

A Progressive Techno-Legal Framework for Digital Evidence Management

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Abstract : Digital evidence has become a cornerstone in criminal investigations due to the vast amount of information available in digital form. Despite its prevalence, this evidence is often met with skepticism in court proceedings because of its inherently volatile nature. Traditional forensic processes, defined predominantly by technology experts, emphasize technical details in evidence collection while often neglecting legal procedures. This gap can pose significant challenges for legal practitioners in understanding and applying digital forensics. As digital evidence increasingly influences future cases, a cohesive framework integrating both technical and legal perspectives is essential. We propose a comprehensive techno-legal framework designed to bridge this gap. Our framework integrates key aspects of collection, preservation, examination, and documentation with legal components such as case building, certificate of compliance, cross-examination, and authorization. This balanced approach aims not to replace existing evidence presentation principles but to enhance the seamless integration of digital evidence into legal proceedings, addressing the common issues that lead to its dismissal.

Keywords : evidence presentation, warrant, digital-forensic, certificate of compliance, legal procedures, computer crime, violation, investigation cybercrime

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