

Digital Forensics, PDF Forensics & eDiscovery Expert

Summary

Mr. Walton has more than 20 years of experience in digital forensics, eDiscovery, and software development for the legal industry. He consults for U.S. and international law firms, corporations, service bureaus, and insurance carriers on evidence preservation, forensic examination, discovery workflows, and technical issues in litigation and investigations. His recent work includes PDF forensics and the development of PDF RevisionRay, a tool for examining retained PDF revisions and document-change signals. A provisional patent for this technology was filed in January 2026. He has presented more than 300 continuing education seminars for attorneys and insurance claims professionals.

Mr. Walton conducts detailed digital forensic analysis of computers, mobile devices, email accounts, Microsoft 365, Google Workspace, iCloud, cloud storage, social media, websites, and digital photos and videos. He examines file metadata, communications, device and application activity, location data, and cloud records to reconstruct timelines, trace file access and movement, evaluate possible deletion or alteration, and correlate activity across devices and accounts. His work includes evaluating competing technical explanations, assessing the significance and limitations of forensic artifacts, and explaining findings in reports, depositions, hearings, and jury trials. His testimony has addressed alleged company-data theft, data destruction, metadata authenticity, digital signatures, IP addresses, mobile-device artifacts, geolocation evidence, and discovery protocols.

His experience also includes the use of artificial intelligence (AI) for developing business tools, research, agentic teams, and software development.

Areas of Strength

- Computer/Digital Forensics Analysis
 - Desktops
 - Laptops
 - Mobile Devices
 - Microsoft 365
 - Social Media
 - Websites
 - Digital Photo Cameras
 - Digital Video Cameras
 - Usage Data Analysis
- Data Preservation & Collection
- Mobile Data Forensics
- Social Media
- PDF Forensics & Revision Analysis
- Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Electronic Discovery
 - Information Governance
 - Early Case Assessment
 - Cost Prediction
 - Litigation Support
- Cloud Systems
- Internal Investigations
- Software Development
- Cyber Incident Response

Representative Case Types

- Assisting parties in complicated eDiscovery matters related to evidence preservation, collection, early case assessment, processing, document review, production, and trial presentation.
- Examining computers, phones, tablets, email, and cloud records; analyzing PDF metadata, retained revisions, and document-change signals in disputed electronic documents.

Professional Experience

FEBRUARY 2019 - PRESENT

Forensic Discovery LLC, Denver, Colorado – *President | Principal | Founder*

Forensic Discovery is a technology services firm in the legal industry that specializes in developing techniques to better leverage technology in early-stage legal discovery. This includes computer forensic collections, computer forensic analysis, early case assessment, and expert witness-related work.

- Directs digital-evidence acquisition, preservation, examination, and reporting.
- Serves as a digital forensics examiner and technical consultant.
- Manages the firm and provides deposition and trial testimony on digital evidence.
- Software Engineer for custom applications required to examine forensics data.
- PDF forensic examination of document structure, embedded metadata, incremental updates, and retained prior states; comparison of text, images, and page content where recoverable; and assessment of findings alongside native files and other provenance evidence.
- Development of PDF RevisionRay, a PDF forensic analysis tool that examines retained revisions, embedded metadata, and content-change signals and presents findings for further expert review.

JANUARY 2018 - JANUARY 2021

CyberShield U.S., Denver, Colorado – *President | Principal | Founder*

CyberShield U.S. provided cybersecurity detection, response, and consulting services for law firms and their clients, including incident response, threat hunting, digital forensics, and eDiscovery.



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AUGUST 2013 - JANUARY 2018

U.S. Legal Support, Denver, Colorado – *Chief Technology Officer* | *National Director of Legal Technology*

Retained following acquisition to direct launch of eDiscovery service line.

