.ncmec.org/share

SERVE LEGAL PROCESS

SEARCH Group | ISP Compliance Guides

Determine provider legal process requirements.

search.org/resources/isp-list

Kodex Global

Manage legal process and provider requirements.

app.kodexglobal.com

START INVESTIGATING

SEARCH Group | Investigative & Forensic Toolbar

Access investigative tools and references.

search.org/resources/search-investigative-and-forensic-toolbar

INVESTIGATIVE & OSINT TOOLS

NEED TO:

- Find online accounts
- Identify an IP address
- Research websites & domains
- Examine images or videos

IDENTIFY A PERSON

WhatsMyName

Find online accounts by username.

whatsmyname.app

IDENTIFY AN IP ADDRESS

ARIN WHOIS

Find who owns an IP address.

search.arin.net/rdap

IDENTIFY A DOMAIN OR WEBSITE

WHOIS

Find who registered a domain.

who.is

Wayback Machine

View archived versions of websites.

web.archive.org

INVESTIGATE IMAGES & MEDIA

Google Lens

Find where an image appears online.

lens.google.com

ExifTool

View metadata from images, videos, documents, and files.

exiftool.org

TRACE A CRYPTOCURRENCY PAYMENT

Blockchair

Look up wallet addresses and transactions across major blockchains.

blockchair.com

ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATIVE RESOURCES

SEARCH Group | Investigative & Forensic Toolbar

Access investigative tools and references.

search.org/resources/search-investigative-and-forensic-toolbar

LEGAL RESOURCES

NEED TO:

- Serve legal process
- Determine provider requirements
- Research applicable law
- Track legislative changes

SERVE LEGAL PROCESS

SEARCH Group | ISP Compliance Guides

Determine provider legal process requirements.

search.org/resources/isp-list

NW3C | ALPHA Warrant Tool Login Required

Draft legal process tailored to your jurisdiction and provider in minutes.

nw3c.org

Kodex Global

Manage legal process and provider requirements.

app.kodexglobal.com

STATUTES & LEGAL GUIDANCE

Cornell LII | 18 U.S.C. Chapter 110

Research federal child exploitation statutes.

law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/18/part-I/chapter-110

Cornell LII | 18 U.S.C. Chapter 71

Research federal obscenity statutes.

law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/18/part-I/chapter-71

DOJ | Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS)

Research federal legal guidance and child exploitation resources.

justice.gov/criminal-ceos

DOJ | Citizen's Guide to Child Pornography Law

Read DOJ's plain-language breakdown of federal child pornography statutes.

justice.gov/criminal/criminal-ceos/citizens-guide-us-federal-law-child-pornography

TRACK LEGISLATION

Congress.gov

Track federal legislation affecting investigations.

congress.gov

DIGITAL FORENSICS RESOURCES

NEED TO:

- Collect digital evidence
- Acquire & extract data
- Examine images or videos
- Learn forensic tools

ACQUIRE EVIDENCE

Exterro | FTK Imager

Acquire images of computers and storage media.

exterro.com/digital-forensics-software/ftk-imager

Magnet Forensics | Magnet Acquire

Acquire supported mobile devices and storage media.

magnetforensics.com/resources/magnet-acquire

REVIEW & ANALYZE

Cellebrite | Reader

Free download to open and share UFDR reports created in Cellebrite's paid tools.

cellebrite.com/en/products/cellebrite-inseyets/reader

Magnet Forensics | AXIOM Portable Case

Free viewer included with case exports created in Magnet AXIOM (paid).

magnetforensics.com/blog/deep-dive-portable-case-part-one

LEAPPs

Free tools to parse artifacts from mobile, vehicle, desktop, ISP return, and media data.

leapps.org

Magnet Forensics | Free Tools

Download free DFIR tools for memory capture, warrant returns, and more.

magnetforensics.com/free-tools

Hexordia | Evanole VM

Utilize free and open source tools to analyze data.

learn.hexordia.com/products/Evanole-VM-692489dc5fbd592b8c604ccd

Autopsy

Analyze and review digital evidence.

autopsy.com

Project VIC International Login Required

Access free CSAM hash intelligence for victim identification.

projectvic.org/get-hashes

LEARNING RESOURCES

NEED TO:

- Stay current on emerging trends
- Explore digital forensics & OSINT
- Learn new investigative techniques
- Continue professional development

TRAINING & CERTIFICATION

NCJTC | ICAC Training

Access ICAC training.
ncjtc.fvtc.edu/programs/PR00000002/internet-crimes-against-children-task-force

SEARCH Group | Cybercrime Investigative Resources

Explore cybercrime investigative resources.
search.org/resources/cybercrime-investigative-resources

