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Digital forensic as tool for fighting cyber crime in Nigeria

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The era of information computer technology (ICT) on a global level needs no introduction but the spread to developing nations like Nigeria needs repeated academic analysis so as to sustain the momentum of knowledge and useful applications in its entire ramification. With Nigeria continually advancing in Information Technology with provision of limitless benefit for individuals, businesses, commerce and industry, there is a need for expository analysis at different level. Digital forensic is a major component of ICT. In recent years, digital forensics has emerged as an essential source of tools and approaches for facilitating digital preservation and curation specifically for protecting and investigating evidence from the past. Institutional repositories and professionals with responsibilities for personal archives can benefit from forensics in addressing digital authenticity, accountability and accessibility. Digital forensic must have a definitive academic curriculum in our tertiary institutions so that skilled professionals can be able to handle sensitive and security issues and demonstrably protecting its evidential value. Forensic technology makes it possible to identify privacy issues; establish a chain of custody for provenance; employ write protection for capture and transfer and detect forgery or manipulation. It can extract and mine relevant metadata and content; enable efficient indexing and searching by curators and facilitate audit control and granular access. The major motive for digital forensic is to fight computer crime which is defined as criminal activity involving information technology infrastructure which includes unauthorized access, illegal interception, data interference (unauthorized damaging deletion, deterioration, alteration or suppression of computer data), system interference, misuse of devices, forgery and electronic fraud. This paper attempts to provide an expository overview of digital forensic with regards to the awareness, usage, benefits and challenges in Nigeria.

Biography

Edeaghe Ehikhamenor is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Benin, Benin City, Nigeria and the Founder/National Coordinator of Save Accident Victims Association of Nigeria (SAVAN) and pioneer Project Coordinator of Forensic Research and Development Center (FORDEC). He earned a Bachelor of Dental Surgery, (BDS) a Master's in Pharmacology and a PhD in Pharmacology and Toxicology from the University of Benin and also had a short Postdoctoral training on DNA analysis at Lakehead University, Canada. He has extensive research experience on digital screening of alcohol and other psychoactive drugs with saliva and biological fluids to establish skills impairment on a driving simulator.

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