- Advised corporations and law firms regarding projects ranging from comprehensive, large-scale data preservation and internal investigations to customized technological solutions.
- Drove revenue attainment through business development and operations for Litigation Technology, consulting with law firms and corporations on projects ranging from comprehensive case assessment and large-scale data preservation to internal investigations and customized technological solutions.
- Planned and managed concurrent client projects involving data collection, processing and analyzing massive amounts of data, and managing large attorney review teams.
- Provided training and support to the sales force on selling eDiscovery solutions, sharing expertise in computer forensics, eDiscovery, project management, and programming, and delivering classroom, WebEx, and one-on-one coaching.
- Initiated the procurement and customization of a new product, a cloud-based document retention system, serving a common client need for multi-party litigations. Led technology vendor management, created core business processes, and developed sales team training.
- Speaker of over 200 accredited continuing education presentations for attorneys or insurance professionals.

JANUARY 2006 - AUGUST 2013

Electronic Legal, LLC, Denver, Colorado – *President* | *Principal* | *Founder*

Delivered advanced consulting services to 100+ law firms in Colorado and other key accounts nationwide, providing cloud-based computer forensic collections and investigations, online hosted review, and electronic discovery legal strategy consulting.

- Hired, trained, motivated, and managed staff, including Sales, Project Managers, Data Processing, Document Imaging, Forensic Collections, Office Manager, and Bookkeeper.
- Led acquisition and post-merger integration of a smaller competitor.



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AUGUST 2011 - JULY 2013

Cumulus Data, Inc., Denver, Colorado – *President | Principal | Founder*

Developed and introduced eCloudCollect, remote collection software for electronic evidence from personal workstations, file servers, email servers, and cloud platforms, including Google Apps and Microsoft 365.

- Led fundraising, raising private equity.
- Directed development of automated remote evidence-collection technology.
- Hired onshore and offshore development team including Software Development Director and Sales & Marketing Director.
- Sold Cumulus Data and its proprietary product to Zapproved.

MARCH 2008 - OCTOBER 2010

Electronic Legal Software, LLC, Denver, Colorado – *President | Principal | Founder*

A computer forensics and electronic discovery case management firm conceived and developed E.L. Native Review for Concordance, which is used by law firms internationally.

- Worked with Lexis-Nexis, major software solutions provider to the legal industry, to integrate and sell ELS's Unicode-based add-in software tool for native-document review.
- Product was utilized by major government agencies, international law firms, and AmLaw 100 firms.
- Software product rated by TechnoLawyer as a 4.8/5.
- Positioned company for profitable sale to Wave Software.

MAY 2004 - DECEMBER 2005

Hogan & Hartson LLP (now known as Hogan & Lovells, LLP), Denver, Colorado – *Litigation Support Specialist*

- Initiated the litigation support division of the Information Resource Department for the company's Denver, Boulder and Colorado Springs offices.

FEBRUARY 2002 - MAY 2004

Whitaker, Chalk, Swindle and Sawyer, Fort Worth, Texas – *Litigation Support Specialist*

- Implemented the litigation support department.



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Selected Testimony and Sworn Statements Depositions, Hearings, and Trials

Select Building Group Commercial, LLC v. Zackery Crabtree, et al. (District Court, Denver County, Colorado, Case No. 2024CV032109)

Mr. Walton testified in a deposition on April 27, 2026, as the plaintiff's digital forensics expert in a business dispute involving alleged misappropriation of company documents and information. His testimony addressed USB-device and file-access activity, remote-access sessions, email communications, Microsoft 365 SharePoint and OneDrive artifacts, and comparisons between company documents and files produced by defendants. He also addressed the forensic interpretation of file-transfer, synchronization, and deletion activity.

EIS Ultimate Holdings, LP, et al. v. Scott Huset, et al. (United States District Court, District of Colorado, Civil Action No. 1:23-cv-02324-GPG-MDB)

Mr. Walton testified in a deposition as an expert in digital forensics and eDiscovery regarding misappropriation of data and compliance with court-ordered discovery protocols.

Korby Sod, LLC v. Renea Johnson, et al. (United States District Court, District of Colorado, Civil Action No. 1:23-CV-02042-CNS-STV)

Mr. Walton testified as a fact witness with specialized forensic knowledge regarding digital forensic findings and data use in an employment dispute.

Hoang v. Tran, et al. (In the Superior Court of Santa Clara County, California, Case No. 19-CV-342014)

Mr. Walton testified in a deposition as a digital forensics rebuttal expert in a business dispute related to contracts. His testimony included analysis related to IP addresses, digital signatures, and metadata authenticity.

