



CHALLENGE: DEVELOP AND INTEGRATE INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES AND TOOLS INTO DHS OPERATIONAL MISSION SPACE

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science and Technology Directorate (S&T) established the Forensics and Criminal Investigations Program to assist DHS and other law enforcement partners with research and development of tools and technologies that can be applied across multiple mission and application areas by federal, state, and local law enforcement. It is imperative for DHS and other law enforcement partners to have the necessary investigative tools to automatically recognize, collect, ingest, process, analyze, and share information to disrupt and dismantle criminal activity quickly and safeguard our citizens and the nation from threats.

DESIGNING A PROGRAM TO MEET THIS CHALLENGE

S&T's Forensics and Criminal Investigations Program aims to provide support to DHS and other law enforcement partners through the identification, development, evaluation, and transition of solutions targeted at improving the ability of law enforcement agencies to collect, preserve, process, analyze, and share information to investigate criminal actors. The program focuses on technologies and solutions applicable across multiple mission/application areas for federal, state, and local law enforcement.

PROGRAM IMPACT

The program aims to identify, develop, evaluate, and transition solutions to:

- Increase the capability of investigators to rapidly adjudicate and correlate evidence.
- Provide capabilities for resolving unique identifying information to protect victims and arrest criminals.
- Collect, analyze, store, and share evidence with enhanced capabilities for faster, more accurate, and less error-prone analysis.



The program's current focus areas are:

- Combating transnational criminal organizations.
- Countering child sexual exploitation and human trafficking.
- Combating fentanyl/opioid abuse.
- Digital Forensics

PROGRAM MILESTONES

Planned activities for this program include the following:

- Developing tools to combat child sexual exploitation.
- Enhancing data extraction tools.
- Developing modeling and simulation tools.

PARTNERS AND PERFORMERS

Partners include:

- Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- U.S. Secret Service
- Other DHS Components
- State and local law enforcement

Performers include:

- Industry
- Academia

