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# The Impact of Social Media in Missing Children Cases



January 24, 2017

2:00 PM ET



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**NC4YC**  
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The right sidebar contains a 'Handouts' table and a 'Chat' section.

Name	Size
NC4YC Final Handout.docx	65 KB
OJJDP FamEngage PowerPoint 2 11 13 Final2.pdf	1 MB
Presenter Bios and Photos - February 13 Webinar.docx	1 MB

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**Chat (Everyone)**

Liane Rozzell: sean johnson, would love to discuss the family engagement services you are talking about in Richmond. Please email me at [liane@fayyouth.org](mailto:liane@fayyouth.org)

MARK TOBIN: Thanks, everyone

Jennifer Marr: I just highlight ans copied

Brian Schultz: Thanks all

Christina Hanna: It is not about coding. It is about making connections. I would put my future on it. the connections are there

Rachel Loupe: Tracy... I can email it to you...

Sheila Pessingua: when you highlight and copy, it doesn't include all of the chat text

Jacqueline Scott: Thank you everyone, this was a great webinar. And a special thank you to the presenters for sharing your stories with us.

Nicolas Joseph 2: Take care everyone. You're all doing amazing

burton: thanks

Diago Roberts: Thanks everyone! Great job!

Howay: nice seminar

Yellow arrows indicate the chat interface elements: 1 points to the chat menu icon, 2 points to the chat text input area, and 3 points to the chat send button.



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# Moderator



**Melissa Blasing**

Region 2 Liaison

AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program

National Criminal Justice Training Center

Fox Valley Technical College



# **AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program**

Mission: To safely recover missing, endangered, or abducted children through the coordinated efforts of law enforcement, media, transportation, and other partners by using training and technology to enhance response capacities and capabilities and increase public participation.



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# Presenter



**Robert Breeden**

Associate

National Criminal Justice Training Center



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# The Impact of Social Media in Missing Children Cases





# Objectives

- Understand what social media is.
- Review the most popular social media applications.
- Discuss the potential evidence that may be gathered from social media apps.



## Digital Evidence

- “Law Enforcement must not only **be** up to date, it must **stay** up to date regarding new devices and techniques in order to best assist investigations.”
- “Another examiner noted that digital evidence is as important as firearms, fingerprints, and DNA.”
- “More cases are being solved on digital evidence than any other type of evidence today.”
- How do you stay current?



# Social Networking Services

- Social media refers to the means of interaction among people in which they create, share, and exchange information and ideas in virtual communities and networks.
- Social media sites depend on mobile and web-based technologies to create these highly interactive platforms.



## Social Networking Services (cont.)

- Most social networking services (SNS) are web-based and provide a means for users to interact over the Internet.
- Today, most of those SNS also have apps for use on smart phones and tablets.
- There are over 350 social networking sites.



# Social Media Scope and Scale

- 89% of teens use social media and 71% currently have multiple profiles.
- 51% of teens ages 13-17 use social media sites daily.
- 71% of teens have a Facebook account.
- 8% of people in the U.S. ages 16-34 have been turned down for a job because of their social media content.





## Social Media Scope and Scale (cont.)

- 47% of kids have looked up a website their parents would disapprove of.
- Over 50% of kids, ages 10-17, have posted risky comments or photos online.
- 22% of young people admit to using a mobile device to hide their online behavior.



## Social Media Scope and Scale (cont.)

- 46% of children ages 10 to 17 have received a message or picture their parents would disapprove of due to sexual content.
- 70% of teens have hidden their online behavior.
- 53% of teens clear their browser history.
- 34% of teens hide or delete messages, photos, or videos.



## Decoy Apps – Photo Vaults

- There are numerous apps used to hide content on devices.
- Info hidden in these apps might be missed in forensic exams.
- Can be used to hide photos, videos, documents, texts, or emails.
- Could be used by criminals and terrorists.



## Decoy Apps – Photo Vaults (cont.)

Examples include:

- Poof
- Vaulty
- The Best Secret Folder
- Hide it Pro
- Spy Calc and Smart Hide Calculator
- Audio Manager
- Hide It