People v. Jerry Lee Stinnett (In the District of Arapahoe County, Colorado, Case No. 22-CR-623)

Mr. Walton testified at a criminal jury trial related to child sexual abuse materials (CSAM) artifacts. He was accepted by the judge as a digital forensics expert. His testimony was related to mobile device artifacts, including photos, videos, and device usage.

People v. John Allen (In the 18th Judicial District of Douglas County, Colorado, Case No. 21-CR-556)



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Mr. Walton testified at a criminal jury trial related to stalking. He was accepted by the judge as a mobile device forensics expert. His testimony was related to mobile device artifacts, including geo-location data.

Saliba Holdings LLC v. Pikes Peak Energy, et al (In the 4th Judicial District of El Paso County, Colorado, Case No. 2022-CV-30542)

Mr. Walton testified at two hearings on behalf of the plaintiff, one remote and one in-person. He was accepted by the judge as a digital forensics expert. His testimony was related to the destruction of evidence.

Alorica v. Craine (In the District Court, Douglas County, Colorado, Case No. 2021-CV-30466)

Mr. Walton testified in-person at a hearing on behalf of the plaintiff. He was accepted by the judge as a digital forensics expert. Mr. Walton testified regarding an individual's activity on his work computer and synced One Drive company account.

Feliz Rael v. Clarence Garcia, Debbie Garcia, FamilyWorks, Inc., Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc., Et Al. (In the First Judicial District, County of Rio Arriba, New Mexico, Case No. D-117-CV-2019-00135)

Mr. Walton testified in a deposition on behalf of the defense related to plaintiff's claims of data destruction.

Megan Gasher et al v. David W Moritz (In the District Court, Douglas County, Colorado, Case No. 2020-CV-30459)

Mr. Walton testified in-person at the jury trial on behalf of the plaintiff regarding the alleged theft of company information. He was accepted by the judge as a digital forensics expert. Mr. Walton's testimony focused on the rebuttal of a computer triage investigation regarding data exfiltration and cloud data computer forensics issues in the Google environment.

Avalon Lazer, Inc. et al v. Nasrin Keshavarzi; Farid Khayamian; and Does 2-20 (In the District Court, San Diego County, California, Case No. 37-2018-00023497-CL-DF-CTL)

Mr. Walton testified in a deposition on behalf of the defendant related to geo-location evidence located within a mobile device, email account and digital photos.

Taylor Morrison Communities, Inc. et al v. Matthew Goff (Case No. 2020C637)

Mr. Walton testified in a hearing to extend an order restraining the defendant from cyber stalking his client's employees. His testimony was related to usage data that was generated across several different electronic platforms. The judge accepted Mr. Walton as a digital forensics usage data

expert. His digital forensics investigative opinion was that the data on the different platforms were generated by the same user, i.e., the defendant.

Perez v. Apple Inc. (In the Circuit Court of the 5th Judicial Court, in and for Lake County, Florida, Case No. 2017-CA-000181)

Mr. Walton testified by deposition on behalf of the plaintiff in an iPhone product-liability matter. His testimony addressed the scope and completeness of discovery and related technical information.

Lyles v. Jaguar Land Rover North America, et al. (In the Circuit Court of Kanawha County, West Virginia, Case No. 15-C-1023)

Mr. Walton testified at an evidentiary hearing on behalf of the plaintiff regarding discovery conduct and related technical findings.

Declarations and Affidavits

ASARCO LLC Chapter 11 Jointly Administered (In the United States Bankruptcy Court for Southern District of Texas, Corpus Christi Division, Case No. 05-21207)

Mr. Walton provided an affidavit evaluating an alternative approach to electronic data preservation and processing, including comparative estimates of eDiscovery costs.

Mark Siismets v. Mp2 Energy LLC (American Arbitration Association, Case No. 01-16-0000-6712)

Mr. Walton provided an affidavit evaluating the scope of requested documents, proposed search terms, and the resulting document-review burden, with an explanation of the eDiscovery workflow.

