



Digital & Multimedia Sciences Section – 2011

B1 The Digital Forensics Certification Board (2009-2010): Activities and Certifications

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After attending this presentation, attendees will be persuaded to review the process and will be ready to go for the Phase II with the automated system.

This presentation will impact the forensic science community by promoting trust and confidence in the digital forensics profession by providing an objective and validated certification process which will help the maturation of digital forensics as a science.

The Digital Forensics Certification Board (DFCB) will have a great impact due to its launching at the right time, being weeks after the initial National Academy of Sciences report in 2009. Certification for digital practitioners is imperative. The DFCB is a professional certification requiring a clean background review.

The Digital Forensic Certification Board was created to develop a professional certification process for digital evidence. After numerous meetings with digital evidence practitioners and various agencies, digital certification has finally come to pass. The process was begun at www.dfcb.org with the first application taken on February 9, 2009 and ended in September 16, 2009. Sam Guttman, retired as the Assistant Inspector General for Investigations for Postal OIG, volunteered to be President of the DFCB.

DFCB developed a "Founders" process for those who have had over five years of experience in the field of digital forensics. Accreditation of our certification process was planned via the Forensic Specialty Accreditation Board (FSAB). The founders were given a registration that could substantiate their experience, education, training, publications, positions held, testimonies given, their background and other relevant activities. Each founder must have scored 100 points on the application form to qualify. They wrote 15 questions in the domains of their expertise each with four incorrect answers and one correct answer. These questions became part of the collection of questions that have been sorted and verified. There were 600 viable questions that resulted from the founders group that will be validated when the next round of applicants begin the electronic version of the application process. There were 130 founders that successfully completed the certification process.

The DFCB started Certification Phase II from June 14th thru July 31st, 2010 and developed an automated application online. The application for Phase II had the following criteria:

- Score a minimum number of points on the Assessment Scoring
- Sheet and provide supporting documentation
- Meet and continue to comply with the DFCB Code of Ethics and Standards
- Pass a background review
- Develop 15 usable test questions with multiple choice answers. Applicants shall author questions and answers following the instructions posted on the DFCB website
- Take a non-score test sampling from questions developed by the founders. Instructions for developing multiple choice questions are available on the website.

The next phase will focus on the development, validation, and delivery of DFCB Certification tests.

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Digital Evidence, Certification, Compliance