# Devices for Social Networking







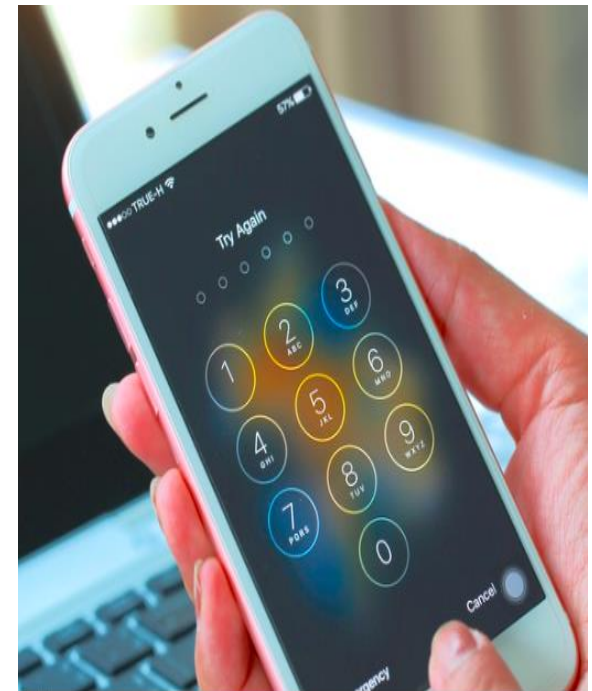
# Devices for Social Networking (cont.)





# Password Encryption

- Passwords
  - 4 number vs 6 number PINs
  - Alpha-numeric
  - Swipe gestures
- How do we get passwords?
  - Ask owner of phone videos





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# Mobile Apps

- Facebook
- Twitter
- Kik Messenger
- Snapchat
- WhatsApp
- Grinder/Scruff/Tinder
- VOIP/Text Plus



# Facebook

- Monthly active users now total 1.79 billion.
- Daily active users are up to 1.18 billion.
- Monthly active mobile users up to 1.66 billion.
- Daily mobile users now total 1.09 billion.
- 300 million photos are uploaded to the site each day – 250 billion total.
- 4.75 billion Likes and Comments are posted daily.
- Available in more than 70 languages.
- 5 new profiles created every second.





# Facebook (cont.)

## *Types of information available*

### **User Neoprint**

The Neoprint is an expanded view of a given user profile. It contains their current profile information, and all wall postings and messages to and from the user that have not been deleted by the user.

Neoprints are delivered in pdf format.

If a profile is changed or updated, deleted content is not retained, and cannot be produced. Any messages or wall postings deleted by the user are not retained and cannot be produced.

### **User Photoprint**

The Photoprint is a compilation of all photos uploaded by the user that have not been deleted, along with all photos uploaded by any user which have the user tagged in them.



Photoprints are delivered in pdf format.



Deleted photos are not retained.






# Facebook.com/records

**facebook**   

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## Law Enforcement Online Requests



### Request Secure Access to the Law Enforcement Online Request System

---

Facebook discloses account records solely in accordance with our terms of service and applicable law.

If you are a law enforcement agent who is authorized to gather evidence in connection with an official investigation, you may request records from Facebook through this system.

☐ I am an authorized law enforcement agent and this is an official request

[Request Access](#)



# Facebook.com/records (cont.)

**facebook** Search for people, places and things

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Home Preservation Request Records Request FAQ Log Out of System

## Law Enforcement Online Requests

### My Requests

You have no requests right now.

About Create an Ad Create a Page Developers Careers Privacy Cookies Terms Help



# Facebook.com/records (cont.)

**facebook** Search for people, places and things

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### Request Details

Internal Case Reference Number

Legal Process

Select One

Nature of Case

Select One

Legal Process Signed Date

2/13/2013

Request Due Date

2/13/2013

Account Owner or Owners

Type the user ID, vanity URL or email address of each account owner, then hit Enter

Requesting Records Beginning

2/13/2013

Requesting Records Ending

2/13/2013

Documentation

**Please attach all relevant legal documents**  
Must be PDF, JPG, PNG or other common image formats



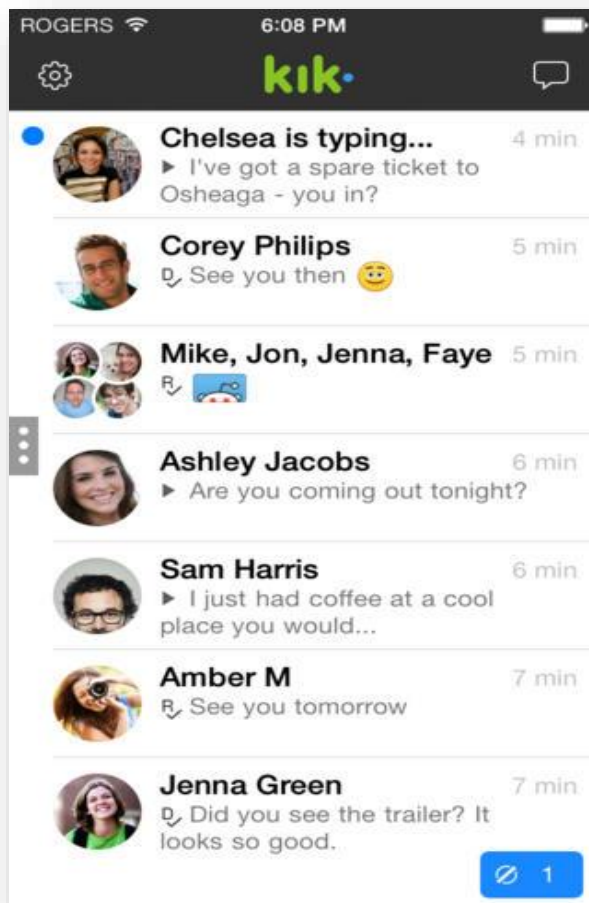
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# Kik Messenger





## Kik Messenger (cont.)

- Kik is located in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, and as such is governed by Canadian law.
- Kik usernames are the only unique identifier to identify an account and may include lower and upper case letters and/or punctuation.