NW3C

Access free investigative and digital forensics resources and training.
nw3c.org

Child Rescue Coalition | Law Enforcement Training

Free CPS training. Contact LESupport@childrescuecoalition.org.
childrescuecoalition.org/law-enforcement

IACIS Paid

Advanced computer forensics training and certification.
iacis.com

SANS Paid

Advanced digital forensics and incident response training.
sans.org

SELF-STUDY, BLOGS & NEWS

DFIR Diva | DFIR Resources

Access digital forensics, OSINT, and cybersecurity resources.
dfirdiva.com/dfir-resources

Hexordia | Walkthroughs & Checklists

Step-by-step forensic guides.
hexordia.com/walkthroughs-and-checklists

Stark 4N6

Mobile forensics research, scripts, and artifact write-ups.
stark4n6.com

This Week in 4N6

Weekly DFIR news and resources.
thisweekin4n6.com

COMMUNITY & PODCASTS

Digital Forensics Discord Server Verification Required

Connect with the DFIR community — requires a short verification step to join.
aboutdfir.com/a-beginners-guide-to-the-digital-forensics-discord-server

Truth in Data | Podcast

Digital forensics discussions.
youtube.com/@hexordia/podcasts

Digital Forensics Now | Podcast

DFIR news and investigations.
digitalforensicsnow.buzzsprout.com

Parsing the Truth | Podcast

Digital evidence case analysis.
parsingthetruth.com

PREVENTION & VICTIM RESOURCES

NEED TO:

- Support victims
- Educate parents
- Help remove images
- Educate schools & communities

SUPPORT VICTIMS

NCMEC | Get Help Now

Connect victims and families with crisis support and resources.
missingkids.org/gethelpnow/support

NeedHelpNow.ca

Help youth navigate self-generated image incidents.
needhelpnow.ca

IMAGE REMOVAL

NCMEC | Take It Down

Help minors remove or prevent sharing explicit images.
takeitdown.ncmec.org

StopNCII.org

Help adults remove or prevent sharing intimate images.
stopncii.org

PARENT RESOURCES

Thorn | For Parents

Resources and technology to protect children online.
parents.thorn.org

IWF | Resources

Online safety resources for parents and educators.
iwf.org.uk/resources

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY EDUCATION

NCMEC | NetSmartz

Internet safety education for children and communities.
netsmartz.org

DHS | Know2Protect

Online child exploitation prevention resources.
know2protect.gov

ORGANIZATIONS & NONPROFITS

NEED TO:

- Find investigative support
- Learn about child protection initiatives
- Connect with national & international partners
- Support victims & prevention

HOTLINES

NCMEC

Access national resources supporting child exploitation investigations.
missingkids.org

INHOPE

International network of CSAM reporting hotlines.
inhope.org

Internet Watch Foundation (IWF)

International efforts to identify and remove CSAM.
iwf.org.uk

TECHNOLOGY

Child Rescue Coalition (CRC)

Technology supporting child exploitation investigations.
childrescuecoalition.org

Thorn

Technology and initiatives combating child sexual exploitation.
thorn.org

Project VIC International

Technology ecosystem used by law enforcement to find and rescue children.
projectvic.org/technologies

VICTIM RECOVERY & OPERATIONS

International Justice Mission (IJM)

Global efforts to combat child exploitation and trafficking.
ijm.org

OUR Rescue

Combats human trafficking and child exploitation while empowering survivors.
ourrescue.org

LEGISLATIVE & FUNDING

Raven

Legislative advocacy supporting child protection and ICAC funding.
raven.us

BEST PRACTICES & STANDARDS

SWGDE | Documents

Access best practices and technical documents.
swgde.org/documents

NIST | Digital Forensics

Access standards, testing, and references.
nist.gov/programs-projects/digital-forensics

RESEARCH & STATISTICS

NEED TO:

- Find reliable statistics
- Read current research & reports
- Support presentations, grant applications & strategic planning
- Stay informed on emerging trends

NCMEC | CyberTipline Data

Review CyberTipline statistics, reports, and trends.
missingkids.org/gethelpnow/cybertipline/cybertiplinedata

OJJDP | ICAC Task Force Program

Access information about the ICAC Task Force Program.
ojjdp.ojp.gov/programs/internet-crimes-against-children-task-force-program

INHOPE

Review global hotline statistics and reports.
inhope.org/action-awareness/publications#publications-publications

Thorn | Research

Explore research on child sexual exploitation and technology.
thorn.org/research

IWF | Research

Explore research and reports on online child sexual abuse.
iwf.org.uk/about-us/why-we-exist/our-research

Childlight

Global research and data on the scale and nature of child sexual exploitation.
childlight.org

WeProtect | Publications

Review global research and threat assessments.
weprotect.org/resources/publications

Tech Coalition | Resources

Access industry reports and online child safety resources.
technologycoalition.org/resources