Daniel Pertile, et al. v. General Motors, LLC et al. (In the United States District Court for the District of Colorado, Case No. 1:15-cv-00518-NYW)

Mr. Walton provided an affidavit proposing an electronically stored information (ESI) protocol for native-file productions subject to a protective order.

Farmers Insurance Exchange, et al. v. Kenneth Webster (In the Superior Court of the State of California County of San Diego, Case No. 37-2014-00019065-CU-BC-CTL)

Mr. Walton provided an affidavit estimating the document-review time associated with a recent production in support of an application for an additional deposition.

Education

Texas Christian University — Bachelor of Science / Bachelor of Business

Administration

- Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Sciences
- Bachelor of Business Administration in Entrepreneurial Management

Certifications and Licenses

- Certified Computer Examiner (CCE), #684
 - Issued by the International Society of Forensic Computer Examiners, it demonstrates an in-depth knowledge of file system architecture, collection techniques, analysis and submitting of expert reports.
- Certified Cyber Crime Examiner (CCCE), #341
 - Issued by the National White-Collar Crime Center, it demonstrates knowledge of the identification and proper handling of digital evidence; types of digital hardware technologies; common file systems; best practices in forensic imaging; documenting and reporting; and legal considerations.
- Certified Economic Crime Forensic Examiner (CECFE), #8167
 - Issued by the National White Collar Crime Center (NW3C).
- Former AccessData Certified Examiner (ACE), Windows Forensics Specialization
 - The former ACE credential related to proficiency with AccessData Forensic Toolkit (FTK).
 - The former ACE Windows Forensics Specialization related to Windows operating-system analysis.
- Former Colorado Licensed Private Investigator, #PI1.0000371
 - The State of Colorado's private investigator licensing law expired (was "sunset") on August 31, 2021.

Other Certifications, Training, and Self-Study

- Certified Electronic Discovery Specialist
- Certified PreDiscovery Electronic Data Discovery User
- Certified Concordance Database Administrator
- Certified Concordance Trainer
- Certified Concordance FYI Server Administrator
- Nation-Wide Concordance Programming Language Trainer

Professional Affiliations

- Sedona Conference Working Group on Electronic Document Retention and Production (WG1) – Past Member
 - Brainstorming Group on Information Governance
 - Brainstorming Group on Cloud Computing
- International Society of Forensic Computer Examiners, Member
- President, Colorado Association of Litigation Support Managers (2004 - 2006)
- Board Member, Entrepreneurs Organization, Colorado Chapter (2010 – 2011)

Presentations

- Approved by more than 15 State Bars to be a presenter of Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) courses
- Presenter of over 300 approved MCLE events (Topics Authored and Presented)
 - The Effects of BYOD in eDiscovery
 - Digital Forensics During a Pandemic
 - Technological Strategies for Employment Attorneys
 - Technological Strategies for Workplace Investigations
 - The Pitfalls Associated with Client Self-Collection
 - Computer Forensics and eDiscovery in Today's Legal Society
 - Social Media and Mobile Data Discovery
 - Intelligent eDiscovery: Best Practices for Managing eDiscovery Obligations
 - Harassment in the Digital Age
 - eDiscovery and Your Case
 - Effective Discovery Techniques in an Electronic World
 - Ethical Issues that Arise in Preservation and Collection
 - Ethical Issues that Arise in the eDiscovery Case Life Cycle
 - New Federal Rule Amendments & Keyword Search Strategies
 - Preventing Wasted Costs in Discovery
 - Technology in Arbitrations
 - The Hunt for ESI
 - eDiscovery - Why You Need It, What to Ask For, and How To Use It To Uncover Potential Discovery Abuse

Online Publications

- Trent Walton. "Effective Discovery Techniques in an Electronic World_Part 1: Document Coding". Mar 07. 2017. LinkedIn Article,



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- Trent Walton. "Three Mistakes People Make in Data Collection". August 24. 2021. Website Article,
 - <https://forensicdiscovery.expert/three-mistakes-people-make-in-data-collection/>
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- Trent Walton. "We're Big Fans of This Case Law Ruling". September 09. 2021. Website Article,
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- Trent Walton. "Three Reasons You May Need Digital Forensics". September 14. 2021. Website Article,
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