# Snapchat

- Snapchat is a smart phone app that provides a new way to share photos and videos using the camera phone in real-time.
- The user selects a preview time of 1-10 seconds.
- User can save in his/her phone or just send it via Snapchat without saving it.
- User can send to another Snapchat user or to a friend's phone number.
- The friend will have to download Snapchat in order to see the picture or video.







## Snapchat (cont.)

- Subscriber information
  - Snapchat username
  - Account creation date and time
  - Email address (optional)
  - Phone Number (optional)

### Subpoena

Including grand jury subpoenas, administrative subpoena or civil investigative demand pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 2703(c)(2); court order issued in accordance with 18 U.S.C. § 2703(d); or a federal or state search warrant.

- Log of previous Snaps and Stories sent and received
  - Sender/Recipient
  - Time sent, received, opened, screenshot taken
  - Type of content (image or video)

### Court order

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 2703(d) or a federal or state search warrant.

- Content of unopened Snaps
  - If less than 30 days old and not opened by recipient
- Content of unexpired Stories

### Search warrant

Federal or state search warrant.



## Snapchat (cont.)

- Snapchat does not store any image or video data.
  - Data is deleted immediately after the recipient views the image or video.
- If an image or video has not been viewed by the recipient, it remains on the Snapchat server for 30 days, after which it is deleted.



# Grindr App

- Geosocial networking app geared toward gay, bisexual, and bi-curious men.
- Geolocation allows users to locate other men within close proximity through a user interface that displays a grid of users from nearest to farthest.
- Tapping on a picture will display a brief profile for that user as well as the option to chat, send pictures, and share one's location.



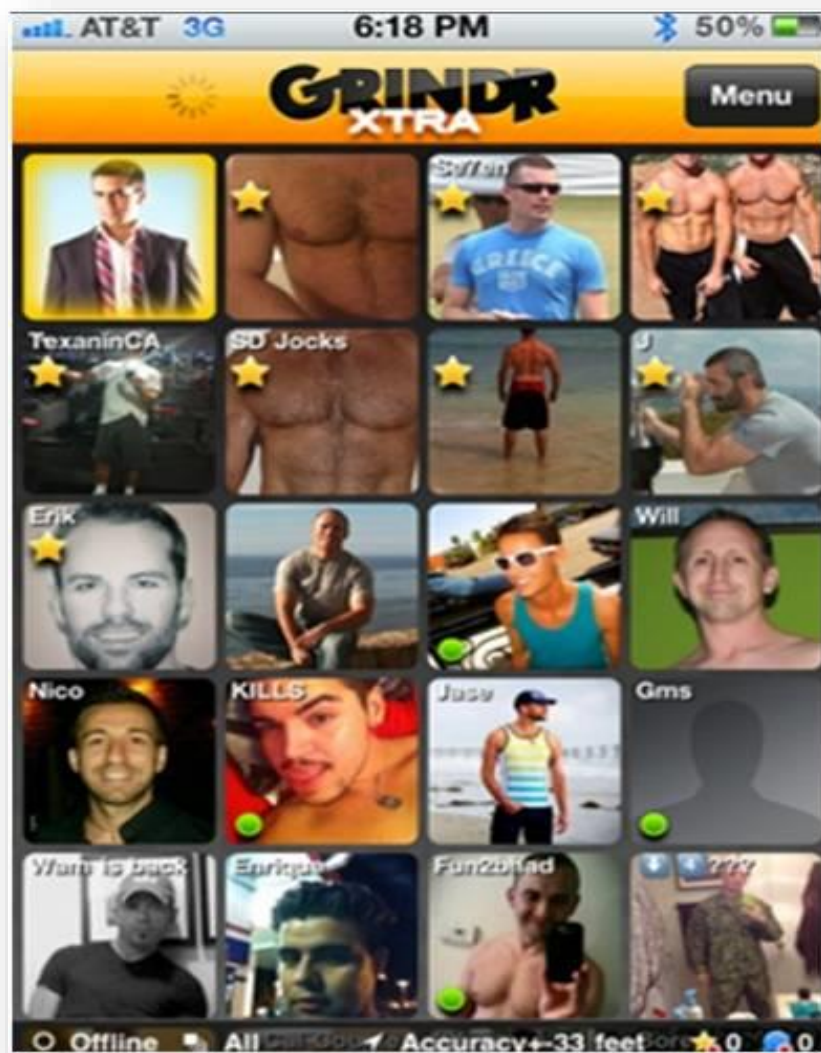
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## Grindr App (cont.)

