

John Seither is one of a few internationally recognized computer forensics authorities. Given the relative newness of the field, his nearly two decades of computer forensics experience help to make him among the most knowledgeable anywhere. In that regard, John was set apart by many of his peers as being an unusually well qualified manager of a major law enforcement agency computer forensics program. His training and experience is not limited to technical investigations. Retiring from federal service in late 1998 with well over a quarter century of law enforcement experience, spanning burglaries to espionage, John is also a decorated officer and air combat veteran of the Vietnam War. Proving a clear exception to the old saying that those who can't do, teach, he has taught at some of America's best known accredited universities and colleges, with police officers traveling from as far away as Australia and India to attend his courses. John received a Bachelors degree from the University of Maryland, Masters degree from Webster University and pursued a PhD at Saint Louis University prior to transfer with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS).

The following are included among his more relevant accomplishments as a field and supervisory special agent, most recently with US Customs and previously with NCIS and the Air Force Office of Special Investigations. Following many months of technical training at private corporations and the Central Intelligence Agency in the mid-1980s, John became the Navy Department's primary resource in the investigation of high priority and sensitive computer investigations world wide. His prior mainframe programming experience had earlier facilitated a successful computer matching operation to economically identify fraud within the US Navy's payroll system. Hired by US Customs in 1987 and tasked with keeping a watchful eye on their giant mainframe computer center in northern Virginia, he was promoted and transferred about a year later to the Office of Investigations. While assigned as Customs National Fugitive Coordinator, a program responsible for the establishment of the Ten Most Wanted program and arrest of several previously illusive major felons, he was called upon to design and supervise the building of the computer network for the Treasury Department's newly formed Financial Crimes Enforcement Network and later two large wide area networks for the Department of Justice (DOJ) and serving Customs, FBI, DEA and IRS. Both during his headquarters assignment and afterwards as a senior narcotics agent in Houston, TX, John provided Customs' input to DOJ's Federal Guidelines on Searching and Seizing Computers. As the Customs senior computer forensics examiner for Oklahoma and much of Texas, he recognized the need for sharing technical investigative resources between law enforcement agencies. To that end, he formed the Houston Area Technical Support Interagency Group, which ultimately numbered over 800 members in the US and British Commonwealth. It was also during this period that John developed what is widely reputed to be the first automated computer forensics program, a Windows variation of which was commercially marketed in computer stores across the nation. Selected in 1997 to be the first National Computer Forensics Program Manager for Customs' Office of Internal Affairs, John also pioneered the use of data mining to detect criminal activity transacted on Customs vast world-wide computer network. Retiring in late 1998 at 53 years of age, he created a computer forensics training program for a high tech subsidiary of the giant Litton Corporation and assisted in the design of artificial intelligence computer forensics tools for the Air Force, much of which was accomplished from his home in a rural mountain top community in eastern Tennessee. Since then, John developed multimedia computer forensics laboratory intensive courses that are regularly offered by state and private universities and colleges.