



The International Association of Computer Investigative Specialists

Open-Source Intelligence Core Competencies

IACIS Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT) Program

The OSINT core competencies described in this document are a binding set of competencies that guide the training program to ensure that the skills and knowledge points are delivered within the training program.

IACIS Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT) Core Competencies

There are five competency areas addressed in the OSINT Program:

- i. OSINT Computer and Phone Security**
- ii. Open-Source Research**
- iii. Analysis**
- iv. Legal and Ethical Considerations**
- v. Tools and Technologies**

i. OSINT Computer and Phone Security

- a. Understanding of defensive strategies to safeguard personal and organizational integrity online.
- b. Knowledge of the fundamentals of dark web and cryptocurrency.
- c. Understanding of OSINT in live operations.
- d. Ability to utilize defensive and offensive OSINT techniques for investigative purposes.

ii. Open-Source Research

- a. Knowledge of fundamental and advanced OSINT research skills.
- b. Ability to utilize search engines to uncover hidden or deleted information.
- c. Ability to identify individuals online and analysis of their digital footprints.
- d. Utilization of different platforms for OSINT purposes.
- e. Understanding of tools for conducting an OSINT needs analysis.

iii. Analysis

- a. Ability to analyze various business, public, financial, and archival records.
- b. Understanding the application of image exploitation techniques for extracting information.
- c. Ability to use scripting in OSINT investigations.

iv. Legal and Ethical Considerations

- a. Familiarity of legal nuances associated with collecting, aggregating, and utilizing open-source data.
- b. Knowledge of the safe, legal, and effective application of OSINT methodologies.
- c. Understanding the scope and legal frameworks of OSINT.

v. Tools and Technologies

- a. Ability to use both free and commercial OSINT tools and software for data collection and analysis.
- b. Knowledge of OSINT tools with other investigative technologies and databases.

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