Problems seen by law enforcement include:

- Robberies.
- Murders.
- Stalking.
- Exploitation.





## Similar Dating Apps

- Scruff
- Tinder
- Scissr
- Her







# WhatsApp

- WhatsApp Messenger is a cross-platform instant messaging service for smartphones.
- Users can send text messages, images, video, audio messages, and their location using mapping features.
- Based in California with 55 employees.
- Purchased by Facebook in February 2014 for \$19 billion.



## WhatsApp (cont.)

- 42 billion daily messages.
- 1 billion active users.
- 400 million photos shared each day.
- Voice calling feature - 100 million daily.
- Fully encrypted end-to-end.
- No content on Whatsapp servers.





# VoIP Apps

- Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) is a methodology and group of technologies for delivery of voice communications and multimedia sessions (voice, fax, SMS, and voice messaging) over the public Internet rather than via the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN).
- Many VoIP services have apps available on common cell phones (Google Voice, Skype, WhatsApp).



## VoIP Apps (cont.)

- Periods of void in usage records could indicate usage of:
  - WiFi connection (home, work, cafe, etc.).
  - VoIP applications on the phone.



# GeoTagging

- GeoTagging is the process of adding geographical identification metadata to various media such as photographs, video, websites, or SMS messages.
- This data usually consists of latitude and longitude coordinates, and may include the date and time a picture was taken as well as the type of camera that took the picture.



## GeoTagging (cont.)

- This data is stored in the Exchangeable Image File Format (EXIF) within the image.
- Opanda is a free online EXIF reader.
- Exifdata.com is an online reader.
- ExifTool is another downloadable reader.
- Numerous EXIF readers are in the Google Play store and the Apple App store.





## GeoTagging (cont.)

- Google Earth will read the EXIF data and overlay the picture onto the map, showing the location where it was taken by longitude and latitude.
- Facebook will rip the EXIF data for safety, but will still have the original picture that was uploaded, which may have the EXIF data intact.
- Facebook uploads 350 million photos per day.



## Stephan Cox Case

- Stephan Cox of Columbus, Ohio, was awaiting trial for unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor in that state, when he enticed 14-year-old Ruby Contreras of North Richland Hills, Texas, to accompany him to Mexico.
- Cox had lured both girls via Kik Messenger.
- He had other girls “in the wings” via Internet relationships.
- He had planned his travel and stay in Mexico as a contingency plan if he needed to flee the U.S.



## Stephan Cox Case (cont.)

- Cox travelled to Texas via bus where he met Ruby in front of her middle school.
- The two travelled to El Paso where they subsequently passed into Ciudad Juarez, Mexico.





## Stephan Cox Case (cont.)

- Ruby told police she was abducted and then repeatedly sexually assaulted by Cox, a man almost twice her age.
- She confirmed that she had met Cox online and thought they were going to be boyfriend and girlfriend.
- Cox approached her while she was on Kik, a cellphone messaging app popular with teens.
- Contreras and Cox later exchanged telephone numbers and sent pictures to each other, some of which were suggestive.



## Stephan Cox Case (cont.)

Stephan Andrew Cox  
sentence:

- 50 years in prison in Texas on the kidnapping charge.
- 25 years for two sex assault counts.





## Presenter Q & A



**Robert Breeden**

Associate

National Criminal Justice Training Center





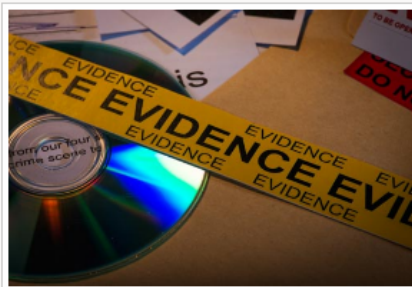
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# Statistical References

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- [https://ondeviceresearch.com/blog/facebook-costing-16-34s-jobs-in-tough-economic-climate?utm\\_source=On+Device+Research+newsletter&utm\\_campaign=060ae12252-YPCC\\_Index\\_May\\_20135\\_22\\_2013&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_9d4e76b4b-060ae12252-330128889#sthash.F2xfgFzu.bZ1bbqZV.dpbs](https://ondeviceresearch.com/blog/facebook-costing-16-34s-jobs-in-tough-economic-climate?utm_source=On+Device+Research+newsletter&utm_campaign=060ae12252-YPCC_Index_May_20135_22_2013&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_9d4e76b4b-060ae12252-330128889#sthash.F2xfgFzu.bZ1bbqZV.dpbs)
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