

Video Focuses Law Enforcement on Investigative Methodologies to Fight Cybercrime

RICHMOND, VA - July 18, 2001 - The National Cybercrime Training Partnership (NCTP), a leader in the nation's law enforcement cybercrime training initiative, announced the availability of a three-part training video entitled "Cyber Crime Fighting." Created specifically as a law enforcement educational resource, the video and its accompanying manual tackle the basics of investigating electronic crime scenes and preserving digital evidence.

Hosted by John Walsh of America's Most Wanted, the NCTP's "Cyber Crime Fighting" video visits actual cybercrime scenes and interviews electronic crime investigators who work for federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies. As a cybercrime case primer, the video relates key questions police officers should ask on-line victims, provides tips to track down criminals hiding in cyberspace, and covers procedures for seizing and preserving computer-based evidence from the crime scene to the evidence room.

"The electronic crime scene can hold a wide array of essential information, but unfortunately, many investigators lack the knowledge about how to safely gather computer evidence. By using the proper tools and procedures, computers can be a gold mine of evidence for law enforcement whether the crime is electronic or not," said Michael Anderson, president, New Technologies, Inc. located in Gresham, Oregon. Computers are playing more of a role in cases such as runaway children, spousal abuse, and missing persons.

To date, the NCTP has issued 12,608 tapes and 60,680 manuals to law enforcement professionals across the nation. The tape has received numerous accolades and acknowledgement for its technical merit. It was recently selected "Best of Show" by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). The "Cyber Crime Fighting" video was also selected for broadcast on the Federal Judicial Television Network by the U.S. Federal Judicial Center, Court Education Division, and was shown on the British Broadcasting Corporation's Equinox series in Europe.

The NCTP's "Cyber Crime Fighting" tape has proven itself as a valuable agency-wide training tool. The Internal Revenue Service has adopted it for their training programs at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Georgia, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation uses the tape for most of their in-service training programs. "The 'Cyber Crime Fighting' video trilogy is an excellent training tool," said Andrew Russell, commanding officer of the Computer Crimes and Electronic Evidence Unit for the Connecticut State Police. "This NCTP effort is a critical first step in preparing law enforcement to deal with Internet crimes."

About the National Cybercrime Training Partnership (NCTP)

Developed by the U.S. Department of Justice and managed by the National White Collar Crime Center (www.nw3c.org), the NCTP provides guidance and assistance to local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies in an effort to ensure that the law enforcement community is properly trained to address electronic and high technology crime. More information on the NCTP and its initiatives is available on-line at www.nctp.org